

TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS

Local Procedures

The following information pertains to local agreements regarding the transportation of students with special education needs in Humboldt - Del Norte SELPA. Procedures for addressing transportation as a related service in the IEP are addressed in the section in this manual titled IEP Contents.

Transportation Responsibility:

Home to school transportation, transportation to school sponsored activities and transportation services designated in a student's IEP are the responsibility of the DOR. The DOR may provide the service directly or through agreements with other public or private agencies or the parent. In cases where transportation is provided through agreement with another entity, financial and other arrangements related to the agreement are the responsibility of the DOR.

The DOR for students attending preschools is the K-8 or unified district where the student resides. The DOR for students attending special education programs for adults is the high school or unified district where the student resides.

Length of Ride

The length of ride for student with a disability should be similar to that of students without disabilities except in cases where the distance to a student's home exceeds that of the other students and where a student attends a program outside his neighborhood school or DOR.

In cases where a student attends a program outside his/her DOR, the IEP team will review the student's placement annually to determine if a placement closer to the student's residence would be appropriate.

In no case should a student with a disability day be shortened to accommodate transportation schedules.

Medications

Medications to be taken by the student while at school shall not be transported on a school bus in any manner including student bags or backpacks. It is the responsibility of the parent to transport their child's medication to and from school. Medications may be transported on the school bus for students who self-administer medications and for students who require that medications be available for emergency purposes, provided that the parents provide all required information from the student's physician, the school has developed an appropriate health plan, and staff, including bus drivers, have been informed and, when necessary trained, in proper procedures regarding the student's individual needs.

Discipline and Behavior Interventions

Students with disabilities are subject to the same rules of discipline governing regular transportation, unless the student has a behavior plan indicating otherwise. School bus drivers will be trained to implement behavior interventions as indicated in a student's behavior plan. A manifestation determination (MD) meeting should be held prior to expulsion from the general education school bus.

Suspension

During the period of any exclusion from bus transportation, a student with the related service of transportation must be provided with an alternative form of transportation at no cost to the student or parent in order to be assured of having access to the required special education instruction and services.

EC 48915.5(c) reads: "If an individual with exceptional needs is excluded from school bus transportation, the student is entitled to be provided with an alternative form of transportation at no cost to the student or parent or guardian provided that transportation is specified in the student's individualized education program."

In Lieu Transportation

When the district is unable to provide the necessary transportation services for a student, they may enter into an agreement with the parent to provide services in lieu of transportation. Parents who agree to provide in lieu services for their student will be reimbursed for their mileage at the same rate as district employees.