

ALLOCATION FORMULA

1. **Urban District** transportation:

$$\text{Urban Transportation Allocation} = \left[\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Eligible passengers} \\ \text{Gr. 1-12} \end{array} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Eligible transported} \\ \text{ECS children} \end{array} \right\} \right] \times \text{Urban Transportation Funding Rate}$$

The funding an urban jurisdiction receives for rural students will be calculated using the Rural Transportation formula. These students cannot be included as **eligible passengers** under the Urban Transportation formula.

2. Francophone Authorities within an Urban Area:

Transportation funding to a Francophone Education Program recognizes the dispersion of students for a Francophone Authority.

$$\text{Francophone Urban Transportation Allocation} = \left[\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Eligible francophone} \\ \text{students transported} \\ \text{Gr. 1 - 12} \end{array} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Eligible francophone} \\ \text{ECS children} \\ \text{transported} \end{array} \right\} \right] \times \begin{array}{l} 3.5 \\ \text{(weighting} \\ \text{factor)} \end{array} \times \text{Urban Transportation Funding Rate}$$

ALLOCATION CRITERIA

1. A **school jurisdiction** that is an **urban district** or **division** may receive urban transportation funding for each **eligible passenger** and each **eligible transported ECS child**.
2. An **urban district** may receive funding for a student who is not a **resident student** of the **board** that accesses the **board's** transportation system in accordance with the *Student Transportation Regulation*, section 4, at a point that is 2.4 kilometres or more from the **school** in which the student could be enrolled.
3. If an **urban district** extends its transportation service outside its jurisdiction boundaries to provide service to a non-resident student not covered by a **transportation agreement** or an **educational services agreement** between the **resident board** and the **board** providing transportation, the **board** providing transportation service is not eligible for transportation funding for that student.

4. An **urban district** that claims ECS regular transportation funding must transport or make arrangements for the transportation of **eligible transported ECS children** at a service level that is consistent with the transportation of students under Section 51 (1) of the *School Act*.
5. An **urban district** 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 board** receives from Alberta Learning.
6. An **eligible passenger** or an **eligible transported ECS child** can only be counted once under this section.
7. Funding is not provided for transporting students or ECS **children** between **schools**.
8. Where a **board** has adopted over-lapping **school** attendance or transportation service areas, eligibility for funding under this section is determined by the **distance** to the **school** nearest the student's residence.
9. If a **resident student** of an **urban district** is enrolled in a **school** of the **parent's** choice outside the attendance area or transportation service area (as defined in the *Student Transportation Regulation*) in which the student resides, eligibility for transportation support is determined by the **distance** to the **school** nearest the student's residence.
10. If a **board** of an **urban district** or **division** transports students residing less than 2.4 km from the **school** within the attendance area or transportation service area (as defined in the *Student Transportation Regulation*) in which the students reside, to a **school** other than the **school** within the attendance area or transportation service area in which the students reside because the enrolment of that **school** is equal to or greater than its rated capacity, then the number of students so transported that is equal to or greater than the number of students not resident within the attendance area or transportation service area and enrolled in that **school** shall be deducted from the number of **eligible passengers** claimed for funding under this section.
11. Where **board** of an **urban district** has a rural area under its jurisdiction and is providing transportation services in that area, the **school jurisdiction** may receive funding under the Rural Transportation formula for each **eligible passenger** and each **eligible transported ECS child** residing in the rural area. A **school jurisdiction** claiming both urban and rural transportation must have received prior approval from the **Minister**. Requests for approval should be submitted to the School Reporting Branch.
12. To recognize the dispersion of students for a Francophone authority within an **urban district** a weighted factor of 3.5 will be used for urban Francophone students being transported.

13. Funding shall not be paid under this section for a **funded student** or an **ECS child** who is counted under the Special Transportation funding (Section 1.18).
- Revised 14. Eligible **distance** is determined to be the **distance** from the student's residence to the nearest **school** in the attendance area or transportation service area in which the student resides unless the student is directed by the **board** to attend another **school** for any of the following reasons:
- **Alternative French Language Programs** (includes French Immersion and bilingual programs) and **Other Language Immersion Programs**;
 - Integrated Occupational Program (IOP);
 - Special Education programs to meet the needs of students with severe disabilities;
 - High school CTS programs offered to an advanced level in a specialized classroom facility where the course curriculum requires the instructor to have the technical trade qualification (Courses include Mechanics, Fabrication Studies, Cosmetology and Construction Technology);
15. Students transported by a **board** to an **on-line program** or an **outreach program** accessing 50 percent or more of their educational program at a **school** of the **board** or to a **blended program** at a **school** of the **board** may be claimed as **eligible passengers** under Urban Transportation.

PROCEDURES, DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

1. **Urban districts** are required to submit electronically an Urban Transportation claims form to the School Reporting Branch by November 30. Payment is made on the basis of this submitted information, the Urban Transportation funding rates, and in accordance with the *School Act* and the *Student Transportation Regulation, A.R. 250/98; amended A.R. 197/2000*.
2. The **count date** for urban transportation funding is September 30. Special consideration for the **count date** may be given to **school jurisdictions** experiencing exceptional growth in transportation needs.
3. Urban transportation funding is calculated by multiplying the number of **eligible passengers** and **eligible transported ECS children** by the urban transportation rate.
4. The funding an urban jurisdiction receives for rural students will be calculated using the Rural Transportation formula. These students cannot be included as **eligible passengers** under the Urban Transportation formula.

- Revised 5. **Urban districts** are required to retain the following information on file for a minimum of three years and make it available for review by Alberta Learning upon request. Items a), b), c), and d) should be kept in an electronic file and made available to Alberta Learning either electronically or on a computer disc.
- a) maps of overall attendance areas and transportation service areas;
 - b) location of each student's residence (street addresses in towns, villages and hamlets);

- c) maps of individual bus routes;
- d) a list of names of **eligible transported ECS children** transported by bus and the names and grades of **eligible passengers**;
- e) records of **route distance** verified by an official(s) of the **school jurisdiction**;
- f) copies of **education service agreements**;
- g) copies of **transportation agreements** with **school boards, private schools, charter schools** and **private ECS operators**;
- h) copies of current vehicle inspection certificates issued under the *Highway Traffic Act*; and
- i) copies of contracts with:
 - i) operators of contracted **school busses** for regular transportation;
 - ii) **parents** providing transportation showing amounts paid.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. **First Nations students** as shall not be counted as **eligible passengers**.