

CFISD Transportation Services 2024-2025

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Is school bus transportation to and from school a required service?

School bus transportation to and from school is not a required service unless it is transportation as a related service as determined by a student's IEP or if the student falls under the criteria of McKinney-Vento.

Why did the district create the plan to reduce transportation services?

Transportation for general education students is not a required service for public education. This service has been offered in CFISD for years as a benefit to the students and community. However, due to budgetary constraints, the district must make difficult decisions, including reducing transportation services for families residing within our district. There is minimal state reimbursement for providing transportation services to students living within two miles of a campus. The district allocates approximately \$5.7 million annually, with only around \$425,000 in financial support from the state for the 2023-2024 school year. Regrettably, the district cannot continue offering transportation services to all students due to current budget limitations.

What criteria were considered to indicate students crossing Telge/Longenbaugh/Cypresswood was not regarded as hazardous?

Certain road sections met the bus service criteria, with the presence of a controlled crossing being a critical factor in identifying hazardous locations. Specific criteria were employed district-wide to ensure consistency when identifying areas for bus services in the upcoming year.

What defines a controlled crossing?

Controlled crossings include stop lights, stop signs, crosswalks and other traffic control devices that assist pedestrians crossing the street.

Drivers run stop signs, drive over the speed limit, and are unaware of pedestrians along the roadways. Why was driver behavior not considered when developing this plan?

We are unable to provide objective assessments of driver behavior at intersections, nor does the district have the resources to monitor all intersections. We are collaborating with HOAs, MUDs, and Precincts 3 and 4 to identify solutions and additional resources to address concerns. Many neighborhood communities are exploring the possibility of increasing supervision at key intersections during arrival and dismissal time.

What path should my student take to walk to school? What if there are no sidewalks? Are they going to walk through the ditch? What are students supposed to do when inclement weather exists during arrival or dismissal times?

Walking is not the only alternative for getting to and from school if bus service is not available. The parent/guardian is responsible for selecting a safe method of transportation for their child.

Who can we contact to appeal this new policy?

The district is currently confronted with challenging choices due to budget limitations, which involve reducing staff and cutting transportation services. While these decisions are undoubtedly difficult for

our community, the CFISD Board has approved the 2024-2025 budget, which includes a reduction in transportation services.

Is the district providing crossing guards?

CFISD is collaborating with schools and the local community to identify specific areas that need support.

How are the one and two-mile criteria calculated?

Distance is calculated from a central location on the campus (typically the flagpole) to the student's home, using the shortest route.

Why can my neighbor's student ride the bus and my student can't when the bus drives right by my house to leave the neighborhood?

Distances are calculated based on the shortest route from the school to the home. Unfortunately, this means that some parts of a neighborhood may not have transportation services.

What are students supposed to do when inclement weather exists during arrival or dismissal times?

The parent/guardian is responsible for ensuring that the student gets to and from school.

Will my special education transportation student still be provided a bus within one or two miles?

The new transportation policy will not impact the student's IEP eligibility.

Will exceptions be made for my regular education student since I must be at home and available to meet the bus for my Special education students riding special education transportation?

While we understand the difficult decisions many parents are facing to ensure their students get to school safely, the district cannot provide exceptions to this policy for regular education students.