

2024 Ohio PreService Training Fee Adjustment

Effective July 1, 2024, the new driver training class fee will be \$150.00, re-certification class fee will be \$100.00, and the van driver certification fee will be \$85.00. The advanced driver course fee will be \$100.00.

The PreService Bus Driver Training Program was started in 1978 and funded at approximately \$1,000,000. State funding for the PreService program has not increased in 18 years. Current funding of \$838,000 is approximately 17.5% of original funding levels when adjusted for inflation. The State funding appropriation for this program has declined over the lifetime of the program while additional training hours have been required to meet new federal requirements. Program Expenses are approximately \$1.7 million per year, more than double the state appropriation. The balance is made up in user fees.

The eight PreService Program providers are operating the program at an average loss per year due to increased benefit costs and inflationary pressures. Fees for the program have only been increased twice in 1998 and 2016. Program fees are currently 29.3% below the rate of inflation since the 2016 fee adjustment.

The Ohio Preservice Training Program has been nationally awarded for school transportation safety training by the National Association for Pupil Transportation in 2004 and 2016. This fee adjustment is necessary to maintain service levels and to ensure the highest quality of training for safe pupil transportation.

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North Region, Robert Hlasko
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