

APTA Student Travel Stipend FAQ: Top 15 Questions Including, TRANSForm 2025 in Boston, MA

1. How do I join or renew APTA as a Student Member?

JOIN: If you are joining APTA for the first time, please visit www.APTA.com to learn about the tremendous resources and benefits of APTA Student Membership. Submit a [new member application form](#) to begin the membership journey.

- APTA Student Membership dues are **\$25/annually**.
- Create an APTA profile account using your **university email address**.
- The application takes approximately 3 minutes to complete.
- Please be prepared to submit college ID information, a letter from the Registrar and complete the transaction with a credit card, at time of the application.
- The APTA membership year begins July 1 and ends June 30 of the following year.
- For membership dues questions, please contact membership@apta.com.

RENEW: Email APTA's membership team to determine your current membership status at membership@apta.com.

Student memberships renew automatically for \$25 each year. If you are renewing your APTA membership, please look for the Dues renewal notices in the Spring of each year.

- If you have changes to your membership account, please email membership@apta.com.
- Students are eligible for Student Membership for one-year after graduation of their program to seek employment in the transit industry, or to join another educational institution.

2. Who can apply for the Student Travel Stipend Program to attend APTA's TRANSform Conference?

The Student Travel Stipend Program is a benefit open to APTA Student Members only. Students may apply to the Stipend Program if their **APTA membership is active, and membership dues are fully paid**. A limited number of travel awards are available.

3. What are the eligibility requirements?

Travel Stipend Applicants must be a current APTA Student Member

- **Apply using this [online application form](#) by the extended deadline of June 6, 2025 before 11:59pm EST.**
- An application is considered complete if the Student's University program Dean, Administrator or Faculty Member Reference Letter is uploaded at the time of submission, on or before the deadline.

- Students awarded stipends must be eligible to travel and are required to be on-site in Boston, MA: Monday, September 15, 2025 (10am) – Tuesday, September 16, 2025 (4pm) EST.
- Recipients will be notified about their Stipend status on or before August 1, 2025 to support travel to attend.
- **Students must self-fund travel to TRANSform in Boston, MA as Stipends will be distributed on-site.**

4. What are the criteria to determine who will receive an award?

All applications from current APTA Student Members will be reviewed and evaluated by the following criteria:

- a. Letter of support from your university's program Dean, Administrator or Faculty Member.
- b. Your engagement with APTA and the transit community as a Student Member.
- c. Your short essay about what you will gain by attending TRANSForm, and how meaningful the travel stipend will be to your transit future.

5. I am not currently an APTA Student Member, however I receive APTA Member Benefits through my employer. Am I eligible to apply for a Student Travel Stipend?

No, not at this time. To be eligible to apply, you must be an APTA Student Member. Please see how to Join with the information provided in question #1 above.

- Submit a [new member application form](#) to begin the membership journey.

6. Is there special consideration based on a student's economic ability to travel? How do I demonstrate need? The Stipend Travel Program application does not require any financial information. If you have unique challenges and circumstances, please include the information in the application essay.

7. How do I make and secure travel arrangements if I receive a Stipend or not?

- **All students must self-fund travel to the annual conference.**
- **Student Members receiving a Stipend will receive it on-site.**
- Secure your travel arrangements and confirm your attendance with APTA staff by email to llockman@apta.com
 - The **Conference location is the Boston Convention & Exhibitor Center (BCEC)**
415 Summer St, Boston, MA 02210 | (617) 954-2000
 - Nearby Hotels to BCEC
 - [See these nearby hotels.](#)

- **The nearest airport to the Boston Convention & Exhibitor Center**
- Boston International Airport | 15 minutes or 4.2 miles
- **There is a Student Member Zoom call scheduled for May 7, 2025 at 3p EST/12noon PST for anyone interested in applying.**
- **A Zoom call is scheduled for August 20, 2025 at 3p EST/12noon PST** for anyone traveling to Boston for the 2025 TRANSform Conference.
- All on-site opportunities will be reviewed.

8. When will applicants be notified if they are awarded a Travel Stipend, or not?

Notifications of Travel Stipends will be made by email on or before August 1, 2025.

9. Are first-time TRANSform Conference Attendees given priority?

Please include attendance at any prior conferences that you have attended, and self-funded. There is no priority for first-time attendees at this time.

10. How many years may I receive a Student Travel Stipend?

Student Travel Stipend awards will be based on the criteria indicated in the FAQ #4, and you may receive an award for multiple years.

11. Does it matter if I've already graduated from my college program, may I still apply?

Yes, Student Travel Stipend awards will be based on the criteria indicated in the FAQ #4. APTA Student Members can hold Student membership for one-year after graduation while they are seeking employment in the public transportation industry. All Student Members applying for the Stipend Program must have an active and paid APTA membership.

12. What if I am awarded a Travel Stipend, and my ability to travel changes, or I become too ill to travel? Am I eligible another year?

Notify APTA of your change in travel plans immediately in writing by contacting Lisa Lockman, Sr. Membership Manager by email at llockman@apta.com. The APTA Student Travel Stipend does not automatically carry over to the following TRANSform Conference. Inability to travel at the last minute for unique circumstance does not disqualify you from applying for a stipend in subsequent years.

ABOUT APTA TRANSform 2025 | Boston, MA

13. What are the full dates of the conference?

The conference dates are Sunday, September 14, 2025 when committee meetings are held and most attendees arrive. The program continues through Wednesday, September 17, 2025

at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center (BCEC) located at 415 Summer St, Boston, MA 02210.

APTA anticipates more than 3,000 attendees and 300+ exhibitors.

14. What are key programs that I will not want to miss at TRANSform?

- a. Membership Committee Meeting: **Sunday, September 14 at 7 a.m.**
- b. Opening General Session: Monday, September 15, 2025
- c. Exhibitor Hall hours: Monday, September 15 – Wednesday, September 17, 2025
- d. APTA Awards Ceremony: Tuesday, September 16, 2025
- e. APTA Central sessions will include strategic networking, career readiness, and other leading topics challenging the industry.

15. Who do I contact if I have questions?

Linda Gill Anderson

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Lisa Lockman

Sr. Membership Manager

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