

## **Business and Noninstructional Operations**

### **TRANSPORTATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS**

The Governing Board desires to meet the transportation needs of students with disabilities to enable them to benefit from special education and related services. The district shall provide appropriate transportation services for a student with disabilities when the district is the student's district of residence and the transportation services are required by his/her individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 accommodation plan.

The specific needs of the student shall be the primary consideration when an IEP team is determining the student's transportation needs. Considerations may include, but are not limited to, the student's health needs, travel distances, physical accessibility and safety of streets and sidewalks, accessibility of public transportation systems, midday or other transportation needs, extended-year services, and, as necessary, implementation of a behavioral intervention plan.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide IEP teams with information about district transportation services in order to assist them in making decisions as to the mode, schedule, and location of transportation services that may be available to each student with disabilities. The IEP team may communicate with district transportation staff and/or invite transportation staff to attend IEP team meetings where the student's transportation needs will be discussed.

Transportation services specified in a student's IEP or Section 504 plan shall be provided at no cost to the student or his/her parent/guardian.

If a student whose IEP or accommodation plan specifies transportation needs is excluded from school bus transportation for any reason, such as suspension, expulsion, or other reason, the district shall provide alternative transportation at no cost to the student or parent/guardian. (Education Code 48915.5)

When contracting with a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency to provide special education services, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the contract includes general administrative and financial agreements related to the provision of transportation services if specified in the student's IEP. (Education Code 56366)

The Superintendent or designee shall arrange transportation schedules so that students with disabilities do not spend an excessive amount of time on buses compared to other students. Arrivals and departures shall not reduce the length of the school day for these students except as may be prescribed on an individual basis.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any mobile seating devices used on district buses are compatible with bus securement systems required by 49 CFR 571.222. (Education Code 56195.8)

As necessary, a student with disabilities may be accompanied on school transportation by a service animal, as defined in 28 CFR 35.104, including a specially trained guide dog, signal dog, or service dog. (Education Code 39839; Civil Code 54.1-54.2; 28 CFR 35.136)

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When transportation is not specifically required by the IEP or Section 504 plan of a student with disabilities, the student shall be subject to the rules and policies regarding regular transportation offerings within the district.

**Legal Reference:****State**

5 CCR 15243  
 5 CCR 15271  
 Civ. Code 54.1  
 Civ. Code 54.2  
 Ed. Code 39807.5  
 Ed. Code 39839  
 Ed. Code 41850-41851.1  
 Ed. Code 48300-48315  
 Ed. Code 48915.5  
 Ed. Code 56040  
 Ed. Code 56195.8  
 Ed. Code 56327  
 Ed. Code 56345  
 Ed. Code 56365-56366.1

**Federal**

20 USC 1400-1482  
 28 CFR 35.104  
 28 CFR 35.136  
 29 USC 794  
 34 CFR 104.4  
 34 CFR 300.1-300.818  
 34 CFR 300.34  
 49 CFR 571.222

**Management Resources**

California Department of  
 Education Publication  
 California Department of  
 Education Publication  
 U.S. DOE Publication  
  
 U.S. DOE Publication

Website  
 Website

**Description**

Physically handicapped minors  
 Exclusion from report  
[Service animals](#)  
[Guide, signal, or service dogs; right to accompany](#)  
[Payment of transportation costs by parents](#)  
[Transportation of guide dogs, signal dogs, service dogs](#)  
[Allowances for transportation](#)  
[Alternative interdistrict attendance program](#)  
[Recommended expulsion; foster youth with disabilities](#)  
[No cost for special education and related services](#)  
[Adoption of policies](#)  
[Assessment for special education and related services](#)  
[Individualized education program contents](#)  
[Nonpublic nonsectarian schools or agencies](#)

**Description**

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
 Definitions, auxiliary aids and services  
 Service animals  
 Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504  
 Equal opportunity under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504  
 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
 Related services  
 Federal motor vehicle safety standard #222

**Description**

Special Education Transportation Guidelines  
  
 Pupil Fees, Deposits and Other Charges, Fiscal Management  
 Advisory 12-02, April 24, 2013  
 Questions and Answers on Serving Children with Disabilities  
 Eligible for Transportation, 2009  
 Protecting Students with Disabilities: Frequently Asked Questions  
 About Section 504 and the Education of Children with Disabilities,  
 2009  
  
[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)  
[California Department of Education](#)

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**Management Resources**

**Description**

Website

[U.S. Department of Education](https://www.ed.gov/)

Website

[U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights](https://www.ed.gov/office-for-civil-rights/)

Policy Adopted: December 17, 1992  
Revised: April 18, 2024

**WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Westminster, California