

The Steamship Authority

2026 Preferred Program Application

WHAT IS THE PREFERRED PROGRAM?

Enrollment in the Preferred Program gives access to Preferred Spaces, which are spaces set aside on certain trips each day that are available to book either 30 days (in the summer schedule), seven days or one day in advance of travel. Preferred Program members can also participate in Head Start, which allows account holders to make advance summer reservations before the general public.



Martha's Vineyard Preferred Space reservations can be reserved starting at 7:30 a.m. Reservations can be made online, by calling our reservation line, or in person at the Vineyard Haven Terminal.



Nantucket Preferred Space reservations can be made beginning at 5:30 a.m. in person at the Nantucket Terminal or starting at 7:30 a.m. either by going online or by calling our reservation line.

HOW DO PREFERRED SPACES WORK?

- Travel has to originate from either Nantucket or Martha's Vineyard.
- The off-island portion of round trip must be used in order for the return ticket to be valid and to have access to a preferred space.
- Preferred spaces may not be used for commercial or business purposes.
- Travelers using preferred spaces may not carry cargo, freight, or passengers for commercial purposes.
- Eligible individuals are limited to one Preferred Space reservation per day, which can be either one-way or round-trip. The return travel does not have to be on the same day as the departure.
- Preferred Space reservations must be paid for in full at the time of booking.
- Preferred Space reservations are not refundable and cannot be transferred to another customer.
- The vehicle must be registered in applicant's name or meet other proper criteria listed below for leased or vehicles registered to a business.
- The vehicle must be less than twenty-two (22) feet in length.
- Travelers must be able to list any vehicle model extras that are not included on the registration and that may affect the measurable size of the vehicle.

HOW DO I ENROLL?

1 Step One: Find out what documentation you need

PROOF OF VEHICLE



FOR ALL VEHICLES:

You will need a copy of registration(s) with address(es) of each desired vehicle. Vehicle(s) cannot be registered on multiple accounts.

FOR LEASED VEHICLES:

You will also need a copy of lease agreement pages that show the name of the applicant as owner and that the VIN matches the registration submitted.

FOR VEHICLES REGISTERED TO A BUSINESS:

You will also need a copy of the appropriate insurance coverage selection page showing the applicant as the authorized driver for that vehicle with island address.

PROOF OF RESIDENCE



Copies of two of the following utility bills (must be in the applying resident(s) name, issued in the last 30 days with island address):

• **Telephone** • **Water** • **Electric** • **Cable/satellite** • **Trash removal**

If the preferred account is listed under two (2) names, both parties must provide complete proof. If two names are on one bill, that qualifies as one submission of proof for each named on the bill.

2 Step Two: Complete the 2026 Preferred Program Application Form

Please complete this form. If you do not submit a completed form with all of the required documents, it will delay the processing and completion of your application. This may result in the inability for the listed applicant to participate in the Head Start advanced reservation program. If this form is submitted without a signature, it will not be a valid application form, which will result in denial from the program.

If you need assistance with this form, please call the Reservation Office at (508) 477-8600.

Steamship Authority Account Number (formerly called a Profile Number):		
Name(s) of Individual(s) requesting Preferred status:		
Island Address:		
Island Phone:	Off-Island Phone (if applicable):	
City:	State:	Zip:
Mailing Address (if different):		
City:	State:	Zip:
Cell Phone:	Best time to call:	
Email:		
Vehicle add-ons not listed in registration that could affect the length of the vehicle:		

I hereby certify under penalties of perjury that the information provided here, and the attached proof of residence is true and correct. I hereby authorize the Steamship Authority to contact and communicate with any and all persons who might have knowledge of this information for the purpose of verifying its truth and accuracy. I also agree to abide by the policies relating to the resident Preferred/preferred space and the Head Start programs. I understand that vehicle reservations I obtain under these programs are for my personal use as a resident of Martha's Vineyard/Nantucket, outside of the Head Start program.

If I do not comply with the associated policies or abuse the privileges these programs provide me, I understand that I may be denied participation in the Head Start program and will be denied access to Preferred Space reservations.

Date

Signature(s) is/are **REQUIRED** for each applicant

3 Three: Combine and Submit



**PACKAGE YOUR
MATERIALS AND
MAIL THEM TO:**

Steamship Authority
Preferred Application Submission
509 Falmouth Road, Suite 1-C
Mashpee, MA 02649



**SCAN YOUR
MATERIALS AND
EMAIL THEM TO:**

OR

**formsubmit@
steamshipauthority.com**

All files must be attachments in PDF format
and less than 10 MB.
No other file formats are accepted.



FOR HELP:



(508) 477-8600



FORMSUBMIT@STEAMSHIPAUTHORITY.COM



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