Overview

We know Hopkins tuition is expensive but life doesn’t have to be. Our product tells students exactly how to deal with the extra costs: Split.it.

College students love saving money and Hopkins students are no exception. As students at JHU, we are uniquely situated in our own suburb, where many do not have access to reliable public transportation nor private-use cars. Uber and Lyft cost a lot for day-to-day use, so we are left with no better options. JHU students already try to post on GroupChat or other platforms to find other students to split costs, but this solution is difficult to manage and reaches only a small portion of the overall JHU population.

Our platform allows Hopkins students who use ride-sharing apps to easily find people to split the fare with. The app will leverage the social trust present in the JHU community to make organizing cheap transportation simple.

Desktop Application

Our desktop application allows users to easily create new events, filter existing events, chat with other users, and view account information. We also provide a dark mode to make using the application easier at night or in low-light environments.

Mobile Application

Because our website is a PWA (Progressive Web App), our app functions like installed, native apps on iOS and Android, while functioning like regular websites on other browsers. The qualities of a PWA combine the best of the web and compiled apps. This way, split it can deliver enhanced capabilities and reliability to anyone, anywhere, and on any device.

Future Development

We plan to release our beta version of the application during Summer 2022 for students who are still on campus for summer classes or internships in Baltimore. As we continue to develop the application, we plan to add even more features such as user feedback scores, event tags, and other trip types. We also plan to publish our app on the iOS App Store, taking advantage of other native features provided by Apple. We expect our full application to be ready by the beginning of Fall 2022, just in time for students to arrive at BWI Airport and share the cost of transportation to campus. Our long-term plan for Split.it is to expand to other universities so that their students may too feel less burdened by college expenses.

Try Split.it at trysplit.it or scan the QR code below!

Technology

To build the Split.it platform, we used what is commonly referred to as the MEAN stack (MongoDB, Express, NodeJS, and React). Our application also maintains the standard client-server architecture. To build our chat feature, we used the socket.io library which provides fast bidirectional communication for our users. Finally, we utilize the Mapbox API in our application to make searching for locations and visualizing events on a map easy and interactive.