

Student Transportation Services

Student's Eligibility to Ride Bus

All students living at a distance, as designated by the Board, for home-to-school transportation shall be entitled to district-provided bus service, subject to conditions in policy.

1. Elementary students (K-5) who reside more than one mile from their designated school shall be provided transportation.
2. Secondary students (6-12) who reside more than one and one-half miles from their designated school shall be provided transportation.
3. All students living in heavily populated areas with a school nearby shall load at that school to be transported to their respective schools.

A "Supplemental Plan" shall provide bus transportation for those students residing in areas recognized as hazardous that are within the mile and one half limit. The supplemental plan is approved by the Board and forwarded to the Oregon State Board of Education for approval and authorization to receive state school fund reimbursement.

All mileage boundaries are checked by vehicle with a mileage meter that measures 1/10 of a mile or 520 feet. All mileages are checked on streets or roads by the shortest distance between the two points.

Students being transferred out of their school for overload or other reasons shall be supplied transportation through the feeder school to their school site.

Any changes or alterations of bus routes and mileage factors are the responsibility of the transportation manager with the approval of the superintendent/designee.

Routing of Buses

Buses shall operate on state, county or city highways and roads. Transportation on any private road which is necessitated by disability or emergency situations shall require review by the transportation manager and notification to the superintendent/designee.

When bus turn-arounds and private roads are used, they shall be regularly maintained by the school patrons, and an adequate area shall be provided for such turn-arounds.

Transported students living on a highway with more than one lane in each direction shall load and unload on the same side of the highway as their residence.

Bus Stops

Buses shall stop on roads and highways at intervals of not less than the equal of two city blocks unless road conditions present hazards to students walking to bus stops.

Bus stops shall be established so that no student shall walk more than two miles to a bus stop.

School Closure and Reduced Transportation Due to Weather Conditions

In the event that it becomes necessary to close school due to inclement weather, the district shall notify radio and television stations as determined by the superintendent/designee.

1. Notification shall take place as early as possible. It shall always be first choice to start two hours late if weather conditions appear to be moderating. If not, a full day closure shall result.
2. Emergency bus route schedules and related information are to be furnished for the public by the first day of November.

Field and Activity Trips

1. Field and activity trips shall be scheduled according to the availability of buses after home-to-school routes are covered.
2. Field and activity trips shall be scheduled with the transportation department 10 days prior to date of trip.
3. A coach, advisor or chaperone shall ride the bus on all field and activity trips and shall be responsible for the conduct of the students.
4. The bus driver has the final authority and responsibility for the bus and passengers according to Oregon state law.

Transportation of Disabled Students

The district shall provide transportation for disabled students as required by disabling condition.

Students who would not otherwise be eligible for transportation but who have a permanent or temporary disability may be transported. The district may require certification by a physician of the disability.

Safety Evacuation Drills

Two times a year, regularly transported students shall receive instructions on emergency evacuation. Other students shall receive instruction at least once a year.

Instructions, including but not limited to, loading, unloading, crossing, use of emergency exits and planned and orderly evacuations of the bus in case of emergency.

The first drill is to take place within the first six weeks of school and the second drill is to take place within six weeks of the second half of the school year.

Transportation of students subject to NCLBA requirements

Transportation shall be provided to a student of a school receiving Title I funds to attend a district school out of the student's attendance area because his/her home school has been identified as in need of improvement, corrective action or restructuring. Such transfers shall 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 shall terminate at the end of the school year if the school from which the student transferred is no longer in school improvement.

In the event all other district schools a student may transfer to 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 transfer¹, 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 shall be provided for in accordance with the agreement².

The district may also provide transportation using federal funds³ or through cooperative agreements with local victims assistance units for a student to attend a safe district school⁴ 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.

Transportation provided shall, 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 shall be provided in accordance with the agreement.

¹If there are no district schools to which students can transfer because: (1) all schools at a grade level are in school improvement; (2) there is only one school in the district; or (3) the rural or isolated nature of the school district prevents choice, the district must notify the parents that the student's school has been identified for school improvement but that no choices are currently available.

²Interdistrict transportation under NCLBA does not appear to be a district responsibility. Districts should consult with their attorney.

³Federal funds means funds available through Title IV, Part A, and Title V, Part A.

⁴If 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.