Regulation

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Related Entries: Policy EAC

Responsible Office: TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

A. PURPOSE

To establish procedures for implementation of Board Policy EAC, Transportation of Students with Disabilities.

B. BACKGROUND

The Supervisor of Transportation or his/her designee is tasked with the responsibility of daily operational issues related to all aspects of students with disabilities transportation services. These services shall be supplied in accordance with the procedures identified in Section D, below.

C. **DEFINITIONS**

Transportation includes;

Travel to and from school;

Travel between schools;

Travel in and around school buildings; and

Specialized equipment (such as adapted buses with lifts and air conditioning), if required, to provide special transportation to a student with a disability.

D. PROCEDURES

- 1. Transportation will be provided to students with disabilities, in accordance with the 504 Plan/Individual Education Plan (IEP) of the student.
- 2. Students with disabilities should receive the same transportation services as non-disabled students, unless the 504 Plan/IEP Team determines otherwise.
- 3. The 504 Plan/IEP Team, in determining if a student's disability affects his or her requirements for transportation, must consider whether the disability prevents the student from:

- Using the same transportation provided to students without disabilities; and
- Accessing educational programming in the same manner as students without disabilities.
- 4. Anne Arundel County Public Schools will ensure that:
 - Any transportation service included in a student's 504 Plan/IEP as a related service is provided at public expense and at no cost to the parents/guardians and;
 - The student's 504 Plan/IEP describes the transportation arrangement.

For some students with disabilities, integrated transportation may be achieved by providing needed accommodations to address each student's unique needs. Such accommodations can include additional adult supervision, lifts and/or equipment adaptations on regular school transportation vehicles and must be provided at no cost to parents/guardians.

- 5. Daily transportation will be provided under the same conditions provided to students without disabilities, or when feasible to provide transportation with existing equipment/contracts.
- 6. When mutually agreed to, the school system may provide cost effective reimbursement to the parents/guardians of the student with disabilities for expenses related to the transportation service.
- 7. Where specialized transportation services are required, bus stops will be located at the nearest accessible location. The Division of Transportation will determine accessibility.
- 8. Students enrolled in Maryland State Department of Education approved residential programs offering residential programming will be eligible for transportation:
 - Five-day residential: to and from their homes on weekends
 - Seven-day residential: reimbursement for the expenses associated with four round-trips between home and school each school year

Regulation History: Developed by Superintendent 02/06/13

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