

Student Transportation

School transportation services will be provided for students to and from school and for transporting students to and from curricular and extracurricular activities sponsored by the district; transporting from one school or facility to another; and school-sponsored field trips that are extensions of classroom learning experiences. Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the student's school of origin¹ 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.

Elementary students, in grades K-8, who live more than one mile from school will be transported. Secondary students, in grades 9-12, who live more than one and one-half miles from school will be transported. Mileage exceptions for 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)(e).

The district may use Type-10 School Activity Vehicles to transport students from home to school, school to home and from district-sponsored activities.

The district may also provide transportation using federal funds² or through cooperative agreements with local victims assistance units for a student to attend a safe district school³ 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.

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 equally the riding privileges given to public school students.

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

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

²"Federal funds" mean funds available through Title IV, Part A, and Title V, Part A.

³If 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 students 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 provided 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 fits⁴. 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 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 or school activity vehicle. 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 school bus or vehicle driver to the supervisor. The transportation supervisor will, as soon as possible, inform the appropriate principal of such occurrence. Violators may be denied use of transportation for a period of time as deemed proper by the principal and/or transportation supervisor.

Payment in Lieu of Bus Service

Payment in lieu of bus service shall be made for students in grades K-12 living two or more miles from the nearest bus route. The transportation allowance payment shall be at the rate of \$6 per mile per month per family for the one-way distance from their residence to the nearest bus stop. (Example: If the distance is six miles from bus stop to residence, payment would be \$36 per month.) The maximum amount per month per family is \$60.

Payment shall be based on a nine-month school year with the first payment at the end of December and the second payment in June.

Adjustments to payment in lieu of bus service may be made by the superintendent or designee depending on such considerations as distance from bus stop, weather, road conditions and/or other situations that might warrant special consideration as requested by a parent, and early intervention as required by law.

Suspension of Service

A student, while waiting to be transported or being transported, shall be subject to Board policy JFC - Student Conduct and Discipline. The student may be suspended from district-provided student transportation services for violation of the district's student code of conduct and shall be afforded the procedures as outlined in policy JGD - Suspension and Board policy JGDA/JGEA - Discipline of Students with Disabilities and accompanying administrative regulation. Additionally, suspensions shall be executed within the provisions contained in OAR 581-021-0065 and all applicable procedures shall be

⁴“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.

consistent with Oregon Administrative Rules, Section 53 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. For any single incident, suspensions may be for a period as short as one-half day and shall have an upper limit of 10 full school days.

Expulsion from Transportation Services

Upon the occurrence within one school year of a subsequent incident or any occurrence of a severe disciplinary problem constituting a demonstrable safety hazard for the student transporting vehicle or persons inside/outside the vehicle, the student may be expelled from district-provided transportation services for a period not to exceed one school year. Parent or guardian notification and procedural rules for year-long length expulsions shall be the same as found in Board policy JFC - Student Conduct and Discipline, Board policy JGE - Expulsion and Board policy JGDA/JGEA - Discipline of Students with Disabilities and accompanying administrative regulation. Parent or guardian notification and procedural rules for year-long expulsions must comply with those found in OAR 581-021-0070.

Early Intervention and Head Start

The district shall be responsible for transportation services for children age three to kindergarten age if it is determined to be a related service on the child's individual family service plan (IFSP) (ORS 343.533). Transportation for children birth to kindergarten may also be the responsibility of the district if it is required for the child to benefit from early intervention services (ORS 343.533).

Head Start students, if transported by district buses, shall be transported in accordance with Head Start regulations governing the transportation of students. Head Start regulations require that a trained monitor be on board regardless of the number of students being transported. Refer to federal and state regulations for a detailed explanation.

Safety Training

All students eligible for district-approved student transportation shall receive safety and evacuation instruction once each year in the fall. Regular route students shall receive such training twice each year, within the first six weeks of each half of each school year. Refer to Board policy EEAC - School Bus Safety Program.

Variations

Any request by a parent for a variance from an established bus route shall be submitted to the superintendent or designee for approval.

Special Circumstances

Transportation may also be provided for students with disabilities as identified on a valid individualized education program (IEP) and/or for existing hazards due to inadequate walkways or for other health or safety reasons in accordance with the district's approved supplemental plan.

Special Needs Notification

It shall be the responsibility of each building administrator to establish a building-level protocol which ensures that written notification is given the transportation supervisor and the district's safety officer (i.e., business manager) of any student enrolled in any school that has any special medical or behavioral protocols identified within the student's records. This shall include notice of such records for students who do not normally ride a bus on a home-to-school basis.

Additionally, building administrators shall have a system in place that can be reasonably calculated to give prior notice to a bus driver of any such identified students traveling by bus in situations other than home-to-school (i.e., field trips, emergency evacuations, drills, athletics, etc.).

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

Special Needs Training Required

The building administrator, transportation supervisor and safety officer shall collaboratively develop a training plan and ensure that all drivers and substitute drivers receive appropriate training related to specified protocols for all special needs students having said protocols identified within their records. This training shall include the employee's responsibility for safeguarding and protecting the confidentiality of this information.

The principal or designee shall ensure transportation officials and drivers receive notification of students having special medical or behavioral protocols identified in student records.

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 role in the safe transportation of all students on the bus.

The school bus or vehicle driver will be responsible for the school bus or 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 school bus transportation.

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 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](#)
[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):

EEAC - School Bus Safety Program
EEACC - Student Conduct on School Buses
EEAD - Use of School Buses and/or Minibuses for Other Than Authorized School Activities