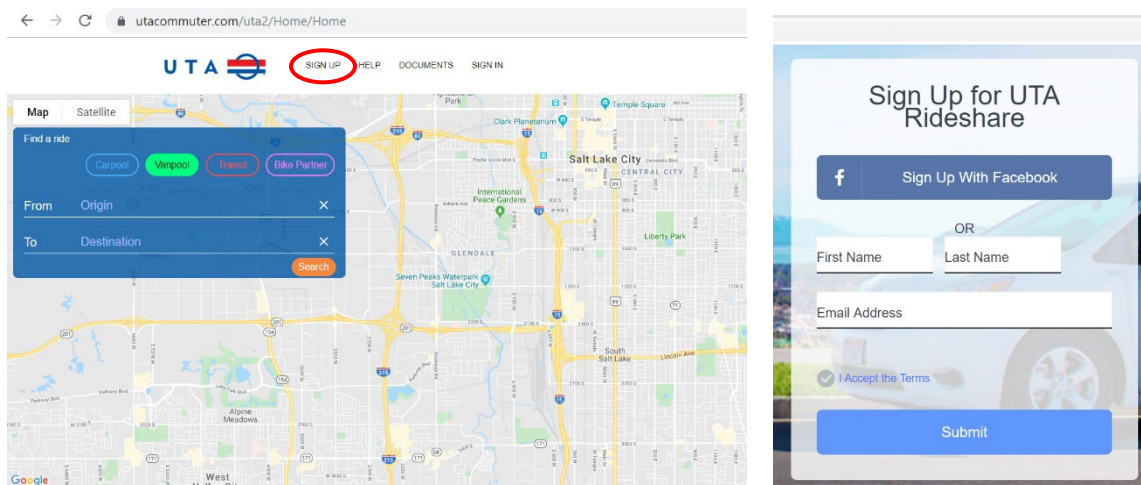## Research Park Connect Vanpool program

Research Park Connect is partnering with Utah Transit Authority (UTA) to organize vanpools for the Research Park community. Vanpooling is a service provided by UTA to accommodate larger groups of people in shared vehicles. A vanpool usually consists of 7 to 15 passengers who split the cost evenly. Pricing is based upon the number of people in your vanpool and the distance traveled. Vanpool costs include fuel, maintenance, insurance and vehicle leasing. We'll match you with a group of your colleagues who live nearby and drive to Research Park on your schedule.

In general, riding in a vanpool is vastly cheaper than driving your car alone. As a comparison, assuming a commute of 30 miles per day round trip and working 21 days per month, a compact car getting 30 miles to the gallon would cost just under $400/month to commute. Riding in a vanpool for the same distance will likely cost approximately $50 – $75.

Vanpool membership also comes with UTA's Guaranteed Ride Home benefit. Riders who find they need a personal car ride are eligible for UTA to cover the cost of the ride six times per year.

How to sign up

Signing up for UTA vanpools is simple, takes just a few minutes, and is completely free. Go to utacommuter.com and select "SIGN UP."
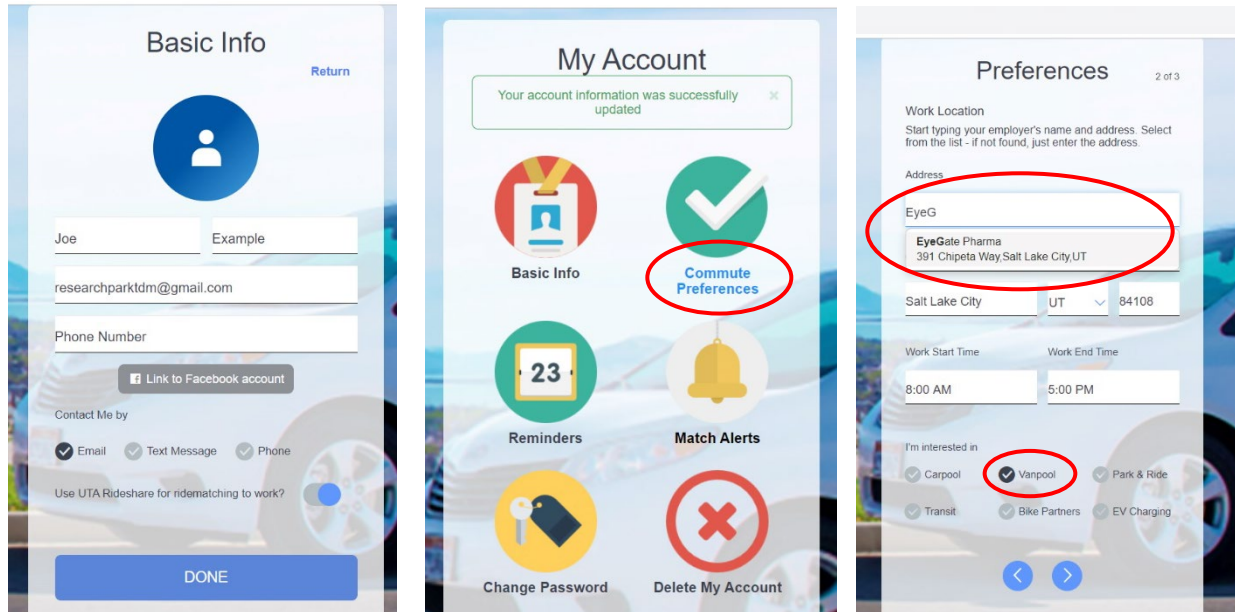

You will receive an email verifying your email address. Follow the links to set a password.

Fill in your basic information, with how you would like to be contacted, then, in the My Account menu, select "Commute Preferences." In the second panel, start typing in your work organization – your company or organization should appear in a drop-down menu; when you select your company/organization name the address should autofill.

Then, check "Vanpool" in the list of options. In the last panel, select which of the vanpooling roles you are interested in.

UTA will contact you if you have matched to an existing vanpool or when enough Research Park commuters from your area have signed up for a vanpool to offer a new vanpool route for you.

Vanpool logistics

Research Park Connect vanpool participants are charged a flat rate based on the vanpool's mileage. Vanpools must keep a certain number of riders to remain operating. UTA bills each vanpool participant for the upcoming month's ridership fees through the online bill payment system Xpress Bill Pay. Each vanpool participant will receive their own unique account number to be used for the billing and payment processes. Through Xpress Bill Pay, participants can make their monthly payment, set up reoccurring payments, view monthly invoices and review their billing history.