

4 AAC 06.120 (a)(2) is amended to read:

(2) [FOR FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1998 AND ENDING BEFORE JULY 1, 2001, THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UNIFORM CHART OF ACCOUNTS AND ACCOUNT CODE DESCRIPTIONS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS, 1996 EDITION;] for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2001, and ending before July 1, 2013, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Uniform Chart of Accounts and Account Code Descriptions for Public School Districts, 2000 Edition; for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2013 **and ending before July 1, 2014**, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Uniform Chart of Accounts and Account Code Descriptions for Public School Districts, 2012 Edition; **for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2014, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Uniform Chart of Accounts and Account Code Descriptions for Public School Districts, 2014 Edition;**

Eff. 1/1/76, Register 56; am 1/22/81, Register 77; am 8/2/81, Register 79; am 2/10/83, Register 85; am 3/24/85, Register 93; am 8/29/85, Register 95; am 4/12/86, Register 97; am 6/28/87, Register 102; am 12/23/88, Register 108; am 8/5/90, Register 115; am 12/20/97, Register 144; am 5/17/2001, Register 158; am 3/23/2006, Register 177; am 12/02/2012, Register 204; ; am ____/____/_____, Register ____)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.170 AS 14.14.050

AS 14.07.060

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.006. Program requirements. (a) The purpose of the pupil transportation grant program is to provide basic to and from school transportation services.

(b) Districts will use the most cost efficient methods when developing and establishing both regular and special education routes, procuring contractor services or equipment, and other services related to basic to and from school transportation services.

(c) Eligible expenditures that can be charged to the pupil transportation program include only those direct costs for operating and transporting pupils under the provisions of AS 14.09 and this chapter, and must be reported in accordance with 4 AAC 06.121(4). (Eff. __/ __/ ____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.030 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.09.010

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.011. Establishment of regular routes. (a) A regular pupil transportation route may be established by a district if:

(1) eight or more pupils reside more than one and one-half miles from the attendance center to be served by the route, measured from the closest point of the school property to the closest point of the residence property; and

(2) the entire route is over regularly maintained roads, having at least a gravel surface, which are under the supervision and all-weather maintenance of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, a public utility district, a municipality, a borough service area, or any other agency supported by public funds; adequate turnaround space for transportation vehicles must be available on the route.

(b) A transportation route must be free from duplicate mileage unless

(1) the pickup point requiring the duplicate mileage serves at least three pupils and is at least one mile in one direction from the main route; or

(2) the pickup point requiring the duplicate mileage serves 15 or more pupils.

(c) Kindergarten pupils may be included in any regular pupil transportation route;

however, special runs for transporting only kindergarten pupils to and from school will not be an eligible expenditure under the pupil transportation program. (Eff. __/ __/ ____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.09.010
AS 14.07.030

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.021. Establishment of special education routes. (a) Special education pupils must be transported in accordance with the provisions of AS 14.30.347.

(b) Special education routes are not subject to the one and one-half mile restriction established under 4 AAC 27.011(a)(1).

(c) Fees paid for services of or aide to the driver on a special education route will be an eligible expenditure under the pupil transportation program, if those services are required as part of a pupil's IEP. (Eff. __/ __/ ____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.30.347
AS 14.07.030 AS 14.09.010

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.032. In-lieu-of agreements. (a) A district may establish agreements with parents to provide reimbursement for transporting their children to the nearest attendance center or bus pickup in place of extending an existing route or establishing a new route.

(b) The following limitations apply to in-lieu-of agreements entered under (a) of this section:

(1) unless the child is a special education pupil, the pupil's residence must be more than one and one-half miles from both the nearest regular bus route and the pupil's attendance center;

(2) the per mile rate may not exceed the maximum rate paid by the district for the travel of its administrative employees when using their private vehicle for school business; and

(3) reimbursements must be based on the actual miles traveled and not the number of pupils transported. (Eff. __/ __/ ____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.09.010

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.036. Hazardous routes. (a) Those routes within one and one-half miles of an attendance center which cannot be safely traveled by children because of traffic, weather, or other hazards may be designated by the governing body of the district as hazardous routes.

(b) A resolution by the governing body designating a hazardous route must state the nature and anticipated duration of the hazard. A hazardous-route designation applies only during the period the hazard exists and for a maximum of one school year. (Eff. __/ __/ ____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.07.010
AS 14.09.030

4 AAC 27.056. Required transportation reports and documents. (a) Each district that receives pupil transportation grant funds from the department shall submit the following pupil transportation reports to the commissioner, on forms prescribed by the department:

(1) the pupil transportation program annual report shall be submitted to the department no later than October 1 each year;

(2) the pupil transportation program quarterly report shall be submitted to the department no later than 15 days after the end of each quarter of the fiscal year of the report. The final quarterly report is due to the department no later than July 15 of each year, unless the district is offering summer school transportation services, then the final report is due to the department no later than August 15 of each year;

(3) the school bus accident report shall be submitted to the department immediately following a reportable accident and must be completed by the owner/leaseholder of a school bus when a school bus:

(A) on an off-terminal premises makes contact with another vehicle, object, or person; or leaves a roadway or parking area; and

(B) on an on-terminal premises makes contact that results in injury to a pupil passenger, whether pupil is inside or outside the bus;

(4) the accident summary report shall be submitted within 10 days after the end of each month there is a reportable school bus accident. If there are no reportable

accidents in a month then this form may be completed and submitted within 10 days after the end of each quarter.(Eff. __/ __/ ____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.09.030
AS 14.07.030 AS 14.09.010

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.086. Competitive pupil transportation proposals. (a) All contracts for pupil transportation awarded by a district school board must be based on the competitive proposal process. A request for proposal must, at a minimum, contain the following:

- (1) a general description of the required service areas; number of routes and runs; number, size, and age limitation of school buses required; approximate mileage to be run; and approximate number of pupils to be transported;
- (2) contract terms of not less than three years, if feasible, and not more than five years;
- (3) a statement that the contract is governed by AS 14.09 and this chapter;
- (4) a statement that if there is a cancellation or termination of a contract due to deficiencies in performance by the contractor that upon cancellation or termination of the contract, the district may exercise its option to buy or lease from the contractor, and the contractor agrees to sell or lease to the district, any or all regular to and from school buses and spare buses, which as of the date of delivery or said thirty (30) day notice of cancellation from the district to the contractor are being used by the contractor;
- (5) any reporting and document submittal requirements, including the tracking of ridership and mileage;

- (6) liquidated damage clause due to lack of performance; and
- (7) fuel adjustments.

(b) The request for proposal for the basic to and from school transportation services may include activity bus services and optional equipment, which exceeds the minimum standards for Alaska school buses adopted under 4 AAC 27.110, so long as the activity bus services and optional equipment costs are not included in the base costs of the basic to and from school transportation services and the request for proposal clearly itemizes contract costs as follows:

- (1) costs of the basic to and from school transportation services required to meet the minimum standards for Alaska school buses adopted under 4 AAC 27.110;
- (2) costs of activity bus services, provided on a cost per bus, per day, per hour, and per half hour basis; and
- (3) costs of optional equipment in excess of the minimum standards for Alaska school buses adopted under 4 AAC 27.110, provided on a cost per bus basis.

(c) The district shall ensure that all solicitations for requests for proposals commence six months prior to the expiration date of the current contract. Pre-bid conferences shall be held 30 days after the release of the request for proposal. All requests for proposals shall be due to the district 14 days after the pre-bid conference and opened on that same day in public at the hour and place stated in the solicitation for proposals.

(d) After the district's school board action to offer a transportation contract, and following any board actions on petitions for reconsideration by proposers, the district school board shall forward a copy of the written proposed contract and successful proposal to the department no later than April 15 of the fiscal year preceding the first year of the contract. In

addition, a copy of the final signed written contract shall be forwarded to the department no later than the first day of the contract.

(e) Notwithstanding subsection (c), all districts with an average daily membership of 4,500 or more shall work with the department to align, bid, and remain on the same five-year term cycle. (Eff. __/__/__, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.07.030 AS 14.09.010

4 AAC 27 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 27.951. Measurement of distance to attendance center. For purposes of this chapter, in determining whether a pupil resides at least a specified distance from the pupil's attendance center or nearest transportation route pickup point, the distance to be measured is the shortest route, measured from the closest point of the residence property, by which a pupil could actually walk to the location while not crossing private property without the permission of the property owner. (Eff. __/__/__, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.09.010
AS 14.07.030

4 AAC 27.990(a)(5) is repealed:

(5) Repealed __/__/__. (Eff. 5/30/71, Register 38; am 9/14/77, Register 63; am 7/8/99, Register 151; am 7/23/99, Register 151; am 6/4/2004, Register 170; am __/__/2013, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.07.030

4 AAC 27.990(a) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(12) “attendance center” means the neighborhood school within a district to which a pupil is to be transported for educational purposes;

(13) “bus route” or “route” means the shortest distance necessary to transport a given group of pupils to and from a pickup point nearest their homes and their attendance center, but does not include the distance from where a transportation vehicle is garaged to the start of its route;

(14) “IEP” means an individualized education program as set out in AS 14.30.278 and 4 AAC 52.140.

(15) “school bus” means a type of bus specially designed and manufactured for the transporting of pupils to and from school and school events;

(16) “to and from” means transporting a pupil from their scheduled pick-up point to and from school on regular scheduled school days;

(17) “duplicate mileage” means any portion of a route that travels both directions on the same street or roadway;

(18) “spare buses” means those buses used by a district for to and from school transportation services in the event of a mechanical failure in the primary bus fleet;

(19) “activity buses” means a bus owned, leased, or contracted by a district and regularly used to transport pupils on field trips, athletic trips, extracurricular, and other non-instructional activities;

(20) “optional equipment” means any equipment not required in the most current edition of the minimum standards for Alaska school buses under 4 AAC 27.110;

(21) “eligible expenditure” means only those costs associated with operating the basic to and from school transportation services, such as direct administrative and staff

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salaries and benefits, contracted services, supplies, and equipment. (Eff. 5/30/71,

Register 38; am 9/14/77, Register 63; am 7/8/99, Register 151; am 7/23/99, Register 151;

am 6/4/2004, Register 170; am __/__/2013, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.09.010

AS 14.07.030