
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission

Guide to Interstate Rates and Regulations for District of Columbia Taxicabs

(This publication contains highlights of orders and regulations concerning interstate operations by District of Columbia taxicabs. It is intended as a guide to assist passengers and drivers. Copies and further information are available from the: WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION)

JURISDICTION

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission (WMATC) establishes the interstate rates for the District of Columbia taxicabs that transport passengers across state lines within the Metropolitan District.

The “Metropolitan District” includes the District of Columbia, the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church, the counties of Arlington and Fairfax, the political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia located within those counties that portion of Loudoun County, Virginia, occupied by Dulles International Airport, the counties of Montgomery and Prince Georges, in the State of Maryland and that portion of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, occupied by Baltimore-Washington International Airport.

A taxicab driver must collect a fare based upon the rates and charges approved and published by the order of WMATC. Hence, unless WMATC has prescribed a rate or charge for a taxicab service, such rate or charge may not be collected. The approved rates and changes are on the back of this leaflet. District of Columbia taxicabs do not have meters; the rates are based on odometer mileage.

COMPUTING FARES: PARTY AND INDIVIDUAL RATES

- (1) Passengers who travel together as a pre-formed group are considered as a “party.” The passengers in a “party” are not required to have the same origin and/or destination. The fare is computed from the first point of origin to the final destination, and the Extra Passenger Charge is collected for all passengers after the first, as shown on the rate schedule in this leaflet. The passengers shall determine if they are traveling as a pre-formed group, before engaging the taxicab.
- (2) Passengers who travel together not as a pre-formed group in a taxicab to the same or different destinations, are not considered as a “party” and individual fares are collected.
- (3) The first person or party engaging the taxicab has control of the taxicab, and other person or parties will be allowed to use the taxicab only with the permission of the first; provided, that the passengers are so advised before the beginning of the trip.

ODOMETER READINGS

The driver should record his odometer reading at the origin point. A party may direct that other passengers in the party be picked up and/or discharged en route. At the final destination the driver should record his odometer reading again, determine the distance traveled, and apply the rate to determine the correct fare. Because the fare is based on actual mileage as recorded on the odometer,

the driver may not know the exact fare until the final destination is reached. The driver must use the most direct route from origin to destination except with the specific permission or direction of the passenger.

FARE RECEIPT

It is the duty of the driver to give any passenger, upon request, a receipt in clear and legible writing, signed by the driver, showing his public vehicle operator's license number, origin and destination, the taxicab company and number, mileage, the amount paid, time and date. Passengers are advised to check the receipt for accuracy of information identifying the taxicab and operator.

COMPLAINTS

Interstate overcharge complaints should be filed with WMATC in writing as quickly as possible and should include some dependable means by which to identify the driver or vehicle – or the cab company name and cab number – or the license plate number and jurisdiction. The address of WMATC is on the front of this leaflet.

INTERSTATE TAXICAB RATES FOR TAXICAB SERVICE WITHIN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT (in taxicabs licensed and regulated by the District of Columbia)

\$3.25 First ½ mile or part thereof

.90 Each additional ½ mile or part thereof

1.50 Each additional passenger in pre-formed party (provided, however, that one child years of age or younger shall be transported without charge for each individual of at least sixteen (16) years of age in a pre-formed party)

Hand baggage, including large bags of groceries or articles of similar size, in excess of one piece per passenger shall be charged for at the rate of \$.50 for each such piece. Briefcases and parcels of comparable size shall not be considered as hand baggage.

Trunks or similar large articles shall be charged for a rate of \$2.00 each. A trunk is herein described as a piece of baggage having a minimum dimension or cubic content in excess of 32 inches by 18 inches by 9 inches or cubic feet, respectively.

The charge for personal service 1/ shall be \$2.00; taxicab service in response to a telephone call, \$2.00 in addition to all other authorized charges; dismissal of a taxicab without using it after response to a telephone call, \$1.50 in addition to the charge for responding; waiting time, 2/ which shall apply to "stops" enroute at passenger's request:

Less than 5 min. – no charge

5 min to 9 min., 59 sec. -- \$2.00

10 min. to 14 min., 59. -- \$3.50

Upon awaiting 15 min. (and each additional 15 min or fraction) -- \$6.25

There shall be a surcharge of \$1.00 per trip commencing between 7am and 9:30am and between 4pm and 6:30pm., Monday through Friday except District of Columbia or federal holidays.

Snow Emergency when declared by the District of Columbia taxicab commission – \$2.50

AIRPORT FEE:

Interstate taxicab rates for service within the Washington Metropolitan shall include a surcharge or \$1.75 per interstate taxicab trip originating at Washington National Airport, provided, however; that the surcharge may not be applied unless the operator has paid the \$1.75 fee. No surcharge shall apply to any multiple party trips.

With the exceptions we have historically found necessary and appropriate to interstate rates, the incidental charges currently prescribed by the District of Columbia Taxicab Commission are applicable to interstate taxicab service in District of Columbia taxicabs

1/ A personal service is defined as any service requested by a passenger which requires the taxicab driver to leave the vicinity of the taxicab.

2/ Waiting time shall include time consumed while taxicab is waiting and available to the passenger beginning 5 minutes after the time of arrival at the place to which it has been called. No charge shall be made for premature response to a call.