

ELIGIBILITY ZONES FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

The Board provides transportation for resident elementary students in grades kindergarten through eight, who live more than two miles from school, and for all students with physical or mental disabilities that make walking impossible or unsafe.

The administration designates and the Board approves areas of residence from which students are provided transportation to schools. The Board may create exceptions to the established eligibility zones.

Resident students attending a joint vocational school are provided with transportation to the program from the high school they are assigned to.

The Board authorizes the staff responsible for administering the student transportation program to require student identification as a prerequisite to riding a school bus when this is deemed necessary.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3327.01; 3327.011; **3327.015**
OAC 3301-51-10

CROSS REF.: EEA, Student Transportation Services

NOTE: In all city, local and exempted village districts, the board provides transportation for resident elementary students, kindergarten through grade eight, who live more than two miles from the school of attendance and for all students with physical or mental disabilities that make walking impossible or unsafe. The transporting of high school students is optional. Students attending a joint vocational school district (JVSD) must be provided with transportation from the high school to the JVSD. Buses used to transport students may be operated by the district, other districts or in some cases private contractors that meet the requirements for the state for pupil transportation. The approved alternative methods for transporting students are outlined in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-83-19.

House Bill 166 enacted new Ohio Revised Code 3327.015, which states that if a district provides transportation beyond the requirements of State law, it cannot reduce that level of transportation after the first day of the school year. Districts should make certain that all transportation policies are accurate and reflect local practice.

The board must provide transportation to nonpublic, community and STEM school students on the same basis as it is provided to resident students attending district schools. The board is not required to transport nonpublic or community school students whose travel is more than 30 minutes to school from their district school of assignment. These students are not eligible for any services, including payment in lieu of transportation in accordance with State law.