School Choice Transportation FAQ

Where to start...

- Starting in 2026-2027, CCS K-8 students who attend a school that is not their home school by address and are enrolled in the School Choice Lottery program are not eligible for school bus transportation services.

What is the difference between home school by address and a 100% lottery school?

- **Home school by address:** Has an assigned territory or neighborhood zone for attendance.
    - Students can attend a school outside of their home school by address through the School Choice Lottery program. These students will NO LONGER receive school bus transportation to and from school by the District.
- **100% Lottery School:** All students who attend these schools must participate in the School Choice Lottery in order to attend.
    - There is no assigned territory or neighborhood zone for attendance. These students will continue to receive transportation to and from school by the District.

Who is ELIGIBLE for Transportation services in elementary and middle school?

- Transportation will continue for eligible students who attend their assigned school by home address and live more than 2 miles from the school.
- Transportation will continue for students enrolled in a 100% lottery school.
- Transportation will continue for students who are currently displaced from their home school by address by CCS for any reason.

Who is INELIGIBLE for transportation services in the 2026-2027 school year?

- CCS is not able to provide transportation to K–8 students attending any school other than their home school by address through the School Choice Lottery program.

Does this change affect high school students?

- No. There are no Board-approved changes to high school transportation for the 2026-2027 school year.

What elementary and middle schools are 100% lottery?

Arts Impact Middle School
Africentric K-8
Columbus City Prep School for Boys
Columbus City Prep School for Girls
Columbus Spanish Immersion Academy

Duxberry Park
Ecole Kenwood French Immersion
Indianola K-8
Oakland Park
World Language Middle School

Which schools are affected by the transportation change?

Affected middle schools are:

Buckeye
Champion
Dominion
Hilltonia
Johnson Park
Linden-McKinley 7-8
Medina
Mifflin
Ridgeview
Sherwood
South 7-8
Wedgewood
Westmoor
Woodward Park

Affected elementary schools are:

Alpine
Avalon
Avondale
Berwick
Binns
Burroughs
Cassady
Cedarwood
Clinton
Colerain
Como
Cranbrook
Northgate
Northtowne
Oakmont
Ohio Avenue
Olde Orchard
Parkmoor
Parsons
Salem
Scottwood
Devonshire
Eakin
East Columbus
East Linden
Eastgate
Easthaven
Fairmoor
Forest Park
Gables
Georgian Heights
Hamilton STEM
Highland
Siebert
Shady Lane
South Mifflin
Southwood
Starling
Stewart
Sullivant
Trevitt
Valley Forge
Hubbard
Huy
Indian Springs
Innis
Leawood
Liberty
Lincoln Park
Lindbergh
Linden STEM
Livingston
Maize
North Linden
Valleyview
Watkins
Weinland Park
West Broad
West Mound
Westgate
Windsor STEM
Winterset
Woodcrest

What are the transportation eligibility requirements for CCS?

- Students must attend their home school by address and live **more than 2 miles** from their home school assigned by address, or their 100% lottery school, and the student must reside within Columbus City Schools boundaries.

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Transportation Exceptions and Special Circumstances

- Some students will continue to receive transportation, even if they attend a school outside of their home school by address.

Transportation will be provided for:

- **Students displaced by CCS within the 2026-2027 school year**
  If CCS moved your student from their home school by address for any reason during the school year.
- **Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)**
  If transportation is required as part of the student's IEP.
- **Students placed for special education services**
  If those services are not available at the student's home school by address.
- **Students placed for English Learner (ELL) services**
  If those services are not available at the student's home school by address.
- **Students placed for gifted services**
  If those services are not available at the student's home school by address.
- **Students placed by court order**
  If a court requires the student to attend a specific school.

- If your student falls into one of these categories, transportation will continue regardless of school type.

- Families should confirm transportation status through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal or contact the CCS Transportation Department with questions.

What happens if I have moved?

- If you have moved, your student is expected to attend their new home school by address.
- **If your student does not attend their new home school by address, you will be ineligible for school bus transportation to and from school.**

What happens if I have been displaced from my home school?

- If you have been displaced by CCS, we will continue to provide transportation to and from school for your student throughout the displacement period.
- If you have been displaced by CCS and have moved to another home school by address zone, **your student should attend the new home school by address to be eligible for transportation.**

What about students in gifted programming?

- Families of students in gifted programming should verify transportation status before the school year begins.
- Please confirm your transportation on Infinite Campus Parent Portal or reach out to our Transportation Department at 614-365-5074

What should families consider before selecting a school through the School Choice Lottery program?

- Families applying to attend a school outside of their home school by address should consider the following:
    - Is the school you're choosing a 100% lottery school?
    - If it is not a 100% lottery school, plan alternative transportation to and from school.
    - Families currently attending a school outside of their home school by address may need to reconsider school choice options or return to their assigned home school by address to be eligible for school bus transportation to and from school.

How can families determine their home school by address?

- Families can check their home school by address by taking the following steps:
    - Use the Columbus City Schools – School Assignment Finder
    - Search for your home address
    - Review the number and school building site assigned

How should my family plan ahead for the 2026-27 school year?

- Review school assignments carefully.
- Check the distance from home to school.
- Update your home address if needed.
- Make a transportation plan before the first day of school, if a yellow school bus is not available.

Who can families contact with questions?

- Families with questions about School Choice Lottery should contact the CCS School Choice Office at Schoolchoice@columbus.k12.oh.us or 614-365-7459.
- Families with questions about busing should contact Transportation at 614-365-5074

Quick planning checklist for families

1. Confirm your child's assigned school by home address.
2. Review whether your child qualifies for a school bus through specialized services.
3. Check the distance from your home to the school.
4. Make a transportation plan before the first day of school.
5. Contact the Transportation Department if you have questions about busing, they can be reached at 614-365-5074