

# Hood River County School District

Code: **EEA**  
Adopted: 4/28/10  
Readopted: 2/12/14; 1/31/18  
Orig. Code(s): 4510

## Student Transportation Services

School transportation services will be provided for students to and from school, from one school or facility to another and for school-sponsored field trips that are extensions of classroom learning experiences. Transportation services may be provided for other school-sponsored activities. Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the student's school of origin<sup>1</sup> as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA). These services shall be provided throughout the regularly scheduled year and during the regular school day as determined by the Board.

School bus routes and stops shall be established by the district and focus on efficiencies and safety. Elementary and middle school students, in grades K-5, who live more than one mile from school will be transported. Secondary students, in grades 6-12, who live more than one and one-half miles from school will be transported. Exceptions for student health, safety or disability will be made in accordance with the district's approved supplemental plan.

Miles from school will be determined by the transportation supervisor in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 581-023-0040(1)(c).

The district may also provide transportation using federal funds<sup>2</sup> or through cooperative agreements with local victims assistance units for a student to attend a safe district school<sup>3</sup> 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 being persistently dangerous.

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.

Students attending any private, parochial or public charter school under the compulsory school attendance laws will, where the private, parochial or public charter school is along or near the bus route, be provided the same riding privileges that are given to public school students. Private and parochial school students must comply with the conduct rules established by the district and the Oregon Department of Education for riding district buses.

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<sup>1</sup>"School of origin" means the school that a student attended when permanently housed or the school in which a student was last enrolled.

When a student has completed the final grade served by the school or origin, the term "school of origin" shall include the designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools.

<sup>2</sup>"Federal funds" means funds available through Title IV, Part A, and Title V, Part A.

<sup>3</sup>If there is not another school in the district to which students can transfer, districts are encouraged, but not required, to explore other appropriate options, i.e., an agreement with a neighboring district.

Preschool student(s) with disabilities who have transportation as a related service and children from birth to age three who are enrolled in an eligible program shall be provide home to school transportation.

A seat that fully supports each person and meets the minimum standards and specifications of law will be provided at all times. A person who weighs 40 pounds or less must be properly secured with a child safety system that meets the minimum standards and specifications established by the Oregon Department of Transportation under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 815.055. A person over 40 pounds or who has reached the upper weight limit for the forward-facing car seat must use a booster seat until he/she is four feet nine inches tall or age eight and the adult belt properly fits.<sup>4</sup> A person who is taller than four feet nine inches or eight years of age or older must be properly secured with a safety belt or harness that meets the requirements under ORS 815.055. In accordance with ORS 811.210 and 811.215, vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds used for student transportation are exempt from statutory requirements unless they have been equipped with lap belts. Vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds that have been equipped with lap belts must meet child car seat requirements as set forth in law.

School vehicles carrying students will be considered extensions of the school experience. All students using school transportation will abide by the school bus conduct rules and are subjected to the appropriate consequences as outlined in administrative regulation EEACC-AR - Discipline Procedures for District-Approved Student Transportation. Guidelines for proper student conduct will be developed and posted in each school bus or school activity vehicle.

Building administrators or their designee shall ensure that transportation officials and drivers receive notification of students having special medical or behavioral protocols identified in student records and that drivers receive appropriate training related to specified protocols, including requirements of confidentiality.

Appropriate training related to specific protocols, including confidentiality requirements, will be provided to drivers.

Aides or assistants that ride a school bus shall receive training on emergency procedures and their roles in the safe transportation of all students on the bus.

The school vehicle driver will be responsible for the school vehicle at all times from departure until return. The driver will not participate in any activities that might impair his/her driving abilities.

The district will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the transportation of students. No district representative or employee shall require or knowingly permit any person to operate a school bus or other pupil transporting vehicle that is in violation of any applicable rules of the Oregon Department of Education or Oregon laws.

END OF POLICY

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<sup>4</sup>“Proper fit” means the lap belt of the safety belt or safety harness is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.

**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 811.210](#)  
[ORS 811.215](#)  
[ORS 815.055](#)

[ORS 815.080](#)  
[ORS 820.100 to -820.190](#)  
  
[OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2345](#)  
[OAR 581-023-0040](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0002](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0003](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0004](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0010](#)

[OAR 581-053-0031](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0040](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0053](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0060](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0070](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0210](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0220](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0230](#)  
[OAR 581-053-0240](#)  
[OAR 735-102-0010](#)

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6315, 7912 (2015).  
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431-11435 (2015).

**Cross Reference(s):**

ECAC - Video Surveillance  
EEAB - School Bus Scheduling and Routing  
EEAC - School Bus Safety Program  
EEACC - Student Conduct on School Buses