

CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW

PURPOSE

This funding provides for the cost of transporting **expected eligible passengers** and **eligible transported ECS children** in the cities of Calgary and Edmonton.

CONDITIONS

1. Edmonton School District No. 7, Edmonton Catholic Separate School District No. 7, Calgary School District No. 19 and Calgary RCSSD No. 1 school districts are eligible for metro urban transportation block funding.
2. Funding is determined using a **school** size "benchmark". The benchmark is the lesser of two values: the jurisdiction's average **school** size and the average **school** size in the four jurisdictions. A benchmark is determined for each of the three levels (elementary, junior high and senior high).
3. The number of **expected eligible passengers** is calculated using the following factors:
 - a) the benchmark for each level;
 - b) the number of **schools** by level;
 - c) the number of **funded students** and **ECS children**;
 - d) the residential area;
 - e) the number of **funded students with severe disabilities** based on the jurisdiction profile.
4. The formula used to calculate metro urban transportation block funding contains the number of **schools** by level, the residential area, and the number of **funded students** attending **schools** within the jurisdiction.
5. The **school jurisdictions** in Calgary and Edmonton which are transporting **eligible transported ECS children** to board-operated programs will be eligible for transportation funding under the Urban Block formula. The ECS enrolments will be included in the formula.
6. A **school jurisdiction** providing transportation to and from an **ECS program** may charge the **parent** of a **child** a fee for the transportation service. The total amount of the transportation fee charged to **parents** shall not exceed the total cost of the provision of ECS transportation services less the ECS transportation funding the **school jurisdiction** receives from Alberta Learning.

7. ECS **children** with disabilities who require ECS special needs transportation will be funded outside of the metro urban block formula at the ECS Special Needs Transportation rate. Transportation funding for children with special needs should be claimed using form 01AL2.6 – ECS Transportation Application. ECS **children** who qualify for Program Unit Funding (PUF) will not be included in the count of students with severe disabilities.
8. **School jurisdictions** receiving metro urban transportation block funding must transport or make arrangements for the transport of **children** attending **ECS programs** at a service level that is consistent with the transportation of students under Section 51 (1) of the *School Act*.
9. ECS **children** will be included in the metro urban block funding formula with the following adjustments to the co-efficients/benchmarks:
- The average elementary **school** size will be adjusted to include ECS **children**,
 - The walk percentage for elementary schools will be reduced from 0.80 to 0.75 for ECS-elementary schools, and
 - The eligible enrolment co-efficient will be reduced from 0.735 to 0.730.
10. The number of **expected eligible passengers** to be included in the metro urban transportation block funding formula is determined as follows:

(Residential Area X 75.80)	+	[Funded Students and Children (ECS - 12) X 0.7300]	=	
LESS:				
0.75 (# of ECS-Elem. Schools)	X	Minimum of: Average ECS-Elem. School size in the jurisdiction or average school size for the 4 jurisdictions.	=	
0.400 (# of Jr. High Schools)	X	Minimum of: Average Jr. High School size in the jurisdiction or average school size for the 4 jurisdictions.	=	
0.250 (# of Sr. High Schools)	X	Minimum of: Average Sr. High School size in the jurisdiction or average school size for the 4 jurisdictions.	=	
		Expected Eligible Passengers	=	

11. The metro urban transportation block funding a **school jurisdiction** may receive is determined as follows:

$$\text{Funding} = \frac{\text{Expected Eligible Passengers}}{\text{Expected Eligible Passengers}} \times \frac{\text{Urban Transportation Block Rate}}{\text{Urban Transportation Block Rate}} + \frac{[0.8 \times \text{Severely Disabled Students (1-12)] (per Jurisdiction profile)}}{[0.8 \times \text{Severely Disabled Students (1-12)] (per Jurisdiction profile)}} \times \frac{\text{Special Transportation Rate}}{\text{Special Transportation Rate}}$$

12. When a district is accessing the urban transportation block funding and has under its jurisdiction an area included in another municipality, the **school jurisdiction** may be re-imbursed for each **eligible passenger** transported to **school** using the rural transportation formula, or, if the municipality is a city outside of Calgary or Edmonton, for each **eligible passenger** using the urban transportation formula. A jurisdiction currently claiming under this section and seeking to claim either rural transportation (Section 1.19) funding, or urban transportation (Section 1.21) funding, must have approval from the **Minister**. Requests for approval should be submitted to the School Reporting Branch.
13. A **school jurisdiction**, which has made an arrangement with a **charter school** to transport the **charter school's** students, may include the **funded students** attending the **charter school** for the purposes of calculating the number of expected eligible students. The **charter school** is not counted by the **school jurisdiction** in determining the number of **schools**.
14. The following conditions are used in determining the number of **schools** servicing the three **school** levels in the public and separate school boards in Edmonton and Calgary:
- Institutions, Outreach Schools, Designated Home Education Schools**, and other special schools (schools where the majority of the **funded students** are special needs students) as determined by School Finance are excluded.
 - An ECS-elementary school with fewer than 75 students is not counted.
 - An ECS-elementary school with 75 or more students and 3 or fewer grades will be counted as half an ECS-elementary school.
 - A junior high school with fewer than 75 students is not counted.
 - A senior high school with fewer than 200 but with 75 or more students is counted as a junior high school.
15. Schools providing **Year round education** will be allocated funding based on eligible passengers transported.

REQUIREMENTS

1. **School jurisdictions** are required to keep the following information on file and available for review by Alberta Learning:
 - a) Current **school jurisdiction** transportation policy,
 - b) The number of **eligible passengers** and **eligible transported ECS children**, their names, **school(s)** attended and their programs,
 - c) The names of **students** who are not attending their local **school**, and the reasons, and
 - d) Relevant detailed transportation costs for a particular school year.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. The basic block formula will continue for the 2002-2003 school year.
2. An additional \$5 million will continue to be provided to address metro urban transportation needs. This funding will be allocated on a pro-rated basis to the metro urban boards.

Revised