

# TRANSIT EXPRESS

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## The Newsletter of the Wyoming Public Transit Association

### See you in the fall

This year the annual WYTRANS Conference will be a fall event! Mark your calendars now to join us in Casper, October 3-5 at the Hilton Garden Inn. We have a great group of presenters lined up for the regular conference. In addition, WYDOT will be debuting its new Local Transit Agency (LTA) training program in conjunction with this year's conference. The LTA class will run all day October 3; contact WYDOT with any questions about the class.

The rest of the week will follow the regular schedule for the WYTRANS Conference. The TSI training for new drivers will start Tuesday. Wednesday, October 4, the full WYTRANS conference will begin with several informative sessions for drivers and directors to attend. The conference will conclude around noon on Thursday following an important session on Drug and Alcohol regulations.

Registration material will be available on the website [www.wytrans.org](http://www.wytrans.org) and in an upcoming issue of the *Transit Express*.



### 2023 WYTRANS Conference

#### Tuesday, October 3

- ♦ Local Transit Agency—*all day WYDOT training*
- ♦ Paratransit Operator Training
- ♦ ***Trainers' Dinner Meeting***

#### Wednesday, October 4

- ♦ ADA Compliance -
  - \* Service Animals
  - \* Reasonable Modifications
  - \* Direct Threat
- ♦ Dealing with Dementia
- ♦ ***Awards Luncheon***
- ♦ Coaching for Superior Performance
- ♦ Teambuilding for Supervisors
- ♦ Reducing Turnover and Increasing Retention
- ♦ ***WYTRANS Board Meeting***

#### Thursday am, October 5

- ♦ FTA Session
- ♦ Drug and Alcohol Training

*All sessions to be held at the Hilton Garden Inn located in Casper, Wyoming. Call 307-266-1300 to reserve your sleeping room today. See the summer issue of the Transit Express Newsletter for more details.*



## ANNUAL AWARDS

### Award Nominations

WYTRANS will present its annual awards Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at an awards ceremony to be held during the *Annual Conference* in Casper. **All WYTRANS members are eligible for six different award categories.** The following criteria are given as a guide, but are not all-inclusive.

***The Driver of the Year*** seems to always go above and beyond his or her job description. This award winner exemplifies outstanding customer service, has a positive attitude, excellent attendance, and a professional appearance. The winner must have a clean driving record for the previous year.

***The Trainer of the Year*** is certified to instruct the TSI Driver training course. This award winner is creative, enthusiastic, and a knowledgeable trainer who has the ability to make teaching interesting and entertaining, yet effective. Drivers are encouraged to nominate a candidate for this award.

***The Dispatcher of the Year*** is a public relations expert (i.e. good people skills), gets along with others, is highly organized, very patient, and able to handle stressful situations in a professional manner. This person also provides outstanding customer service, has a positive attitude, excellent attendance, and a professional appearance.

***The Volunteer of the Year*** recognizes someone who is not on the agency payroll but spends time helping out a social service or transit system in many different ways (i.e. delivering meals or raising money).

***The Outstanding Service Award*** is for an employee that might not fit exactly into one of the other award categories, but is a very valuable and dedicated employee. This person can be a driver, dispatcher, administrative assistant, etc.

***The WYTRANS Agency of the Year. The WYDOT Transit Staff will be submitting nominations for the Agency of the Year Award.***

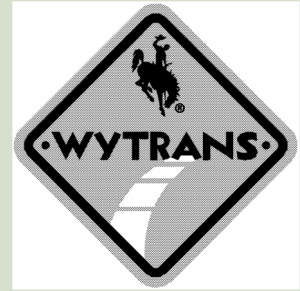
Individual winners will receive \$100, an engraved plaque, and an embroidered jacket.

***Nominations must be received by Friday, June 30, 2023 to be considered.*** If you have questions, contact Jaime at 307-679-3220 or jahunolt@gmail.com.

## Trainer's Corner by Faye Nash, WYTRANS Trainer Liaison

First off, I would like to thank WYTRANS for having me back as Trainer Liaison. It has been a few years, but I had a great time in Mountain View putting on my first TSI class. It is always so rewarding to have participants joining in and making it not only educational, but fun. I am looking forward to my next class.

I have had the pleasure of visiting with most of the trainers in Wyoming this last month by phone. Anxious to meet each and every one in person. I hope to have a trainer's retreat here in Casper soon. It will be one day of not only reviewing our program but having some fun also. It will be a great time to voice your opinions regarding all the training we offer. So put on your thinking caps and bring ideas and questions. Dates and agenda will be sent as soon as I get it put together. Please feel free to call me if you have questions, suggestions, ideas, etc.



Just a reminder to everyone in our business- " First and foremost, we are in the "Customer Service Business", the service we offer is transportation and the goal of our business is to: Provide reliable expert service to each and every customer." TSI introduction to Paratransit.

STATE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR DRIVERS AND ASSISTANTS		
TRAINING	INITIAL	RECERTIFICATION
TSI (Transportation Safety Institute)	Within 6 months from date of hiring. 12 hour class	8-hour recertification class Every 3 years
Standard First Aid	Within 6 months from date of hiring From accredited organization-see above	As accredited organization requires Typically every 2 years
CPR	Initial training in First Aid Course From accredited organization-see above	CPR recertification required by all accredited organizations. Every 2 years
Bloodborne Pathogen Awareness (Video and Manual)	Within 6 months from date of hiring Included in TSI training.	Annual one-hour review
Worker-right-to-know (MSDS's Hazardous Material Awareness)	Within 6 months from date of hiring Can be included in TSI training. WYTRANS has manual.	Annual review
Drug & Alcohol Awareness (Video and Manual)	Initially 2 hours for Supervisors and 1 hour for drivers.	Annual review recommended, not required

## Drug & Alcohol Training at WYTRANS Conference

This year WYTRANS will be offering a Drug & Alcohol Training Session as part of the annual Conference. This training will be conducted by one of the Contractors the FTA employs to conduct the audits.

The training is designed to provide essential facts and information to facilitate an employers' compliance with DOT's 49 CFR Part 40 and FTA's 49 CFR Part 655. While a high-level overview of the regulations will be discussed, this training will focus more on the operational side of a transit agency's functions.

Because you employ safety-sensitive workers who must have Department of Transportation (DOT) drug and alcohol tests, this training will help you understand how to run an excellent program that meets DOT requirements. This training is geared towards Transit employers, substance abuse program managers, human resource managers, and safety managers.

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this important training being offered at the **WYTRANS Conference—the morning of October 5 in Casper, Wyoming.**

## Drivers wanted for the WYTRANS Bus Rodeo

- \* **Join us in Casper on September 9 for your chance to win cash prizes ranging from \$100—\$1,000.**
- \* **Drivers will compete on a timed course, a written test, a pre-trip inspection and wheelchair securement. It's a fun day of competition with food and prizes.**
- \* **\$500 Scholarships will be available to reimburse travel expenses.**

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*The Wyoming Transit Express is published by the Wyoming Public Transit Association, 20045 State Highway 150 South, Evanston, Wyoming, 82930, 307-679-3220. This publication is made possible through a grant from the Section 5311 Rural Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP) of the Federal Transit Administration by the Wyoming Department of Transportation, 5300 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, WY, 82009.*