**HEALTH CARE PROVIDER – Medical eligibility criteria:**

**Non-Ambulatory Disabilities**

**1. Wheelchair-User.** Impairments which, regardless of cause, confine

individuals to wheelchairs.

**Section Semi-Ambulatory Physical Disabilities**

**1. Restricted Mobility.** Impairments which cause individuals to walk with

difficulty including, but not limited to, individuals using a long leg brace, a

walker or crutches to achieve mobility, or birth defects and other muscular/

skeletal disabilities, including dwarfism, causing mobility restriction. Persons

currently undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment are considered

eligible for a reduced fare permit under this subsection.

**2. Arthritis.** Persons who suffer from arthritis causing a function motor defect in

any two major limbs. (American Rheumatism Association criteria may be used

as a guideline for the determination of arthritic handicap; Therapeutic Grade

III, Functional Class III, or Anatomical State III or worse is evidence of arthritic

handicap.)

**3. Loss of Extremities.** Persons who suffer anatomical deformity of or

amputation of both hands, one hand and one foot, or lower extremity at or

above the tarsal region. Loss of major function may be due to degenerative

changes associated with vascular or neurological deficiencies, traumatic loss

of muscle mass or tendons, bony or fibrous ankylosis at unfavorable angle, or

joint subluxation or instability.

**4. Cerebrovascular Accident.** Persons displaying one of the following, four

months post-CVA:

a. Pseudobulbar palsy; or

b. Functional motor defect in any two extremities; or

c. Ataxia affecting two extremities substantiated by appropriate cerebellar

signs or proprioceptive loss.

**5. Respiratory.** Person suffering respiratory impairment (dyspnea) of Class 3 or

greater as defined by “Guidelines to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment:

The Respiratory System,” Journal of the American Medical Association, 194:919

(1965).

**6. Cardiac.** Persons suffering functional classification III or IV and therapeutic

classifications C, D, or E cardiac disease as defined by Diseases of the Heart

and Blood Vessels — Nomenclature and Criteria for Diagnosis, New York Heart

Assoc. (6th Edition).

**7. Dialysis.** Persons who must use a kidney dialysis machine in order to live.

**8. Disorders of Spine.** Persons disabled by one or more of the following:

a. Fracture of vertebra, residuals or, with cord involvement with appropriate

motor and sensory loss; or

b. Generalized osteoporosis with pain, limitation of back motion,

paravertebral muscle spasms, and compression fracture of vertebra; or

c. Ankylosis or fixation of cervical or dorsolumbar spine at 30 degrees or more

of flexion measured from the neutral position and one of the following:

i. Calcification of the anterior and alteral ligaments as shown by x-ray; or

ii. Dilateral ankylosis of sacroiliac joints and abnormal apophseal

articulation as shown by x-ray.

**9. Nerve Root Compression Syndrome.** A person disabled due to any cause by:

a. Pain and motion limitation in back of neck; and

b. Cervical or lumbar nerve root compression as evidenced by appropriate

radicular distribution of sensory, motor and reflex abnormalities.

**10. Motor.** Persons disabled by one or more of the following:

a. Faulty coordination or palsy from brain, spinal, or peripheral nerve injury; or

b. A functional motor deficit in any two limbs; or

c. Manifestations significantly reducing mobility, coordination, and

perceptiveness not accounted for in prior categories.

**11. HIV Disease.** A person disabled by HIV disease who meets Social Security

eligibility criteria or who meets Washington State (GAU/Welfare) medical

criteria.

**Section 3. Visual Disabilities**

**1. Persons disabled because of:**

a. Visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting lenses; or

b. Contraction of the visual field:

i. So the widest diameter of visual field subtending an angular distance is

no greater than 20 degrees; or

ii. To 10 degrees or less from the point of fixation; or

iii. To 20% or less visual field efficiency.

**2. Persons who, by reason of visual impairment, do not qualify for**

**a Driver’s License under regulations of the Washington State**

**Department of Motor Vehicles.**

**Section 4. Hearing Disabilities**

**1. Persons disabled because of hearing impairments manifested by one**

**or more of the following:**

a. Better ear pure tone average of 90 dB HL (unaided) for tones at 500, 1,000,

2,000 Hz; or

b. Best speech discrimination score at or below 40% (unaided) as measured

with standardized testing materials.

**2. Eligibility may be certified by a physician licensed by the State of**

**Washington or by an audiologist certified by the American Speech–**

**Language–Hearing Association.**

**Section 5. Neurological Disabilities**

**1. Epilepsy.**

a. Persons who have suffered any seizure with loss of awareness within the

last 6 months.

b. Persons exhibiting seizure-free control for a continuous period of more

than six months duration are not included in the statement of epilepsy

defined in this section.

**2. Neurological Handicap.** A person disabled by cerebral palsy, multiple

sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, or other neurological and physical impairments

not controlled by medication.

**Section 6**

**. Mental Disabilities**

**1. Developmental Disabilities — Permanent Permit.** Persons disabled

due to intellectual disability, autism or other conditions found to be closely

associated with intellectual disability or to require treatment similar to that

required by intellectually disabled individuals and:

a. The disability originates before such individual attains age 18;

b. The condition has continued, or can be expected to continue, indefinitely;

c. The condition substantially limits one or more major life activities on an

ongoing basis.

**2. Adult Cognition Impairments — Permanent Permit.** Persons whom by

reason of traumatic brain injury, illness or other accident occurring after age

18 experience ongoing impairment(s) in cognition that substantially limit(s)

one or more major life activities, including individuals who meet SSA, SSI, or

SSDI eligibility criteria.

**3. Serious Persistent (Chronic) Mental Illness — Permanent Permit**.

Individuals with a mental illness with symptoms chronic in nature who

experience a significant limitation in their ability to take part in major life

activities **and** who meet one of the following:

a. Having a mental disorder diagnosis based on criteria in the Diagnostic and

Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM);

b. Living in a group/boarding home setting, receiving state or federal financial

assistance and participating in a state or federally funded work activity

center or workshop;

c. Permanently placed in a supervised or supported living arrangement;

d. Addressing mental health needs by participating in any training/

rehabilitation program or therapy established under federal, state, county,

Regional Support Network (RSN), or city government agency.

**4. Serious Mental Illness (Acute at-risk) — Temporary Permit.** Individuals

with a mental illness who are currently experiencing a significant limitation

in their ability to take part in major life activities **and** who meet one of the

following:

a. Having a mental disorder diagnosis based on criteria in the Diagnostic and

Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM);

b. Living in a group/boarding home setting, receiving state or federal financial

assistance and participating in a state or federally funded work activity

center or workshop;

c. Living at home under supervision and participating in a state or federally

funded state or federal work activity center or workshop;

d. Addressing mental health needs by participating in any training/

rehabilitation program or therapy established under federal, state, county,

Regional Support Network (RSN), or city government agency