

# Application for Free National Concessionary Bus Permit

For use by Ashford Borough Residents only

**Please use this form if you are State Pension age or over.**

**Important: See next page for ages of eligibility**

Permits are valid for 5 years from your application date.

Permit holders are entitled to travel free on scheduled services throughout England during off-peak hours: 9.30am until 11.00pm Monday to Friday and all day weekends and Bank Holidays.

For journeys starting in Kent weekday off-peak hours are 9.00am until 11.00pm.

Please complete in capital letters and return to: -

**FAO: Concessionary Fares, Financial Services,  
Ashford Borough Council.**



**ASHFORD**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Civic Centre  
Tannery Lane  
Ashford, Kent  
TN23 1PL  
(01233) 331111  
Typetalk (01233)  
330744  
www.ashford.gov.uk  
DX 151140 Ashford  
(Kent) 7

## Your Details

Title: ..... First Name: ..... Surname: .....

Address: .....

.....Postcode: .....

Telephone Number: .....

Email Address: ..... Date of Birth: ..... / ..... / .....

Please attach your **passport sized colour photograph with plain background** on the box provided. Write your surname on the reverse of your photo and attach so that it is easily removable. Do not use staples. If paper clip is used, please place the photo face down. Photographs will be transferred into our database of concessionary fare holders and held for use by Ashford Borough Council only.

Affix Your  
Photograph Here.

**Please notify Financial Services immediately at the address above if you change address.**

## Evidence

Do not post original documents or Certified Copies of evidence as evidence will not be returned. Please provide photocopies as evidence of your Identity, Address and Age when applying by post, such as:

- Pension Letter
- NHS Medical Card
- Driving Licence
- Birth Certificate, plus evidence of address
- Passport, plus evidence of address
- Other - (Give Details): .....

The information given on this form is correct and I agree to comply with the conditions of issue of the free off-peak permit printed overleaf.

**Applicants Signature:** ..... **Date:** .....

## **Bus pass - older people**

### **Concessionary Travel Scheme**

Ashford Borough Council supports the national concessionary travel scheme. It offers free travel for the over sixties and disabled people on all local buses throughout England between 9:30am (from 9:00am in Kent) and 11pm weekdays and all day at weekends. However this is going to change from the 5th April 2010 to coincide with the change to the pensionable age.

### **Who can apply for an Nationwide bus pass?**

Up until the **5th of April 2010** all residents of the Borough of Ashford who are 60 years and over.

### **From the 6th April 2010:-**

In its pre-budget report in December 2009 the Government announced that from the 6th of April 2010, the age of eligibility for the concessionary travel for women will be pension age and for men it will be the pensionable age of a woman born on the same day.

The state pension age for women is rising by five years over a period of ten years. The age of eligibility will rise incrementally, that is, in stages, between 2010 and 2020. The earliest age for men and women to get bus passes will therefore rise gradually, from 60 on 6 April 2010 to 65 on 5 April 2020. The Government decided that this would be the fairest method, rather than introduce a one-off rise which would leave those currently close to retirement age facing a full five-year delay.

The age of eligibility for the state pension is scheduled to rise by two months every one month. This means the earliest date on which you can get your bus pass will depend on which month you were born in and will not fall on your birthday.

The Table on the following page sets out when those approaching the age of 60 will become eligible for their concessionary bus pass.

## DATES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR CONCESSIONARY BUS PASSES

Period within which date of birth falls	Day become eligible for concessionary bus pass
Before and including 5th April 1950	Date of 60th birthday
6th April 1950 to 5th May 1950	6th May 2010
6th May 1950 to 5th June 1950	6th July 2010
6th June 1950 to 5th July 1950	6th September 2010
6th July 1950 to 5th August 1950	6th November 2010
6th August 1950 to 5th September 1950	6th January 2011
6th September 1950 to 5th October 1950	6th March 2011
6th October 1950 to 5th November 1950	6th May 2011
6th November 1950 to 5th December 1950	6th July 2011
6th December 1950 to 5th January 1951	6th September 2011
6th January 1951 to 5th February 1951	6th November 2011
6th February 1951 to 5th March 1951	6th January 2012
6th March 1951 to 5th April 1951	6th March 2012
6th April 1951 to 5th May 1951	6th May 2012
6th May 1951 to 5th June 1951	6th July 2012
6th June 1951 to 5th July 1951	6th September 2012
6th July 1951 to 5th August 1951	6th November 2012
6th August 1951 to 5th September 1951	6th January 2013
6th September 1951 to 5th October 1951	6th March 2013
6th October 1951 to 5th November 1951	6th May 2013
6th November 1951 to 5th December 1951	6th July 2013
6th December 1951 to 5th January 1952	6th September 2013
6th January 1952 to 5th February 1952	6th November 2013
6th February 1952 to 5th March 1952	6th January 2014
6th March 1952 to 5th April 1952	6th March 2014
6th April 1952 to 5th May 1952	6th May 2014
6th May 1952 to 5th June 1952	6th July 2014
6th June 1952 to 5th July 1952	6th September 2014

For birth dates after 5<sup>th</sup> July, you may go to <http://pensions.direct.gov.uk/en/state-pension-age-calculator/home.asp> for a ready reckoner tool which enables people affected by the pension age changes to see at what age they become eligible for their state pension and associated benefits or telephone Ashford Borough Council at 01233 331111 for future dates.

## Conditions of Use

1. Residents in the Ashford Borough Council area entitled to hold a concessionary permit are:

(i) Persons who have attained the age of sixty years.

(ii) Persons blind or partially sighted to the extent that they would be able to register as blind or partially sighted.

(iii) Persons who are profoundly or severely deaf.

(iv) Persons who are without speech.

(v) Persons suffering from any disability or injury which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to walk.

(vi) Persons who are without arms or without long-term use of both arms.

(vii) Persons who have a learning difficulty, that is a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind which includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning.

(viii) Persons who would if they applied for the grant of a licence to drive a motor vehicle under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, have their application refused pursuant to section 92 of the Act (physical fitness) otherwise than on the ground of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

2. The permit can only be used by the person whose name appears on the front, and it should not be lent or given to anyone else. If it is no longer required, it should be returned to the issuing authority. If the permit should be lost, stolen or misplaced the Council will replace it, but a charge will be made.

3. The holder, when boarding a bus, should show the permit to the driver.

4. All permit holders are subject to the normal Conditions of Carriage and Passenger Regulations as exhibited in the Enquiry and Travel Sales Offices of the appropriate bus undertakings, or published in the official timetables.

5. Ashford Borough Council is not a Transport Authority and cannot guarantee that individual bus services continue or remain unchanged throughout the currency of the permit. If because of any change the permit is felt to be of little further use to the holder then it should be returned to the Council for cancellation.

**The authority is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use the information you have provided on this form for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing public funds for these purposes.**

## Office Use Only

---

Date: ..... Evidence: ..... CSA's Initials: .....