

## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR BUS SERVICE

Student eligibility for bus service is based on Iowa law. Elementary and middle school students living more than two miles from their designated attendance center and high school students living more than three miles from their designated attendance center are entitled to transportation to and from their attendance center at the expense of the school district.

Transportation of students who require special education services will generally be provided as for other students, when appropriate. Specialized transportation of a student to and from a special education instructional service is a function of that service and, therefore, an appropriate expenditure of special education instructional funds generated through the weighting plan.

Transportation of a student to and from a special education support service is a function of that service, and is specified in the individualized education program (IEP) or the individualized family service plan (IFSP). When the IEP or IFSP team determines that unique transportation arrangements are required and the arrangements are specified in the IEP or IFSP, the school district will provide one or more of the following transportation arrangements for instructional services and the AEA for support services:

- Transportation from the student's residence to the location of the special education and back to the student's residence, or child care placement for students below the age of six.
- Special assistance or adaptations in getting the student to and from and on and off the vehicle, en route to and from the special education.

Reimbursement of the actual cost of transportation when by mutual agreement the parents provide transportation for the student to and from the special education.

The school district is not required to provide reimbursement to parents who elect to provide transportation in lieu of agency-provided transportation.

The distance to school or to a designated bus pick-up location on an assigned bus route will be measured according to the safest most passable direct route. The safest and most passable direct route starts in the roadway opposite the private entrance to a residence and ends on the roadway opposite the entrance to the school grounds or designated point on the route.

Students may be required, without reimbursement, to meet a school bus on an approved route, up to a distance three-fourths of a mile from their residence. The board may require the parent to transport their children up to two miles to connect with school bus vehicles at the expense of the school district when conditions deem it

advisable. When transportation by school bus is impracticable or when bus service is not available, the Board may require the parents/guardians to do the transporting to the designated school. In that case, the parent/guardian will be reimbursed for such transportation at the rate designated by Iowa statute.

Students attending nonpublic schools shall be provided bus service in accordance with the provisions and restrictions of Iowa statute (i.e., District transportation, third party carrier, or reimbursement).

Transportation arrangements made with a neighboring school district shall follow the terms of the agreement. Students, who choose to attend a school in a school district other than their resident school district, shall provide transportation to and from the school at their own expense.

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