

TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS (PRC 056)

PROGRAM REPORT CODE: 056
UNIFORM CHART OF ACCOUNTS CODE: 6XXX-056-XXX
STATUTORY REFERENCE: Related to COVID
[SL2020-80 Section 2.2](#)

TYPE: Dollars

TERM: **July 1 - June 30**

PURPOSE: Provides funding for all transportation related expenses for "yellow bus" use for eligible school age (K-12) students for travel to and from school and between schools. Examples of these expenses are contract transportation, transportation personnel (other than Director, Supervisor, and Coordinator), bus drivers' salaries, benefits, fuel, and other costs as defined in the Uniform Chart of Accounts. This includes expenses for contract transportation when a local school district finds it impracticable to furnish transportation by yellow bus for eligible school age (K-12) students for travel to and from school and between schools.

ELIGIBILITY: Each LEA is entitled to funding.

FORMULA:

- 1) Allotted based on a "budget rating" funding formula using the following factors: pupils transported; total eligible operating expenditures (local and state funds); number of buses operated.
- 2) The initial allotment shall consist of a portion of the projected planning allotment.
- 3) The final allotment will be allotted within available funds by December 1. This adjustment is derived from establishing a final budget rating calculated annually from the three key factors outlined in #1 above plus any other legislative adjustments.

SPECIAL PROVISION:

- 1) Funds can be transferred into and out of this category by submitting an ABC Transfer Form. There is no change in carryover provisions as outlined in policy. Transfers will impact efficiency ratings.
- 2) These funds may not supplant other state, federal and local programs use of the "yellow bus" that serve the instructional purpose of the school, such as Pre-K, Smart Start, Head Start, Remediation Programs, Summer School, NC State Fair, Special Olympics, NC Symphony and other instructional field trips. When allotted state transportation funds are used to provide transportation services for these programs, the responsible program must reimburse this fund.
- 3) Allotted funds cannot be used for the maintenance of local vehicles and machinery such as - activity buses, staff vehicles, school maintenance trucks and vehicles, etc. When state funds are used to pay for this kind of activity, those state funds must be reimbursed from local (or other non-state) sources.
- 4) State Board of Education Policy states, "In order to be eligible to receive any mid-year transportation allotment resulting from increased fuel prices, an LEA must have a reduced idling policy in place at the beginning of the school year. The local policy must, at a minimum, prohibit all unnecessary school bus idling on school grounds and prohibit the warming up of buses longer than 5 minutes. As always, any increase in allotments will be subject to the availability of funds."
- 5) The Excellent Public Schools Act provided additional funding for the addition of 5 days within the existing school calendar. [[SL 2012-142, Section 7A.6\(a\)](#)]
- 6) [SL 2020-80 Section 2.2 authorizes DPI to withhold up to \\$12,000,000 from the transportation allotment and allocate the funds, as necessary, for transportation expenses related to emergency school nutrition services provided between July 1, 2020 and the 1st instructional day of the 2020-21 school year. Eligible PSUs include all units participating in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program or Summer Food Service Program.](#)
 - [These funds shall be allocated based on an application basis showing a documented need by the PSU.](#)
 - [In the event that the request for supplemental funds exceeds the maximum allowable per legislation, all requests shall be reduced on a pro rata basis](#)

Any funds provided are restricted to the use of transportation related to emergency meals and may not be used for any other purpose. Unused funds shall be used to support transportation of pupils.

67) For the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years, due to incomplete data to support full, accurate, funding formula calculations, LEAs will be allotted funding formula transportation funds, before adjustments for ADM, benefits, fuel, and others as legislated, in an amount no lower than the 2019-20 funding formula allotment.