**Zip Car**

**Our history**

It’s been close to two decades since our founders, Robin Chase and Antje Danielson, sat in a café in Cambridge, Massachusetts and decided to bring the European car-sharing idea to North America. Once the wheels were in motion, it was only a matter of time before some major changes helped grow our little car-sharing company into the world’s leading car-sharing network. Today, thanks to a member-driven user experience, a focus on innovative technology, and an amazing team of hands-on car-sharing enthusiasts, we are redefining the way the world thinks about alternative transportation.

Car sharing seems like a simple enough idea, but there’s a reason Zipcar has become the leader of cars on demand. It’s not just about fewer cars and reducing congestion and pollution; it’s about finding sustainable solutions. This idea is bigger than all of us, and we’re committed to our mission: to enable simple and responsible urban living.

**Our mission**

We're on a mission to enable simple and responsible urban living—a future filled with more car-sharing members than car owners in major cities across the globe.  
We do this every day by:  
-Delivering on-demand vehicles that support environmental sustainability.  
-Helping members save time, hassle and money in their everyday transportation.  
-Freeing up city space through strategies that consider campus, urban, residential, commercial and city planning needs.  
-Becoming a premier employer for talented, passionate people who thrive on changing the world for good.  
-Living our core values, as a company and as individual team members from the Big Apple to Big Ben

**Partnership with University, organization and business**

Zipcar launched its Zipcar for Business program in early 2004 to provide companies with discounts on Monday-Friday driving. Since the launch of the program, Zipcar has signed 10,000 small, medium, and large sized businesses, as companies are increasingly adopting Zipcar's on demand car rental model as a cost-saving alternative for employee travel.[[35]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-35) Zipcar has partnered with over 600 colleges and universities across North America.

**Membership**

Members are able to view vehicle availability and reserve a self-service car via the internet, Android, and [iPhone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPhone) apps, or by telephone, in increments as short as 30 minutes. Members pay only for time they reserve. Zipcar vehicles report their positions to a control center using in-car technology.[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-Economist0609-24) In the U.S., each reservation entitles members up to 180 miles (290 km) for a 24-hour period and then .45 cents per mile beyond 180 miles (.55 cents per mile for premium vehicles and cargo van rentals) will be charged within the 24 hour period. If the rental is longer than 24 hours, then the member is entitled to 180 miles (290 km) per 24 hours; then 20 miles (32 km) per additional hour of the reservation period until 180 miles (290 km) is reached. If the 180 mile limit based on hours is exceeded then .45 cents per mile will be charged (.55 cents per mile for premium vehicles and cargo van rentals).[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-Zipcar:_Miles_Included-25)[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-learnmore-26) Canadian members receive up to 200 kilometres (120 mi) with each reservation for the first 24 hours with .30 cents per kilometre (up to .45 cents per kilometre for premium vehicles and cargo van rentals) being charged if the 200 km limit is exceeded. If the rental reservation is longer than 24 hours, then 200 kilometres (120 mi) is included per 24 hours period along with 15 kilometres (9.3 mi) per each additional hour up to 200 kilometres (120 mi). If the 200 km limit based on hours is exceeded, then .30 cents per kilometre (up to .45 cents per kilometre for premium vehicles and cargo van rentals) will be charged.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-Zipcar:_Miles_Included-25)[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-Zipcar:_Vancouver,_BC_-_FAQ-27) Individual members can sign up for one of two different plans, the "Occasional Driving Plan" and the "Extra Value Plan".[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-learnmore-26) While Zipcar provides value plans its rewards program, rental Penguin has ranked Zipcars last among the other rental car companies reward programs.[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-28)

Members are given an [access card](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RFID) containing a wireless chip that will open the vehicle they have reserved only at the time they have reserved it.[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zipcar#cite_note-Economist0609-24) The reservation includes [vehicle insurance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicle_insurance), a [gas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gasoline) card for the car, reimbursements for fuel obtained at [gas stations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filling_station) that do not accept the included gas card, and up to $15 in reimbursements for typical car maintenance items like car washes and window wiper fluid refills. A member can reserve and use a Zipcar in any Zipcar city.

**How can I be a member?**

1. Go to official website
2. Fill out the application to be a member
3. You can choose membership either monthly or annual membership fee
4. Once approved, a Zipcard will be sent by USPS mail (typically takes 5-7 business days).

How much do I pay to rent a car and is there any additional charges for rent?

No extra fees for gas (There is a card you can use in side of the car) / No maintenance fee

**Insurace coverage**

Up to $25,000 for property damage and $300,000 for bodily damage (up to $100,000 per person). But they will charge you a $1,000 damage fee per incident unless you choose to pay the damage wavier fee they offer in advance of the accident.

Standard Protection (included in membership) : $1,000 fee per incident may apply

Plus protection ($5 per month / $50 per year) : $375 fee per incident pay apply

Premium protection ($9 per month / $79 per year )

**Join Zipcar**

<https://members.zipcar.com/registration/?search=t&org_p=t#step>

* Click the website that will give you how to be in process.

As an international student who does not have a car, I found it that taking a dart transportation is not enough sometime to get to destination where I want to go. Also, taking an Uber and Lyft cost expensive than renting a car from Zipcar.