

This year's rodeo is specifically designed to empower our transportation drivers by equipping them with vital training resources that will significantly improve their daily operations. We strongly urge our directors and managers to fully utilize the comprehensive training day offered to drivers, which also includes specialized sessions for judges to ensure a thorough grasp of the obstacle courses. MPTA will bring in various organizations to ensure all training activities, ensuring a high standard of instruction. In response to your valuable feedback and requests, the MSU Area Rapid Transit (SMART) will proudly serve as the host agency for this event, with the EZ Tag Regional Coordination Group acting as co-host. We eagerly anticipate your participation and look forward to welcoming you.

The cost to register for this incredible event is just \$400.00 per individual. This fee grants you access to a variety of training sessions, comprehensive handouts, valuable study aids, a stylish tee shirt for participants, a delicious lunch on Friday, a community picnic on Saturday, and the prestigious awards ceremony. We wholeheartedly encourage you to join us for this wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow enthusiasts in the Public Transit sector and immerse yourself in a vibrant, enjoyable experience. It's important to note that the active participation of judges is crucial for the overall success of this gathering, so your involvement is greatly appreciated.

The picnic is open to all registered participants and a minimum of (1) guests. **Guest tickets to the awards ceremony are only \$25.00. All guest tickets may be purchased and must be indicated on the registration form.**

The event will consist of two divisions, body-on-chassis bus and van division, (7 passengers). Trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each division will be presented. The 1st place winner in each event will receive a cash prize of \$500.00. Also, a scholarship award will be given by MDOT – RTAP to the CTAA National Rodeo May 31, 2025- June 1, 2025 in San Diego, CA. The second and third place winners in each division will receive cash prizes of \$250.00 and \$150.00 respectfully.

Registration for the rodeo can be done online at <https://mspublictransitassociation.org> or by completing the registration form and faxing to the number on the form.

Each individual is responsible for their room and by calling La Quinta by Wyndham Starkville-MSU at 662-270-4100 located 982 Hwy 12 E Starkville, MS 39759. Book online using the link [MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC TRANSIT 2025](#). All rooms require a valid credit or debit card upon check in only. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 24-27, 2025 room rates are \$139.00 plus taxes. Rooms must be reserved by Thursday, April 11, 2025 the code is MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC TRANSIT 2025. Rooms are not guaranteed after that date.

RTAP assistance will be available for agency members of the Mississippi Public Transit Association. Contact Carolyn Johnson, at MDOT Public Transit Division (601) 359-7800 for information on RTAP assistance.

Rodeo Registration Form and Invoice
April 24-27, 2025 – MSU Area Rapid Transit (SMART) -Starkville

Name:	
Name of Company Organization	
Position/ Title	
Mailing Address	
Street Address if Different	
City, State and Zip Code:	
Registrant Cell number:	
Email:	

Individual Registration Fee: \$ 400.00

Registration fee includes admittance to workshop sessions, all training materials, tee-shirt, picnic and awards ceremony. Additional, guest tickets may be purchased and indicated on the registration form below. All tickets must be purchased in advance.

Contestants (there will be no category changes for drivers)

☐ Body on Chassis Bus
 ☐ 7 passenger Minivan
☐ **Other Assist** (wherever services needed)
 ☐ Judge

What size tee shirt do you prefer? _____ **THERE WILL BE NO CHANGES and NO REFUNDS after April 4, 2025**

This section applies to Guest(s) of the above-named registered participant.

Guest(s) Luncheon Ticket _____ x \$15.00 each = _____ \$ _____ .00
 Guest(s) Awards Ticket _____ X \$25.00 each = _____ \$ _____ .00
 Guest Tee Shirt(s) _____ X \$15.00 each = _____ \$ _____ .00
☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ XLarge ☐ XXLLarge ☐ XXXLarge

Check enclosed or Purchase order Total Amount Due \$ _____ .00

Make Checks payable to: Mississippi Public Transit Association, Inc.

Mail Checks to: P. O. Box 2277, Natchez, MS 39121-2277

Fax Registration to **662.846.0203** and Mail Registration form along with payment to the above address by April 4, 2025.

One form per individual required. All participants and judges must be registered by April 4, 2025.

Important information for Rodeo 2025

For Contestants and Judges:

- Contestants and Judges will have special training sessions to prepare you for the rodeo (**Must be present**)
- Judges' may be required to judge both bus and van. Your complete cooperation is needed throughout the competition.

General Information for Everyone:

Host Hotel Information:

- *Each individual is responsible for their room and by calling **La Quinta by Wyndham Starkville at MSU 982 Hwy 12 E Starkville, MS 39759** **662-270-4100** or via the link [MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC TRANSIT 2025](#). All rooms require a valid credit or debit card upon check in Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 24-27, 2025 room rates are \$139.00 plus tax. Rooms must be reserved by Friday, April 11, 2025! **The code is MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC TRANSIT 2025.***
- Registration package will have 1 meal ticket for the lunch on Friday, for the picnic on Saturday and 1 ticket to the awards banquet. ***Meal tickets will be required at all events!***
- Bring your lawn chairs, umbrellas and any other items necessary for your outdoor comfort.
- Transportation will be provided to and from the hotel to the event locations Friday and Saturday
- Early finishers are invited to remain and cheer on their fellow contestants during the activities to foster a sense of camaraderie among all participants.
- Event Registration will be at La Quinta by Wyndham Starkville at MSU.
- Questions about Rodeo and the rules: contact Jeremiah Dumas at 662-325-1827 or via email at JDumas@parkingtransit.msstate.edu;

- Questions about registration contact LaShonda McKinney at 662-846-6161 or via email at mpublictransitassociation@gmail.com;
- Questions about payments contact Sabrena Bartley via email at sabrena.bartley@yahoo.com
- For RTAP Assistance contact: Carolyn Johnson at MDOT at **601-359-7800**.

Tentative Agenda

Thursday – April 24, 2025

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM – Roadeo Registration – La Quinta

Friday – April 25, 2025

7:15 AM to 8:00 AM – Roadeo Registration – La Quinta

7:15 AM to 8:15 AM – Shuttles from Hotels to Memorial Hall – Coskrey Auditorium

8:30 AM to 9:00 AM – Opening Remarks MDOT/MPTA – Memorial Hall – Coskrey Auditorium

9:00 AM to 11:30 AM – Driver/Judges Training – Memorial Hall – Coskrey Auditorium

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM – Lunch – Memorial Hall – Coskrey Auditorium

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM – Training Wrap Up – Memorial Hall – Coskrey Auditorium

2:00 PM to 3:00 PM – Driver Testing / Judges Shuttled to MSU RecPlex

3:00 PM to 5:00 PM – Drivers Shuttled to Course / Course Walk Through – MSU RecPlex

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM – Shuttles from MSU RecPlex to Hotels

Dinner on Your Own

Saturday – April 26, 2025

7:15 AM to 8:15 AM – Shuttles from Hotels to RecPlex

8:30 AM to 1:30 PM – Bus / Van Competition RecPlex

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM – Lunch – MSU RecPlex

12:00 PM to 2:00 PM – Shuttles from MSU RecPlex to Hotels

5:30 PM to 5:45 PM – Shuttles from Hotels to The Hill and Moor

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM – Awards Banquet – The Hill and Moor, 1699 Moor High Road, Crawford, MS

8:30 PM to 9:00 PM – Shuttles from The Hill and Moor to Hotels

Co-sponsored by

Mississippi Department of Transportation Public Transit Division