

Descriptor Term:
BUS ROUTES

Descriptor Code:
6.3210

Legal References: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.; G.S. 115C-240(d), -246; 16 NCAC 6B.0104; Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities, State Board Policy Number GCS-C-000

Cross References:

The superintendent or his/her designee shall develop school bus routes in accordance with state law and regulations. All bus routes will be kept on file with the superintendent's office and all changes will be filed within 10 days after such change becomes effective.

Students ordinarily will be assigned to a bus which passes within one mile of the student's residence. To the extent practicable and economically feasible, ride time should be less than forty-five (45) minutes one way.

A. TRANSPORTATION TO LOCATIONS OTHER THAN HOME

Upon request, the superintendent or his/her designee may, but is not required to, assign a student to a bus to transport the student to and/or from a location other than home if the following conditions are met:

1. the student's parent or legal guardian submits a written request signed by the parent or legal guardian stating the specific location other than home to which the student is to be transported and acknowledges that the parent or guardian and not the school system is responsible for the student's safety once the child has departed from the bus;
2. the request for such transportation can not require a bus to deviate in any significant way from an established route;
3. there is capacity on the bus if the request would necessitate the student's riding a different bus from the regularly assigned bus;
4. the student's residence and requested bus stop must be within the attendance zone eligible for transportation service;
5. the request for such transportation does not cause the school system to incur any additional cost; and
6. the proposed bus stop must meet any safety standards established by law, the board, superintendent or principal.

Any changes in bus stops must be approved by the superintendent or his/her designee.

B. BUS ROUTES IN HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS

School buses will not be allowed to operate if there is a serious threat to the safety of students or drivers. The superintendent may develop a more limited bus route for hazardous weather

conditions in order to operate only on roads that are safe. To the extent possible, parents will be notified in advance of the bus route which will be used in hazardous conditions. The hazardous conditions bus route will be on file in the superintendent's office.

A student who is identified as having special needs following procedures in the North Carolina Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities will be provided with transportation services as required by law.