

CORONA-NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

3523

BUSINESS SERVICES

OPERATIONS

TRANSPORTATION

FEES FOR HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

Because the cost of providing student transportation exceeds funding provided by the state and causes encroachment into funding for educational programs, the Governing Board finds it necessary to charge fees for home-to-school student transportation.

The Superintendent or Designee shall propose rate adjustments annually, on or about the first of April, to become effective the following school year. Adjusted rates shall not exceed the actual operating cost of student transportation, and shall not exceed the maximum rate published by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Legal References: Education Code Sections 39800, 39807.5, 39809.5

Revised: August 4, 2015 (Adopted April 1, 2008-Effective July 1, 2008)

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A. APPLICABILITY

Fees shall be charged for the transportation of students not specifically exempted below, in grade levels Kindergarten through 12, who meet transportation eligibility in Board Policy 3520.

B. SPACE-AVAILABLE-BUS PASSES

Students may be eligible for space-available transportation if their primary residence is less than the specified distance from the nearest pedestrian entrance to their campus, and within the attendance boundary of the school of attendance.

Space available transportation will be available under the following conditions:

1. Students may access space available transportation only for buses with a scheduled drop-off and pick-up at the student's school of attendance.
2. No new bus stops or routes will be created.
3. Students will be required to board a bus at an existing bus stop.
4. Space available transportation will only be available when buses are loaded at less than 90% capacity.
5. To ensure that transportation eligible students are provided first priority, space available bus passes will be issued commencing with the third week of school.
6. Space available transportation will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.
7. Should seats be needed for transportation eligible students, bus passes for space available students will be revoked in the reverse order in which they were granted.
8. In the event a space available bus pass is revoked under this section, the student's parent/guardian shall receive a pro-rated reimbursement of the cost of the pass.

C. FEE SCHEDULE

Fees shall be charged according to the following schedule:

<u>Standard Rate</u>	<u>First Student</u>	<u>Second Student</u>	<u>Third Student</u>	<u>Fourth Student</u>
Annual (R/T)	400	350	300	no charge
Annual One Way	200	175	150	no charge
One-half Year R/T	220	190	158	no charge
One-half Year One Way	110	95	79	no charge
10-day Temporary	25	25	25	no charge

To calculate the Annual Maximum, the District will total the highest rates requested for three students, and will not charge for the fourth and additional students.

A Late Fee of \$25.00 shall be charged for any one-half year fee paid after the payment is due.

D. EXEMPTION FROM FEES

Fees shall not be charged for the transportation of students who:

1. Qualify based on verification of income, according to the guidelines established by the National School Lunch Act (Public Law 108-265).
2. Receive transportation as a condition of a 504 Plan (Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*).
3. Receive transportation in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act or the School of Choice Program of the No Child Left Behind Act.
4. Receive transportation to Cal-SAFE programs at comprehensive high schools.
5. Receive transportation as a related service in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
6. Are enrolled as Foreign Exchange Students.

E. CREDIT FOR CALENDAR REMAINING

Students who register or apply for transportation after the start of the school year shall have their fees reduced on a pro-rata basis.

F. REFUNDS

Fees for student transportation:

1. Will be refunded to students who withdraw from the District or move to a residence which is not eligible for transportation.
2. Will not be refunded or adjusted for students whose riding privilege is temporarily suspended for disciplinary reasons.
3. Will be refunded for students whose riding privilege is revoked for disciplinary reasons.

Refunds will be calculated on a pro-rata basis from the date the District is notified by the parent or guardian that transportation is no longer needed.

G. APPLICATION FOR BUS PASS

Bus pass applications will be available at:

1. District Transportation-office.
2. District website.

H. COLLECTION OF FEES

Fees for home-to-school transportation must be paid in full prior to receiving services, and may be paid:

1. By check, VISA or MasterCard at the District Transportation Department.
2. By VISA or MasterCard on the District website.

Fees will not be collected by the District's transportation contractor.

I. DEADLINES FOR PAYMENT OF FEES

Application deadlines will be established annually for students to receive a bus pass prior to the start of the new school year. Applicable fees will be payable at time of application submission.

J. RETURNED CHECK CHARGE

A fee, as determined by the District's bank, will be imposed for dishonored or returned checks; submission of a second dishonored check may be reported to the Riverside County District Attorney.

K. APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM SCHOOL BUS FEES

Applications for exemption:

1. Must be accompanied by documentation of income.
2. Lacking verifiable documentation may be denied.
3. Will be treated as confidential student information, in accordance with applicable statute.

All Applications for Exemption from School Bus Fees are subject to audit. Applications which deliberately misrepresent or omit income may result in suspension of riding privileges and/or prosecution under applicable California law.

L. BUS PASSES

Bus passes are required each time students board the bus. Students who fail to display a valid bus pass will be transported to school only, and will be subject to progressive disciplinary action as described in the Parent-Student Handbook. Persistent failure to display a bus pass may result in suspension or revocation of riding privileges.

Bus passes are the property of the District and must be returned if transportation is suspended, revoked, or terminated at the request of the parent or guardian.

Bus passes issued for exempt riders shall be no different from bus passes issued to paid riders.

Bus passes issued to exempt riders are conditional upon verification of eligibility, and are subject to revocation if legitimate proof of income is not provided on request.

The charge for replacing a lost bus pass shall be \$10.00.

Revision: June 22, 2021 (8/4/15, 1/1/13, 7/1/10, 5/5/08)