

Bill # 71-01

**The Graduate and Professional Student Association  
(GPSA)  
The Pennsylvania State University**



**of the 71st Assembly**  
April 14, 2021

*Be it decided by the Assembly of Elected Delegates,*

**Ride Vouchers to COVID-19 vaccination sites**  
**Lyft vouchers for students without personal transportation**  
(Decided: [ Y / N / A ])

**Nature of the Situation:**

One of the big steps to limiting the spread of COVID-19 is to receive a vaccination. An effective vaccine will protect individuals who come in contact with the virus. Currently all FDA approved vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson) have shown reduced hospitalization rates after treatment.<sup>1</sup> When the majority of individuals are vaccinated communities may be able return to more normal routines.

Despite this encouraging news, the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing and cases are on a rise.<sup>2</sup> It is not advised for current students to provide rides due to concerns for their safety. Additionally, buses pose a health risk because individuals will be in close quarters to other bus passengers. GPSA values the safety of graduate and professional students and encourages all students who are eligible and able to receive a vaccine to sign up for an appointment when a slot becomes available. In order to help with the vaccination process

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/public-health/what-doctors-wish-patients-knew-about-johnson-johnson-vaccine>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.statecollege.com/centre-county-adds-134-covid-19-cases-pennsylvania-reports-5343/>

1 GPSA proposes to fund Lyft rides for graduate and professional students located in State  
2 College, Lemont, and Bellefonte areas to vaccination sites.

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5 **Recommended Course of Action:**

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7 The Graduate and Professional Student Association authorizes the purchase of up to 200  
8 \$25 ride vouchers (2 for each individual for the first and second appointment) from Lyft  
9 for the students who need access to vaccination sites. This will allow graduate and  
10 professional students to travel safely and individually to their vaccination appointments.  
11 Individuals who need such ride assistance will be identified through an online form posted  
12 on social media.

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14 **Amount for ride vouchers: \$25x200 = \$5000**

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16 **Total amount requested: \$5000**

Respectfully submitted,

**Yashasvika Duggal**  
Delegate, Eberly College of Science

President \_\_\_\_\_ Affirm Veto

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