



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS BUS FINANCING-2025

August 19, 2025

The Winston County Board of Education is requesting proposals from financial institutions interested in providing financing for the purchase of the following school buses:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
10	2026 Model Thomas Saf-T-Liner C2, 72-passenger School Buses	\$146,808.00	\$1,468,080
1	2026 Model Thomas Sa-T Liner C2, Special Needs 60-passenger School Bus	\$153,626	\$153,626
Total Amount of Financing Required			\$1,621,706.00

TERMS REQUESTED

- 10 Annual Payments of Principal & Interest
- First Payment Due February 2026

WINSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Winston County Schools operates 9 schools and 1 career academy. We run 62 bus routes (including special needs and career academy routes), transporting approximately 1,400 students per day. In addition to transporting students to all Winston County Schools, we operate Haleyville City Schools' bus routes (currently 16), transporting approximately 1,000 students per day.

Our fiscal year 2025 system-wide budget is approximately \$36 million. The Winston County Board of Education is audited yearly by the Alabama State Department of Examiners of Public Accounts, and consistently receives an unmodified opinion, with no significant instances of noncompliance with state and local laws and regulations.

The board's most recent audit can be found by visiting <https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/epa-audit-reports>.

STATE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

The Alabama State Department of Education provides fleet renewal funds to boards of education for buses purchased for ten consecutive years. Current funding per qualifying bus for fiscal year 2025 is \$7,581 per year.

When the State Department increases the funding amount per qualifying bus, the Board receives this amount for all buses purchased within the previous ten years-not just on new bus purchases. Currently, 100% of our bus fleet qualifies for state fleet renewal funds.

If your institution is interested in providing a proposal, please mail or hand-deliver in a sealed envelope the accompanying form by **Friday, August 29, 2025 at 2:00 pm CST** to the following address:

Winston County Board of Education
Morgan Blankenship, Chief School Financial Officer
Bus Financing Proposal
P.O. Box 9 / 25101 Highway 195
Double Springs, AL 35553

Submitted proposals will be opened publicly and are subject to review by legal counsel and approval by the Winston County Board of Education.

If you have questions regarding this request, please contact Morgan Blankenship at 205-489-5018. For questions regarding buses, please contact Daniel Farris, Director of Transportation, at 205-717-3373.



BUS FINANCING PROPOSAL-2025

Financial Institution _____

Contact Name _____ Phone No. _____ Email _____

TERMS:

10 Annual Payments of Principal & Interest*

First Payment Due February 2026

Fixed Interest Rate: _____

APR: _____

Loan/Origination Fee(s): _____

Proposal Valid Thru: _____

Other information _____

***Please attach amortization schedules**

I certify by my signature below that the terms provided above are correct and that I have the authority to obligate the financial institution to perform under the conditions outlined herein. By submission of this proposal, I certify that neither the financial institution nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any state or federal department or agency.

Signature

Date