A Parent's Guide to Transportation Services for Chartered Nonpublic and Community School Students

A parent or guardian requests transportation from the district of residence.

Eligibility is determined by the resident district.

The school must be more than two miles from the parent or guardian's residence.

A board of education shall not be required to transport elementary or high school pupils to and from a nonpublic or community school where such transportation would require more than 30 minutes of direct travel time as measured by school bus from the public school building to which the pupils would be assigned if attending the public school designated by the district of residence. (ORC 3327.01)

If the child is eligible, the district must determine the legal mode of transportation but may determine transportation is impractical based on one or more reasons and offer payment in lieu of transportation.

The determination of impracticality may be made by the superintendent and formalized by resolution at the next following meeting of the board or governing authority.

The school district must send a letter to the parent notifying them of the school district determination of impracticality and the reason(s) for the impracticality.

The letter includes the opportunity for the parent to accept or reject payment in lieu of transportation on a form that must be signed by the parent.

The parent must return the form and accept or reject payment in lieu of transportation.

If the parent rejects payment in lieu of transportation, the letter contains contact information for the parent to request mediation.

If mediation process is requested, the area coordinator organizes and schedules mediation between all parties involved.

Find more information about the determination of impracticality and the mediation process in the <u>Transportation Services for Chartered Nonpublic and Community Schools Handbook</u> on the <u>School Transportation Finance</u> webpage.

