

# Public Guidelines for Mobility Aids

When using a mobility aid on public transport in Tasmania, it must comply with certain dimensions, manoeuvrability and stability specifications.

The [Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport](#) make some basic assumptions about mobility aids and gaining access to public transport. If your mobility aid does not meet these assumptions, you will not be able to use it on public transport.

These specifications apply to all manual and motorised wheelchairs, scooters, walking frames and prams using accessible services.

Not all buses, ferries or coaches are accessible with a mobility device.

If you have any questions, call us on **6427 7626** or email [admin@merseylink.com.au](mailto:admin@merseylink.com.au)

## Dimensions

### Buses

- fit within a space 1300mm long by 800mm wide
- be no more than 800mm wide, to fit between the wheel axles of a bus
- Weight: 300kg, including occupant, personal items and anyone required to assist on the boarding ramp

### Ferry and wharves

- Length: 1300mm
- Width: 740mm
- Weight: 300kg, applies to wharves

## Stability

- Must be able to move backwards and forwards
- Your mobility aid must have an effective brake system and must be able to withstand:
  - acceleration, braking and cornering on buses and coaches
  - acceleration, deceleration and pitching on ferries
- On Regional coaches, mobility aids must be anchored and secured with approved tie down points fitted on the coach.
- Mobility aids must also comply with regulations governing the carriage of batteries on public transport.

## Manoeuvrability

- To be able to safely use public transport services and facilities, your mobility aid must be able to turn 180 degrees within an area of 2070mm by 1540mm.
- cross grates in vehicles up to 13mm wide and 150mm long
- go up and down a ramp with a 1:14 grade unassisted
- go up and down a ramp that is less than 1520mm with a 1:8 grade
- go up and down a ramp with a 1:4 grade with assistance.

## Safety & Comfort

When waiting for public transport:

- Position yourself in the boarding zone or in a safe spot where the driver or the crew can see you as they approach the stop.
- Make sure you are a safe distance away from the edge of the platform, the gutter or the wharf.
- Park sideways rather than facing the edge, so you can see your service approaching.
- Always apply the brakes when you are stationary while waiting or when on board public transport.
- Give way to pedestrians and travel no faster than walking pace around stations, stops and wharves.

## Scooters

Scooters are considered small vehicles. If your scooter is a required mobility aid, it will only be carried on public transport if it is safe and fits the specifications.

It must be able to be driven onto the service and manoeuvred to fit wholly within the allocated wheelchair space under its own power.

### Restrictions

- Petrol run scooters are not permitted on public transport in any circumstances in accordance with the [Passenger Transport Regulation 2007](#).
- Three-wheeled scooters are not permitted on ferries, wharves or buses.

Type of scooter	Buses and stops	Ferries and wharves
Three-wheeled scooters allowed	Not on buses	No
Electric scooters allowed	Yes	Yes

