

TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

Background

The School Act directs Divisions to provide transportation to students subject to regulations made by the Minister of Education. Our Division believes that, in many circumstances, the busing of students, particularly from Kindergarten to Grade 6, is the safest route to school.

The Division will endeavour to provide transportation to as many students as financially possible under the current Alberta Education regulations and funding framework.

Procedures

1. The Division will provide transportation to:
 - Elementary school students who live 1.2 kilometers or more from the school in their attendance zone
 - Middle school and high school students who live 2.4 kilometers or more from the school in their attendance zone
 - Elementary school students attending a middle school who reside 1.2 kilometers or more from the school in their attendance zone
 - Kindergarten students – one-way transportation for those who live 1.2 kilometers or more from the school in their attendance zone
 - Special education students directed to attend Division programming outside their attendance zone
 - Special programming students from all Division attendance zones, regardless of their designated school boundary
 - Early Learning pre-school aged children who qualify for special needs funding
2. The Division will transport a student to school from one place of residence (see School Act Section 273). Eligible residence will be determined by address school submits to Alberta Education.
3. It will be the practice of the Division to allow students who do not qualify for the provincial transportation grant to ride the bus if space on an existing bus allows and if students present themselves at an existing stop. Priority for non-eligible students will be determined on the basis of distance from the school, with preference given to younger students.
4. Redcliff and Rural students will have transportation provided to a designated school of attendance.



5. Students living outside the Division boundary are not eligible for transportation. Due to safety concerns, it will not be the practice of the Division to allow parents to drop their students at a location inside the Division boundary in order to receive transportation.
6. The Division will communicate bus route information and student conduct on school buses information to parents of students as necessary.
 - 6.1. Each fall before school begins, an advertisement will be placed in local newspapers regarding student attendance zones.
 - 6.2. A brochure on student conduct on school buses will be sent home with students at the beginning of each school year.
7. Students riding in a school bus shall be under the immediate authority of the driver who shall report all cases of student misconduct to the principal of the school.
8. Where it is determined by the Division that third party transportation is not feasible, the Division may enter into an agreement with a parent whereby the parent would provide transportation and be paid for the service.

Reference: Section 25, 45, 51, 52, 60, 61, 113, 117, 273 School Act
Traffic Safety Act
School Bus Operation Regulation
Student Transportation Regulation 250/98 (amended AR 197/2000)

