

I need to drive a person with disability to an appointment or work. How do I practice physical distancing?

Consider how many people will be required to travel.

Only two people should be in a five-seat vehicle – the driver and the passenger, who must be seated behind the front passenger seat.

If more than two people are required to travel, consider if you need another vehicle.

If this is not possible, e.g. the person's Positive Behavior Plan requires two staff and a seven-seat vehicle is not available, then consider hiring a taxi service or using technology (such as Skype, Teams, Teleconference or Zoom) for the appointment.

If you are required to travel and the trip is longer than 15 minutes, air conditioning must be set to external airflow not recirculation, or have windows open for the duration of the trip.

Vehicles must be cleaned more frequently, at least following each use, no matter the length of the trip. See information 1.6 from [Work safe on How to Clean and Disinfect your workplace – Transport](#).

These measures may mean:

- Adjusting routines for the person with disability.
- Reviewing appointments, i.e. time of the appointment and availability of a vehicle.
- If the person lives in a group home or shared living arrangement, staff may need to make multiple trips, i.e. two trips to a workplace to support two people going to work.
- You may find you are driving for longer periods than usual. Consider how this will impact your routines and your workload. Talk to your line manager about any changes.

You should review your procedures and policies for vehicle maintenance and driver safety to ensure they are effective and address all possible work health and safety risks that arise when workers drive for work purposes.

Reference

SafeWork Australia - [COVID-19 Information for workplaces-Physical distancing](#).