

Schedule B

-17a-126. State support of pupil transportation.

(1) Money appropriated to the State Board of Education for state-supported transportation of public school students shall be apportioned and distributed in accordance with Section **53A-17a-127**, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(2) (a) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall use its allocation of pupil transportation money to pay for transportation of their students based on current valid contractual arrangements and best transportation options and methods as determined by the schools.

(b) All student transportation costs of the schools shall be paid from the allocation of pupil transportation money specified in statute.

(3) (a) A school district may only claim eligible transportation costs as legally reported on the prior year's annual financial report submitted under Section **53A-3-404**.

(b) The state shall contribute 85% of approved transportation costs, subject to budget constraints.

(c) If in a fiscal year the total transportation allowance for all districts exceeds the amount appropriated for that purpose, all allowances shall be reduced pro rata to equal not more than the amount appropriated.

(4) Local school boards shall provide salary adjustments to employee groups that work with the transportation of students comparable to those of classified employees authorized under Section **53A-17a-137**, when dividing the weighted pupil unit for salary adjustment purposes

R277-600-7. Alternative Transportation.

Bus routes that involve a large number of deadhead miles are analyzed for reduction or to determine if an alternative method of transporting students is more efficient. Approved alternatives include the following:

A. The costs incurred in transporting eligible pupils in a school district M.P.V. are approved costs as long as the costs demonstrate efficiency.

B(1) The costs incurred in paying eligible students an allowance in lieu of school district-supplied transportation are an approved cost. A student is reimbursed for the mileage to the bus stop or school, whichever is closer, nearest the student's home. The allowance shall not be less than the standard mileage rate deduction permitted by the United States Internal Revenue Service for charitable contributions, nor greater than the reimbursement allowance permitted by the Utah Department of Administrative Services for use of privately owned vehicles set forth in the Utah Travel Regulations;

(2) a student allowance is made to the student and not to the parent for transporting one's own child or other students. This does not restrict parents from pooling resources;

(3) if a student or the student's parent is unable to provide private transportation, with prior state approval, an amount equivalent to the student allowance is payable to the school district to help pay the costs of school district transportation;

(4) the student's mileage shall be measured and certified in school district records. The student's ADA, as entered in school records, is used to determine the student's attendance.

C(1) The cost incurred in providing a subsistence allowance is an approved cost. A parent is reimbursed for a student's room and board when a student lives at a site nearer to the assigned school, if the student does not have a school facility or bus service available within approximately 60 miles of the student's residence. Payment shall not exceed the Substitute Care Rate for Family Services for the current fiscal year. Adjustments for changes made in the rate during the year are included in the allowance. In addition to the reimbursement for room and board, the subsistence allowance includes the costs of two round trips per year.

(2) A subsistence allowance is not applicable to a parent who maintains a separate home during the school year for the convenience of the family. A parent's residence during the school year is the residence of the child.

D. Contracting or leasing for pupil transportation

(1) The cost incurred in engaging in a contract or leasing for transportation is an approved cost at the prorated amount available to school districts.

(2) Reimbursements for school districts using a leasing arrangement are determined in accordance with the comparable cost for the school district to operate its own transportation.

(3) Under a contract or lease, the school district's transportation administrator's time shall not exceed one percent of the commercial contract cost.

(4) Eligible student counts, bus route mileage, bus route minutes, and bus inventory data are required as if the school district operated its own transportation.