

Adapted Driving

An Introduction to Personal Accessible Transportation

Key Considerations And Factors

- Driver or Passenger?
- Level of mobility loss
- Potential progression
- Capability of companion(s)
- Mobility equipment used
- Height and weight of person with disability
- Dimensions of personal medical/mobility equipment



Vehicle Conversions and Adapted Equipment



Minivans (side or rear entry)
Trucks and SUV's
Full size vans with lifts
Hand controls
Scooter lifts



Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

What makes a wheelchair van accessible

Lowered Floor Modification



- The Modification is more than just attaching a ramp to the side of a van.
- The entire floor of the van must be lowered anywhere from 10-14 inches.
- Components like the exhaust, gas tank, electrical and air conditioning lines are relocated and modified.
- Items are removed such as the center console and center row of seats.
- There are two types of ramps to choose from: In-floor and Fold-out

In-Floor Ramp



- Ramp is stowed in a pocket under the floor.
- Ramp allows for unobstructed access to passenger door when not in use.
- Ramp can handle up to 1000 pounds of weight.
- Regular maintenance required to keep ramp and pocket clean of debris.
- Conversion is integrated into the OEM(original equipment manufacturer) key fob.

Fold-out Ramp



- Ramp is stowed in half against the passenger door.
- Less debris will be collected in the van due to conversion folding in half.
- Ramp can handle up to 1000 pounds of weight.
- Regular maintenance required.
- Conversion is integrated into the OEM(original equipment manufacturer) key fob.

Kneeling System



- Kneeling system will pull down the passenger side of the vehicle up to 4 inches to create a less steep slope for a wheelchair user to enter.
- Kneeling system is required for most driver applications.
 - It is a must for manual chair users.
- Kneeling system can be turned off when not needed, such as when vehicle is up against a curb of equal height.

Seating Options



- A variety of seating options are available via a wide selection of wheelchair accessible conversion types.
- Depending on the need, equipment can be installed to meet the needs of drivers, passengers or those riding in the center position.
- Needs of the wheelchair user may determine the type of accessible vehicle, wheelchair securement or other equipment needs.

Additional Driving Applications

Hand Controls, Wheelchair & Scooter lifts, valet seating and other options

Hand Controls



Driving aid functions can range from simple braking and acceleration to pedal guards and steering knobs.

Rules for Driving with Hand Controls in Delaware

- All NEW drivers or those with a NEW need who wish to drive with any type of adaptive equipment must be evaluated, trained, and prescribed by a Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist(CDRS).
- A CDRS will determine how much training is needed and what type of equipment would be best with said needs or disability.
- A CDRS can be found by using www.aded.net and searching for one locally.
- A CDRS will issue an equipment prescription that NMEDA dealers use to install the correct items into your vehicle.
- Most NMEDA certified dealers will not install any adaptive driving equipment without the prescription from a CDRS, pictures of an existing vehicle with equipment or other proof of competency.
- Once the prescription is made and the state test is passed a special code will be added to your driver's license indicating you have been trained to use adaptive equipment—such as hand controls.

Scooter & Wheelchair Lifts (Platform)



- Available as an interior or exterior lift.
- For use in most minivans and large SUV's
- Drive on platform with electric lift of mobility device.
- Minimum modification needed to install.



Scooter and Wheelchair Lifts (Hoist)



- Available as an interior or exterior lift.
- For use in most minivans, pick-up trucks and medium to large SUV 's
- Attached to mobility device and lifted automatically.
- Minimum modification needed to install.



Turning and transfer Seats

- OEM seat or new seat used depending on application.
- Seating fabric can be chosen to match interior as much as possible.
- Seat is automatic and controlled with a pendant.
- Can be used by those with limited mobility.
- Minimum modification needed to install.
- Seat can be uninstalled when vehicle is to be sold.



High-tech Driving Equipment



- Prescribed by a CDRS for those with disabilities unserved by traditional hand controls.
- Typically purchased with the assistance of a state or federal agency.
- Can take years to complete training and installation.



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Thank you!

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a modern, layered effect against the white background.