

Date:July 12, 2023To:Chief School AdministratorsRoute To:Board Secretaries/School Business AdministratorsFrom:Allen Dupree, Acting Executive Director
Division of Finance and Business Services

Revised 2023-2024 Maximum Expenditure for Nonpublic School Transportation

Pursuant to the 2023-2024 Appropriations Act, the maximum allowable per-student expenditure for nonpublic school transportation for the 2023-2024 school year is \$1,165, or a daily rate of \$6.47 (\$1,165 divided by 180). The daily rate applies when the student's application is received after the start of school or when the student withdraws from the nonpublic school before the close of the school year.

Renewed contracts and bid contracts awarded prior to July 1, 2023 are binding and cannot be increased because of the new maximum. Bid contracts that were not previously awarded because they exceeded \$1,022 per pupil may be awarded if they were bid within \$1,165 per pupil. Likewise, contracts that were not renewed because of the \$1,022 per-pupil limit may be renewed if the growth is within the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (5.86%) and does not exceed \$1,165 per pupil. If transportation cannot be provided, parents are entitled to \$1,165 as aid-in-lieu of transportation.

Each resident district board of education that provides transportation to remote public-school students is required to provide transportation services to eligible nonpublic school students. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:27-2.3(b), the parents of each nonpublic school student and the nonpublic school administrator shall be notified by the district board of education as to the determination of each application for nonpublic school transportation by August 1 of each year.

Please let this serve as a reminder that notification needs to be provided by this deadline to nonpublic school parents and administrators for each transportation application received by your district.

For any questions regarding this issue, please email <u>student.trans@doe.nj.gov</u>.

c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group