

POLICY TITLE: TRANSPORTATION

The COSSA Board of Trustees' primary concern in providing transportation services to students is the safety and protection of the health of students.

Requirements

Consortium Districts shall provide transportation to and from their schools.

The Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency shall provide transportation from the COSSA Regional Technology and Education Center (CRTEC) to a designated drop off location at the student's home school in the event a student cannot ride the regularly scheduled Consortium District bus.

The type of transportation provided by the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency and/or the Consortium Districts may be by a school bus or other vehicle, or by such individual transportation as paying the parent or guardian for individually transporting the student. The Board's may authorize children attending nonpublic schools to ride a school bus provided that space is available and a fee to cover the per-seat cost for such transportation is collected.

Homeless Students

Homeless students shall be transported in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and State law.

Foster Children

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or designee shall implement the requirements for ensuring the educational stability for all children in foster care. Each of these provisions must emphasize the child's best interest determination. A written guideline must provide clarity to each school and staff member governing the transportation protocol for students in foster care. This includes the facilitation of transportation to the school of origin (when in the student's best interest). Transportation will be provided, arranged, and funded for the duration of time in foster care. These procedures must confirm the following:

1. Children in foster care needing transportation to the school of origin will promptly receive that transportation in a reasonable and cost effective manner. and;
2. Ensure that, if there are additional costs incurred in providing transportation to maintain children in foster care in their schools of origin, the Consortium District will provide transportation to the school of origin if:

- A. The local child welfare agency agrees to reimburse the Consortium District for the cost of such transportation;
- B. The Consortium District agrees to pay for the cost of such transportation; or
- C. The Consortium District and the local child welfare agency agree to share the cost of such transportation.

Safety

The Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency shall provide each new school bus driver with a school bus driver training program before allowing him or her to drive a bus carrying students. The Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency shall provide all experienced school bus drivers with at least ten hours of refresher school bus driver training each fiscal year. Such training shall meet the requirements described in the *Standards for Idaho School Buses and Operations*. Documented training similar to that required by the Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency may be used to comply with new school bus driver training hours, unless the driver has a gap of more than four years in their previous driving experience.

The CEO or designee shall develop written rules establishing the procedures for bus safety and emergency exit drills, and for student conduct while riding on buses, including for students with special needs.

The District shall ensure that transportation personnel have access to a library of resources to assist them in operating safe and efficient transportation services. These resources shall include:

- 1. Applicable federal, State, and local laws, codes, and regulations;
- 2. Applicable manuals and guidelines;
- 3. Online access to internet and other resources; and
- 4. Applicable trade journals and organizations' publications.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

I.C. § 33-1501	Transportation Authorized
I.C. § 33-1503	Payments when Transportation Not Furnished
IDAPA 08.02.03.109	Special Education
20 USC § 6312(c)	Every Student Succeeds Act Standards for Idaho School Buses and Operations
Federal Highway Safety Guideline 17	
Idaho Department of Education, Idaho's School Bus Driver Training Classroom Curriculum	

POLICY HISTORY:

Adopted: September 16, 2019
 Reissued: July 19, 2021