

You're spending HOW MUCH to transport samples across campus??

Did you know that biological samples are prohibited on public buses (including AATA and U-M passenger buses), taxis/Ubers, personal cars, and non-DOT regulated motor vehicles on public roads? Did you know that improperly transporting samples can potentially cause personal injury as well as result in significant fines by the Department of Transportation?

So, what options are available other than hand-carrying samples around Ann Arbor? U-M has three compliant, convenient, and cost-effective options for researchers to quickly get biological samples where they need to go around the University of Michigan Campus.

FREE Option – Bio-Research Shuttle

Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) has established the **Bio-Research Shuttle**. It operates like a normal U-M bus route but is dedicated for the safe transport of biological samples. The shuttle runs every 30 minutes from the North Campus Research Complex to the Medical Center and makes designated stops. Simply board the shuttle with your properly packaged biological sample – **accompanying your sample is required** - and take it where it needs to go. This service is free of charge to the U-M community and offers a compliant form of public transportation to investigators and their biological samples.

[Where does it go?](#)

Fee-Based Supplier Options – Metro Delivery and Reliable Transport

U-M has contracted with two suppliers that can transport biological samples across campus and throughout Southeast Michigan: **Metro Delivery and Reliable, Inc.** These suppliers offer many options for door-to-door services: routine pickups, scheduled pickups, and “stat”/unscheduled pickups. Both suppliers are equipped with US DOT licenses to transport biological samples that may include chemical fixatives. The table below outlines differences in costs and service levels for these suppliers. *It is important to contact these suppliers in advance for specific pricing to fit your transportation needs.*

OSEH Approved!

These methods of biological sample transport on the University of Michigan Campus are approved by OSEH. Please see their [website](#) for more information.

Biological Sample Transport Options with Cost and Service Information

	Bio-Research Shuttle	Metro Delivery	Reliable, Inc.
How often?	Every 30 minutes	On demand or scheduled	On demand or scheduled
Where can they go?	Designated points from NCRC to Medical Campus – see map .	Deliveries within and outside of campus	Deliveries within and outside of campus
What's the average cost per transport?	No charge	\$22.13*	\$8.50*
Is there a fuel surcharge?	No	Yes	No
Can I charge my shortcode?	N/A	Yes	Yes
Will they provide packaging material?	No	No	Yes
Is “stat” delivery available?	No	Yes, 90-minute window	Yes, 120-minute window
Does this option allow shipments with chemical fixatives (solution-base)?	No	Yes	Yes
Contact information and account set-up.	(734) 764-3427	(734) 641-1600, ext. 3	(734) 973-0973

*Based on a case study of several transports conducted between North Campus Research Complex and Hill-area labs for routine samples (non-stat deliveries). **Note that pricing may vary depending on individual transportation needs and situations. Call suppliers to verify pricing.**