

Campus RIDE ALONG

Simple, safe, sustainable.



CONCEPT

Campus Ride Along is a **campus carpooling community** built to be safe, simple, and accessible, **operating through a WhatsApp Community**. It connects TU Dublin students and staff to share rides safely and conveniently, covering both the journey to campus and the journey home.

Students and staff are organised within a central WhatsApp community, into area and commute direction-based groups: to and from campus. Those with cars can offer rides to others heading in the same direction, sharing fuel costs.

WHY IT MATTERS

According to TU Dublin's 2024 Smarter Travel Survey, 52% of students and 35% of staff are interested in carpooling, 44% of respondents drive to campus because they have no alternative, and 31% of staff drive alone.

Despite this, **TU Dublin currently has no structured mechanism to help students and staff actually carpool**. Key pain points include: being too tired after class to walk home, Dublin's unpredictable weather, peak hour public transport can be challenging, and safety concerns about sharing rides with strangers.

HOW IT WORKS

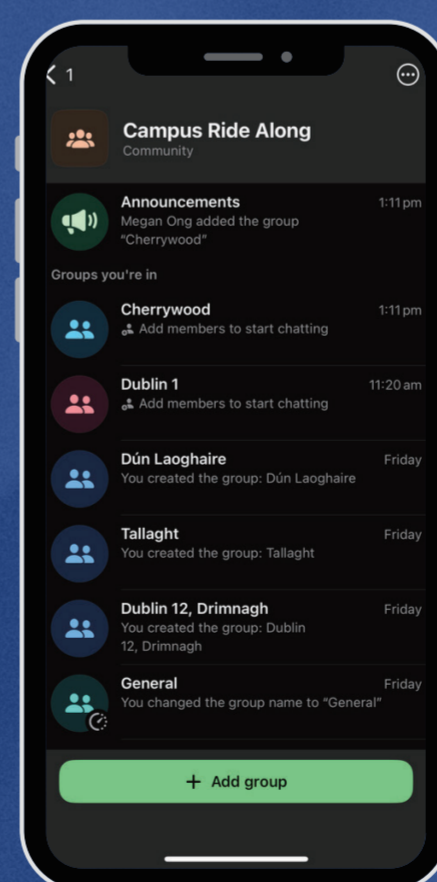
- 1 Sign Up** Scan the QR code on campus posters or find the link via TU Dublin student & staff channels.
- 2 Join Your Area Group** Students and staff are placed into a **WhatsApp Community sub-group** with others who live in the same area or travel in the same direction. Tag your TU Dublin student or staff ID upon joining.
- 3 Post a Ride or Request** At the start of each semester, verified drivers register their route and departure times with the sub-group admin. The admin compiles and shares the schedule for the semester, including fixed pick-up points. Drivers do not collect passengers door to door, passengers make their own way to the nearest pick-up point, keeping routes simple and the driver's time manageable. When you need a ride, simply check the schedule or post a request in your area group.
- 4 Travel Together** Ride with verified drivers from your TU Dublin community. Present your TU Dublin ID upon request. Drivers share a Google Maps screenshot with the route, pick-up points and estimated time, shared via the sub-group admin. No back-and-forth needed. Guests are welcome but must be accompanied by a TU Dublin member throughout the journey.

WHY IT WORKS

- ✓ Zero-Cost Implementation**
 Can launch immediately. Managed by student volunteers and student union admins.
- 🎯 Demand Already Exists**
 No structured platform exists. Campus Ride Along fills that gap.
- 🛡️ Safety Through Familiarity**
 Safety is ensured through TU Dublin ID verification and NDLS driver screening, allowing only verified, low-risk drivers.
- 👥 Benefits Both Sides**
 Drivers save. Passengers ride comfortably, affordably, and reliably.
- ☁️ Built for Irish Weather & Peak Hours**
 Reliable in rain, late evenings, or busy mornings when buses are full or delayed.
- 📍 Flexible and Scalable**
 Works by direction, not address. Fixed timetables make planning simple. Scales easily.

GOING FURTHER

The more people who join, the better it works for everyone. We fill the gap. A model any Smarter Travel Campus in Ireland can adopt.



Smarter Travel
Student Awards

