



Santa Clara County Office of Education

Charles Weis, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

Informational Bulletin

For Santa Clara County Districts

District Business & Advisory Services

Nimrat Johal, Director- DBAS: 408-453-6599

Cathy McKim, Manager-DBAS: 408-453-6588

Bulletin: 12-125

Date: April 12, 2012

To: District Fiscal Directors

From: Cathy McKim

Re: 2012–13 Fees for Pupil Transportation

The purpose of this e-mail is to notify you that the California Department of Education (CDE) has signed a letter, dated March 16, 2012, detailing the maximum fees that can be charged for pupil transportation in fiscal year 2012–13. I have summarized the information below and attached a copy of the letter for your convenience.

FEES FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

The governing board of any school district that provides transportation of pupils to and from school, in accordance with California *Education Code (EC)* Section 39807.5, may require parents and guardians to pay a portion of the transportation costs with two exceptions as discussed below. Fee amounts are determined by the governing board and shall be no greater than the statewide average non-subsidized cost of providing this transportation to a pupil on a publicly owned or operated transit system. For the purpose of this section, non-subsidized cost means actual operating costs less federal subsidies.

Maximum Rates

The maximum allowable rates below are expressed on a "cost per passenger trip" basis. The daily round trip pupil transportation cost is twice the cost per passenger trip rate.

- Cost per passenger trip: \$4.41
- Daily round trip cost: \$8.82

Limit on Total Fees Collected

The sum of state aid received and the parent fees collected in a fiscal year shall not exceed the actual operating costs of pupil transportation in the same fiscal year (*EC* Section 39809.5). In addition, the school district should also certify to the county superintendent that the school district levied fees in accordance with law, and where appropriate, fees have been reduced and excess fees eliminated (*EC* Section 39809.5).

Exclusions and Limitations

State law requires district governing boards to exempt certain pupils from any transportation fee, specifically:

- 1) Individuals with exceptional needs whose individualized education program requires the local educational agency to provide transportation services (*EC* Section 39807.5[e]), and
- 2) Pupils whose parents or guardians are indigent as set forth in rules and regulations adopted by the governing board (*EC* Section 39807.5[d]).

County Board of Education: Leon F. Beauchman, Michael Chang, Joseph Di Salvo, Julia Hover-Smoot, Grace H. Mah, Craig Mann, Anna Song
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A Champion for Children, Schools and Community

California Department of Education (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/ca/ptran12feesltr.asp>)
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TOM TORLAKSON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 16, 2012

Dear County Superintendents of Schools:

FEES FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

The governing board of any school district that provides transportation of pupils to and from school, in accordance with California *Education Code (EC)* Section 39807.5, may require parents and guardians to pay a portion of the transportation costs with two exceptions as discussed below. Fee amounts are determined by the governing board and shall be no greater than the statewide average non-subsidized cost of providing this transportation to a pupil on a publicly owned or operated transit system. For the purpose of this section, non-subsidized cost means actual operating costs less federal subsidies.

Maximum Rates

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, is required to determine the maximum amount of fees that parents or guardians may be charged for pupil transportation (*EC* Section 39807.5). The maximum rates apply to pupil transportation for regular day students, and students in regular full-time occupational training classes as provided by a regional occupational center or program.

The maximum allowable rates below are expressed on a "cost per passenger trip" basis. The daily round trip pupil transportation cost is twice the cost per passenger trip rate.

Cost per passenger trip:	\$4.41
Daily round trip cost:	\$8.82

Limit on Total Fees Collected

The sum of state aid received and the parent fees collected in a fiscal year shall not exceed the actual operating costs of pupil transportation in the same fiscal year (*EC* Section 39809.5). In computing whether excess fees were collected by a school district in a fiscal year, any fee revenue plus state transportation apportionments received by the district should be subtracted from the combined approved transportation costs for both home-to-school and special education reported on the Annual Report of Pupil Transportation, electronic data processing (EDP) numbers 130 and 133, for that fiscal year. If the result is a negative number, then excess fees were collected and the school district must reduce its fees in succeeding years. In addition, the school district should also certify to the county superintendent that the school district levied fees in accordance with law, and where appropriate, fees have been reduced and excess fees eliminated (*EC* Section 39809.5).

Exclusions and Limitations

State law requires district governing boards to exempt certain pupils from any transportation fee, specifically:

- 1) Individuals with exceptional needs whose individualized education program requires the local educational agency to provide transportation services (*EC* Section 39807.5[e]), and
- 2) Pupils whose parents or guardians are indigent as set forth in rules and regulations adopted by the governing board (*EC* Section 39807.5[d]).

If you have questions regarding the information provided in this letter, please contact Christina Kersey, Assistant Fiscal Consultant, Categorical Allocations and Management Assistance, by phone at 916-324-9806 or by e-mail at ckersey@cde.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Scott Hannan, Director
School Fiscal Services Division

Last Reviewed: Thursday, April 12, 2012