

Student Transportation Services

The superintendent, through the support services division, is responsible for enforcing Board transportation policy and adopting appropriate administrative rules to implement the policy. It is the intent of the district to provide transportation to and from school for those students who are eligible according to the guidelines established by the Board. Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the school of origin as required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA). District students are eligible for transportation, subject to the following provisions:

1. Elementary school students are generally eligible for transportation to and from school if they reside outside a one-mile radius from the school designated for attendance;
2. Secondary school students are generally eligible for transportation to and from school if they reside outside a one-and-one-half mile radius from the school designated for attendance.
3. Transportation will be provided for an eligible student who attends a district school out of the student's attendance area because his/her home school has been identified for school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA). Such transfers will be permitted and transportation provided only to a safe school that has not been identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring. The obligation of the district to provide for transportation will terminate at the end of the school year if the school from which the student transferred is no longer in school improvement. Transportation may be provided for students receiving supplemental services under NCLBA.
4. In the event all other district schools have also been identified as in need of improvement, corrective action, or restructuring or there is no other district school to which the student may transfer, the district shall, to the extent practicable, establish a cooperative agreement with other districts in the area for a transfer. Transportation for students who transfer for such purposes will be provided for in accordance with the agreement.
5. The district also may provide transportation using federal funds or through cooperative agreements with local victims assistance units for a student to attend a safe district school out of the student's attendance area for any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense occurring in or on the grounds of the school the student attends or the student attends a school identified as persistently dangerous.
6. Transportation provided will, to the extent possible, be to a school that is making adequate yearly progress and that has not been identified as in need of improvement, corrective action, or restructuring. If there are no other schools within the district a student may transfer to, the district may establish a cooperative agreement with other districts in the area for a transfer. Transportation for students who transfer for such purposes will be provided in accordance with the agreement.

Designated Transportation Boundaries

1. Because hazardous walking conditions, road directions and other environmental factors preclude establishment of an exact walking radius, the support services may establish transportation boundaries within the appropriate radii around each school;
2. No bus stop will be established within the walking radius for each school.

Bus Stops

1. Bus stops will be assigned by support services at specific locations outside the designated transportation boundaries. Such stops are to be located to facilitate student safety;
2. In most instances, bus stops will be no closer than one mile apart. While these are general guidelines, support services is authorized to designate each bus stop location after considering walking distance for students, dangerous intersections, roads without adequate walking space and other potentially hazardous conditions;
3. Students will be permitted to board or leave buses only at designated stops. Support services may make exceptions for permanently or temporarily disabled students. Exceptions may also be made at the discretion of the bus drivers in response to snow or icy conditions. In such circumstances safety of students and distance from their home must be taken into consideration;
4. Students may walk only to their assigned bus stop in order to ride to school and must leave the bus at the assigned bus stop after school;
5. Students who wish to leave buses at a location other than the school or their regular bus stop must have a written request from a parent or guardian. Such requests must be approved by the school principal (or designee) before being presented to the bus driver.

Bus Routes

1. The district will provide school bus transportation along routes designated by support services. Buses will only be operated on roads that are maintained in good and safe condition. Any dead end road used for school bus transportation must have an adequate turnaround available;
2. Buses will maintain a fixed schedule of arrival and departure times to the extent permitted by weather and road conditions. Buses cannot be expected to wait for students beyond the scheduled time of departure from a bus stop or school.

Loading or Unloading at School

Designated areas will be established at each school for buses to load and unload. Appropriate signs will be posted to exclude other vehicles from bus loading/unloading zones during times of scheduled school bus use.

Special Transportation

Special transportation will be arranged for disabled students enrolled in the district who require transportation in order to receive education services. Each such arrangement is to be approved by the director of student services.

Parochial and Private School Students

Students of parochial and private schools located within district boundaries may board school buses at established bus stops and be transported to an established bus stop nearest the school, or the school itself, if it is located along or near the established route.

Bus Capacity

1. The district shall meet child safety system requirements and minimum standards and specifications as set forth in ORS 811.210, 815.055, and 815.080 and OAR 735-102-0010. Seating capacity will be in compliance with vehicle design and student grade levels;
2. School buses carrying students will be considered extensions of the school experience. All students using school transportation will abide by the code of conduct posted in each school bus. Violations of such code, as well as other conduct which is improper or which jeopardizes the safety of self or others, will be reported by the vehicle driver to the principal. Violators may be denied use of transportation for a period of time as deemed proper by the building principal;
3. The vehicle driver will be responsible for the vehicle at all times from departure until return. The driver will not participate in any activities that might impair his/her driving abilities.

Inclement Weather

1. In the event of weather that might cause it to be unsafe to transport students to or from school on some or all transportation routes, the contractor is responsible for recommending actions concerning transportation.

Publication

1. Prior to May 1, the contractor will submit to support services route schedules and inclement weather route schedules for the next school year's transportation;
2. Inclement weather routes will be communicated to students and parents.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 327.006](#)
[ORS 327.033](#)
[ORS 327.043](#)
[ORS 332.405](#)
[ORS 332.415](#)
[ORS 339.240 to-339.250](#)

[ORS 343.155 to-343.246](#)
[ORS 343.533](#)
[ORS 343.155 to-343.243](#)
[ORS 811.210](#)
[ORS 811.215](#)
[ORS 815.055](#)
[ORS 815.080](#)
[ORS 820.100 to-820.190](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050 to-0075](#)
[OAR 581-022-1530](#)
[OAR 581-023-0040](#)
[OAR 581-053-0002 to-0015](#)
[OAR 735-102-0010](#)

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. § 6315 (2006).

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431-11435 (2005).