

2026 Dining Hall Volunteer

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Thank you for volunteering to help with this years' Dining Hall! We've gathered some tips and tricks to help you get to and from the fair as smoothly as possible.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **WALKING:** It is about a 1.3 mile walk up Snelling (30 minute) from Hamline Church to the fairgrounds.
- **BIKING:**
 - Free bike parking at the Fair near Gates 2, 9, and 16, open at 6AM-11:30pm
 - Suggested route: Park near Como Park and bike to the Fair from there.
- **DRIVING:** Carpooling Highly Recommended!
 - There is a FREE Employee & Vendor Parking Lot at the I-35W & Co. Rd C Park & Ride Ramp (2000 Iona Lane, Roseville, MN 55113). Includes a 24-hour shuttle. See more details at the end of this packet.
 - You can park in the Hamline Church Parking lot and then walk/bike/bus or get dropped off (must be pre-arranged).
 - To Catch the Bus from Hamline Church: Walk 0.2 miles (4 minutes) to the bus stop at Snelling and Minnehaha. Catch the A Line bus heading north to Rosedale—they run about every 15 minutes. Get off at Snelling & Como. (Ride is about 5 minutes long.)
 - To Provide or Receive a Dropoff/Pickup between Hamline Church and the Fair: Contact Mary Bloom (mary_j_bloom@yahoo.com)
 - There are many [Park and Ride opportunities](#) starting at 8AM each day.
 - [Fairground Parking Lots](#) open at 6AM and cost \$25/vehicle (not covered by Hamline Church). These can fill up quickly.
 - There is some opportunity for neighborhood parking, but please note that [Falcon Heights has a new \\$25 Pay-By-Mobile fee for street parking](#).
 - Limited parking at the U of M – St. Paul Campus (Gortner Ramp or Raymond Ave Surface Lot)
 - Get dropped off at the fair, or at the U of M – St. Paul campus for a slightly longer walk but less traffic.
- **PUBLIC TRANSIT:**
 - [A Line \(Rosedale 7 Down Snelling 7 46th St Station\)](#)
 - [Route 87 \(Rosedale 7 Highland Park via Cleveland\)](#) –0.9 mile walk, but generally on time

- [Route 3 \(Downtown Minneapolis↻Downtown St. Paul via Como Ave.\)](#) ○
[Route 61 \(Downtown Minneapolis↻Downtown St. Paul via Larpenteur Ave.\)](#)

6:30 AM SHIFT CONSIDERATIONS:

- A Line along the Snelling Corridor bus starts service just after 4 AM. You could easily park at Hamline Church and catch the bus.
- Driving Tip: Park along Midway Parkway for a shorter walk. (City of St. Paul)

10:30 AM or 3:30 PM SHIFT CONSIDERATIONS:

- Traffic and buses (A Line) are packed along the Snelling Corridor and parking near the fair will likely be limited.
- Driving Tip: Park at Hamline Church and arrange for another church member to drop you off at the Fairgrounds, then take a bus back at the end of your shift

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Disability Park and Ride:
 - Park Oscar Johnson Arena, 1039 De Courcy Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108
(Must have disability parking certificate or license plate)
 - Take accessible bus to Gate 9.
- Metro Mobility drop-off at Loop Gate 9 (1741 Como Ave)
- More details can be found here: <https://www.mnstatefair.org/guides/accessibility/>

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE LINKS:

State Fair Map: <https://www.mnstatefair.org/maps/>

Dining Hall Location: <https://www.mnstatefair.org/vendor/3684.1/>

General Overview of Transport options: <https://www.mnstatefair.org/get-here/>

Metro Transit Fare Information: www.metrotransit.org/fares

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

FREE Employee & Vendor Parking Lot:
I-35W & Co. Rd. C Park & Ride Ramp
2000 Iona Lane, Roseville, MN 55113

- Please park on the top three levels (Levels 3-5).
- Parking is first come, first served.
- Hours of operations/bus service are 24 hours a day during the 12 days of the fair.
- Aug. 21 through Labor Day, Sept. 1, 2025



What you need to know before parking at the ramp:

- Staff ID badge required; volunteers must have volunteer parking credential.
- No oversized vehicles are permitted such as: box trucks, trailers, semi trailers.
- Cars, SUVs, mini vans, passenger vans and pick-up trucks are allowed.
- Do not park on Levels 1-2; these are reserved for public parking.