

Philadelphia University Launches Car-Share Program This Month

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Students, faculty and staff are invited to sign up for PhillyCarShare, a nonprofit organization that provides a car to drive without the hassles of owning a vehicle, by visiting www.phillycarshare.org and clicking on “Join for Free.” Once applications are collected, PhillyCarShare will deploy a hybrid Toyota Prius on campus during the spring semester for University and local community members to use.

“PhillyCarShare helps me get around the city without having to pay for gas and parking,” said Graphic Design Communication senior Kevin Furst, who has used its vehicles to get to interviews and other important appointments over the past year. “All you have to do is join, make a reservation, use your key and go. It’s literally that simple, and it’s affordable too!”

By joining PhillyCarShare, members of the University community, as well as existing users like Furst, will receive a key to the campus car, which will be located in Gibbs Hall parking lot, near The Tuttleman Center. Users will also enjoy 24-hour access to other vehicles located in the East Falls Neighborhood, such as at the SEPTA R6 and R8 Regional Rail stops on Midvale and Wissahickon Avenues, respectively, and the School Lane House Apartments, also on Wissahickon Avenue. Those interested in joining must be 18 years or older and possess a valid driver’s license. Rates, which cover the cost of gas, insurance, maintenance and parking, start at \$2.90 per hour or \$29 per day. Students, faculty and staff who sign up before Jan. 31 using the promotional code “PCSNOW” will earn \$20 worth of free driving time.

Together with other participating regional universities and colleges, Philadelphia University’s car-share program will help reduce a significant percentage of auto emissions in the city of Philadelphia. “The program will provide an environmentally friendly transportation alternative for University community members,” said Assistant Director of Student Activities Operations Katie Tyler, who organized the launch as a member of the University’s Sustainability Committee. “In addition, it will allow first-year students who don’t typically have cars on campus to experience a greater sense of independence.”

University community members may learn more about the car-share program during the Jan. 29 Men’s and Women’s Basketball doubleheader against Goldey-Beacom College, beginning at 6 p.m. in The Gallagher Athletic, Recreation and Convocation Center, where PhillyCarShare representatives will be on hand to field questions, discuss a timeline for bringing a car to campus and distribute fun giveaways.

For more information about Philadelphia University's car-share program launch, contact Katie Tyler at tylerk@PhilaU.edu. To learn more about Philadelphia University's Sustainability Committee, visit www.PhilaU.edu/Sustainability.