



It is the policy of STARS to prioritize the health and safety of all volunteers and passengers through training and guidance, regulatory compliance, and by encouraging a culture where every volunteer takes responsibility for their own safety. As applicable, we will train volunteers to consider health and safety as we instruct them in their responsibilities to:

- Avoid distractions: Avoid eating, drinking, texting, or reaching for objects while driving.
- Avoid fatigue: Fatigue increases the risk of crashing.
- Wear a seatbelt: Wearing a seat belt can reduce the risk of death in a serious accident by up to 80%.
- Follow traffic laws: Obey the speed limit and keep safe following distances.
- Pass safely: Only pass when it is safe and the road ahead and behind you is clear.
- Avoid drugs and alcohol: STARS drivers must agree when applying to drive not to use legal or illegal substances that impairs their ability to drive.
- Report all traffic violations and crimes: STARS requires drivers to have a safe driving record and that drivers report traffic violations and crimes committed while driving for STARS.
- Practice good hygiene: Follow hygiene practices to prevent the spread of illness.
- Get regular checkups: See a doctor regularly to prevent illness and manage chronic conditions.
- Get vaccinated: Consult with a doctor about getting vaccinations to prevent illness.
- Follow CDC guidelines: When community health circumstances dictate STARS will offer other health protocol guidance related to mandatory masking, sanitation, distancing, and any other disease control measures.

Driver Manager Guidance/Protocol

STARS Health and Safety Policy will be discussed during training. Current specific driver manager guidance is as follows:

- We serve a vulnerable population and need to be extra careful to ensure passengers and drivers alike remain safe and healthy. If you have tested positive for COVID **STARS** requires that you do not accept rides and cancel rides via the Dispatcher when you are COVID positive or otherwise sick.
- If a mask is required on a **STARS** ride it will be noted in the ride description.
- **STARS** Drivers are encouraged to follow CDC recommendations for continued health and safety:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Mask when in public if you have concerns regarding your personal health or safety
- Drivers will open doors and enter medical practices or hospitals at their own discretion as it is NOT a requirement for STARS Drivers.
- Suggested health and safety items to carry in your car during a ride: box of tissues, trash bag, hand sanitizer (70% alcohol), **STARS** Emergency Contact Information and Passenger Emergency contact information.
- If in doubt about any health or safety issue, contact the Driver Manager.