

Preschool Expansion Aid for Transportation

Preschool students qualify for transportation services based on the eligibility requirements applicable pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1. Specifically, a school district must provide transportation services to a preschool student if the distance between home and school exceeds two miles. If a preschool student is eligible for mandated transportation services, the school district must include the preschool students in the District Report of Transported Resident Student (DRTRS). If the district elects to provide courtesy busing for students who do not qualify for transportation services, the following must occur:

- All mandated program positions and components must be in place before the district may request to expend preschool education aid for nonmandated transportation;
- The per-pupil allocation for courtesy bussing using PEA cannot exceed the amount received for children who receive transportation aid. Districts must use other funding sources if the cost exceeds the transportation aid amount.

PEA can be used to provide a bus aide, purchase car seats, and field trips as part of your budget submission. If you have additional questions, please contact Selina Foreman at Selina.foreman@doe.nj.gov or your district liaison.