



# Student Transportation: Funding & Reporting

*Presented By:*

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**FAMIS Summer Conference**

**June 28, 2017**

[www.FLDOE.org](http://www.FLDOE.org)

## Florida's Numbers (2015-16):

- 983,977 total students transported (35% of total enrollment in public schools)
- 87,272 ineligible students transported (8% statewide)
- 40,089 students with disabilities (ESE) transported
- 37,723 hazardous walking students transported
- 14,413 school buses in daily service
- 18,997 total public school buses statewide

## Florida's Numbers (2015-16):

- \$1,056,279,771 Total Expenditures for Student Transportation
- \$1,070.59 Expenditures per Student (\$946.58 for operating)
- \$377 FEFP Funding per Student
- \$1,396 ESE Supplement (weighted)
- 44% State Funding, 56% Local Funding
- 266,226,593 Total Route Miles (daily routes)
- 14,225,200 Total Field Trip/Activity Miles
- 280,451,793 Total Miles Driven

## Florida School District 2015-16 Transportation Profiles

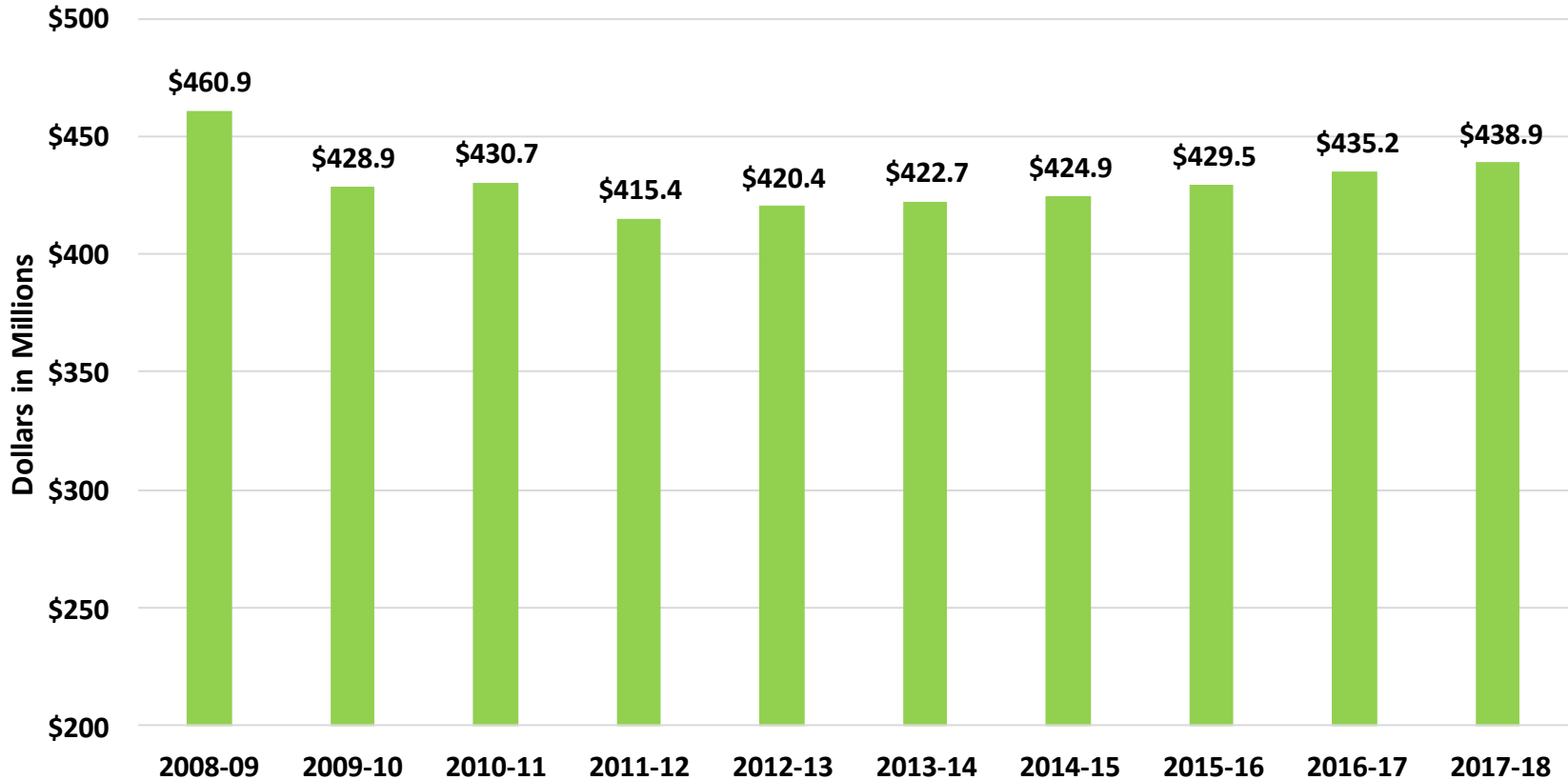


Florida Department of Education  
Bureau of School Business Services and  
Bureau of PK-12 Education Information Services

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## Student Transportation General Instructions 2016-17

# Legislative Appropriations for Student Transportation





# Student Transportation

## S.1011.68, F.S.

The Student Transportation funding formula provides funds for school district transportation based on each district's pro rata share of state transported students.

- Additional funding is provided for the transportation of certain disabled students.
- Adjustments are made for cost of living differences, percent of population outside of urban centers, and an efficiency factor that is based upon the average number of eligible students transported per bus in daily service to encourage greater bus utilization.

# Florida Transportation Funding

- FEFP funds for student transportation are appropriated and distributed as authorized by Sections 1006.21, 1006.22, 1006.23, 1006.25, and 1011.68, Florida Statutes. Locally maintained records must document the following three basic areas:
  - Student **eligibility** to receive state FEFP regular or weighted transportation funds (based on criteria such as distance from school, programs attended, and disabilities status and services, if applicable); and,
  - Student **ridership and school attendance** during approved transportation survey periods (to verify that transportation service was actually received); and,
  - Transportation in **approved conveyance** (i.e., in an approved mode of transportation or vehicle type)

# Funding Formula



- Two components
  - Base Transportation Allocation
    - Provides funding for all fundable transported students, including certain disabled students
  - ESE Transportation Allocation
    - Fully funded with the balance prorated as the base allocation component.

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$R = R_1 + R_2 = R_1 R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)$$

$$R = 1 / (1/R_1 + 1/R_2) G$$

$$i = 1/R \quad P = U^2/R \quad P = UI \quad \Delta l$$

$$= (\Delta U_{in} - \Delta U_{out}) / R \quad I = UI$$

$$R = \frac{1}{1/R_1 + 1/R_2 + 1/R_3 + \dots}$$

$$P = I^2 R \quad I = U_{IN} / (R_1 + R_2) \quad U = U_{IN} [R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)]$$



# Florida Price Level Index (FPLI)

- Adjustments are made for cost of living differences
  - The purpose of the FPLI is to measure the differences from county to county in the cost of purchasing a specific market basket of goods and services at a particular point in time.



# Rurality Index



- Adjustments are made for the percent of population outside of urban centers (Rurality Index).
  - Number of urban and rural inhabitants for each Florida county is based on US Census data



# Average Bus Occupancy (ABO) Index

- Adjustments are made based upon the average number of eligible students transported per bus (category B) in daily service
- In 2016-17, ABO ranges from high of 109 (ABO = 1.10) to low of 34 (ABO = .90)
- Uses a formula which rewards efficiency.
- Efficiency factor is based upon the average number of eligible students transported per bus in daily service.
- Encourages greater bus utilization.

# Average Bus Occupancy Index (sample)



October Students 11,920	+	February Students 11,934	=	Average Students 11,927
October Buses 138	+	February Buses 140	=	Average Buses 139
Average Students 11,927	·	Average Buses 139	=	<b>Average Bus Occupancy 85.81</b>

# ESE Weighted Funding Allocation: Who's Eligible?

- ESE student eligibility for weighted transportation funding is limited to students requiring additional specialized transportation services.
- Eligible students transported by private vehicles and eligible students for whom the district pays public transit fares are treated as any other transported students.
- Weighted funding can only be claimed for students riding on a school bus.

# Sequence of Surveys

- Survey Period 1 (July) - from the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1) to the beginning of the defined 180 day school year.
- Survey Period 2 (October) - the first 90 days of the 180 day school year.
- Survey Period 3 (February) - the second 90 days of the 180 day school year.
- Survey Period 4 (June) - from the end of the 180 day school program to the end of the fiscal year (June 30).

# Transportation Calculations

- First Calculation
  - Completed immediately after the annual legislative session
  - Based on district's number of eligible students transported from the transportation surveys for:
    - July, preceding fiscal year;
    - October, preceding fiscal year; and
    - June, second preceding fiscal year.



# Transportation Calculations

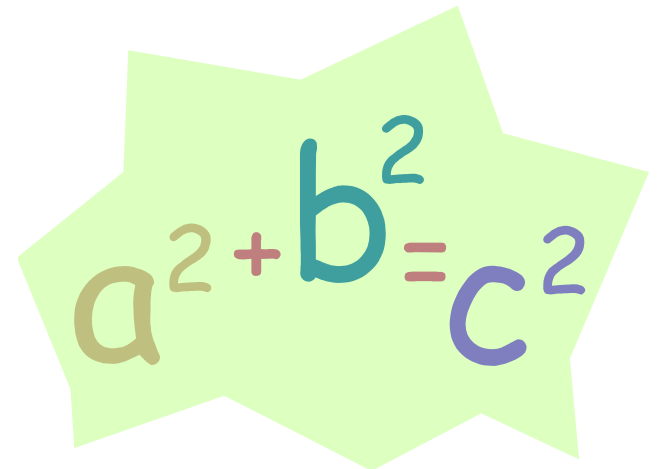
- Second Calculation
  - Completed upon receipt of student data from district's transportation surveys for:
    - July, current fiscal year;
    - October, current fiscal year; and
    - June, preceding fiscal year.
  - Prior Year Amendments are incorporated in the 2nd, 3rd and Final Calculations





# Transportation Calculations

- Third Calculation
  - Completed upon receipt of student data from district's transportation surveys for:
    - July, current fiscal year;
    - October, current fiscal year;
    - February, current fiscal year; and
    - June, preceding fiscal year.



# Transportation Calculations

- Final Calculation
  - Completed upon receipt of student data from district's transportation surveys for:
    - July, current fiscal year;
    - October, current fiscal year;
    - February, current fiscal year; and
    - June, current fiscal year.

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} = -RT_c \frac{1}{(V-b)^2} + 2a \frac{1}{V^3}$$

$$RT_c = 2a \frac{(V-b)^2}{(V)^3}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial V^2} = +2RT_c \frac{1}{(V-b)^3} - 6a \frac{1}{V^4}$$

$$0 = 2RT_c \frac{1}{(V-b)^3} - 6a \frac{1}{(V)^4}$$

$$0 = 4a \frac{(V-b)^2}{(V)^4} \frac{1}{(V-b)^3} - 6a \frac{1}{(V)^4}$$

Because  $a \neq 0$ ,  $V_c \neq 0$   
 $(V_c - b) \neq 0$  cancel

$$\frac{4}{V_c - b} = \frac{6}{V_c} \Rightarrow 4V_c = 6V_c - 6b$$

$$2V_c = 6b \Rightarrow V_c = 3b$$

$RT_c = 2a$

# Base Allocation Students

Example: Alachua

Adjusted July Students 0.00	+	Adjusted October Students 5,963.50	+	Adjusted February Students 5,963.50	+	Adjusted June Students 5.84	=
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<b>Total Adjusted Students 11,932.84</b>
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# Base Allocation Factor

Total  
Adjusted Base  
Students  
11,932.84

X

Florida  
Price Level  
Index  
1.0020

X

Average  
Bus Occupancy  
Index  
1.0249

X

Rurality  
Index  
0.9507

=

**Base  
Allocation Factor  
11,650.28**



# Exceptional Allocation Students

Adjusted July ESE Students 0.00	+	Adjusted October ESE Students 154.50	+	Adjusted February ESE Students 154.50	+	Adjusted June ESE Students 0.00	=
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Total Adjusted ESE Students 309.00	X	Factor of 1.8	=	<b>Weighted Adjusted ESE Students 556.20</b>
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# ESE Allocation Factor



Total  
Weighted Adjusted ESE  
Students  
556.20

X

Florida  
Price Level  
Index  
1.0020

X

Average  
Bus Occupancy  
Index  
1.0249

X

Rurality  
Index  
0.9507

=

**ESE  
Allocation Factor  
543.03**



# Funding Summary: State Base Allocation

District  
ESE  
Allocation  
Factor  
543.03

X

Appropriated  
Funds  
Per Student  
\$855

=

District  
ESE  
Allocation  
\$464,291

Total  
State Allocation  
2017-18  
\$438,875,286

-

Total  
State ESE  
Allocation  
\$57,712,735

=

**Total  
State Base  
Allocation  
\$381,162,551**

Included with the  
Transportation General  
Instructions each year in July.



**APPENDIX A**  
**Schedule of State Processing Dates**  
**2017-18 through 2020-21**

<p><b>2017-18</b> <u>Survey 1</u> Survey Week: July 10-14, 2017 Due Date: July 28, 2017 State Processing: July 24-September 15, 2017 Final Update/Amendment Date: September 30, 2017</p> <p><u>Survey 2</u> Survey Week: October 9-13, 2017 Due Date: October 20, 2017 State Processing: October 16-November 3, 2017 Final Update/Amendment Date: December 15, 2017</p> <p><u>Survey 3</u> Survey Week: February 5-9, 2018 Due Date: February 16, 2018 State Processing: February 12-March 2, 2018 Final Update/Amendment Date: April 15, 2018</p> <p><u>Survey 4</u> Survey Week: June 11-15, 2018 Due Date: July 6, 2018 State Processing: June 25-July 13, 2018 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2018</p>	<p><b>2018-19</b> <u>Survey 1</u> Survey Week: July 9-13, 2018 Due Date: July 27, 2018 State Processing: July 23-September 14, 2018 Final Update/Amendment Date: September 30, 2018</p> <p><u>Survey 2</u> Survey Week: October 8-12, 2018 Due Date: October 19, 2018 State Processing: October 15-November 2, 2018 Final Update/Amendment Date: December 15, 2018</p> <p><u>Survey 3</u> Survey Week: February 4-8, 2019 Due Date: February 15, 2019 State Processing: February 11-March 1, 2019 Final Update/Amendment Date: April 15, 2019</p> <p><u>Survey 4</u> Survey Week: June 10-14, 2019 Due Date: July 5, 2019 State Processing: June 24-July 12, 2019 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2019</p>
<p><b>2019-20</b> <u>Survey 1</u> Survey Week: July 8-12, 2019 Due Date: July 26, 2019 State Processing: July 22-September 13, 2019 Final Update/Amendment Date: September 30, 2019</p> <p><u>Survey 2</u> Survey Week: October 7-11, 2019 Due Date: October 18, 2019 State Processing: October 14-November 1, 2019 Final Update/Amendment Date: December 15, 2019</p> <p><u>Survey 3</u> Survey Week: February 3-7, 2020 Due Date: February 14, 2020 State Processing: February 10-February 28, 2020 Final Update/Amendment Date: April 15, 2020</p> <p><u>Survey 4</u> Survey Week: June 8-12, 2020 Due Date: July 2, 2020 State Processing: June 22-July 10, 2020 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2020</p>	<p><b>2020-21</b> <u>Survey 1</u> Survey Week: July 6-10, 2020 Due Date: July 24, 2020 State Processing: July 20-September 11, 2020 Final Update/Amendment Date: September 30, 2020</p> <p><u>Survey 2</u> Survey Week: October 5-9, 2020 Due Date: October 16, 2020 State Processing: October 12- October 30, 2020 Final Update/Amendment Date: December 15, 2020</p> <p><u>Survey 3</u> Survey Week: February 8-12, 2021 Due Date: February 19, 2021 State Processing: February 15-March 5, 2021 Final Update/Amendment Date: April 15, 2021</p> <p><u>Survey 4</u> Survey Week: June 7-11, 2021 Due Date: July 2, 2021 State Processing: June 21-July 9, 2021 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2021</p>





# Membership Eligibility Categories

**Membership Category L:** Individuals With Disabilities Education Act - Prekindergarten through Grade 12, Weighted

**Membership Category F:** Teenage Parents and Infants, Unweighted

**Membership Category G:** Hazardous Walking, Elementary, Unweighted

**Membership Category M:** All Other FEFP Transportation Funding-Eligible Students, Unweighted

**Membership Category N:** Non-FEFP-Fundable Prekindergarten through Grade 12 Students

# Pre-K IDEA or Teen Parent ONLY:

- Pre-K students are only eligible for funding under s.1011.68, F.S. if the transported student:
  - Is a Pre-K student with disabilities (IDEA) under Rule 6A-6.03026, FAC, regardless of distance, and who meets criteria for funding, either weighted or un-weighted.
  - Is a Pre-K age child of a student parent enrolled in a Teenage Parent Program (TAP) under s.1003.54, F.S.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Pre-K children not enrolled in IDEA programs, or whose parent or parents are not enrolled in a TAP program, are not eligible for state transportation funding. Ineligible programs include: Pre-K Title I, federally-funded Pre-K Migrant Programs, Pre-K Early Intervention, Head Start, VPK, and Readiness Coalition programs.

## Hazardous Walking:

- K-6 Elementary only students eligible under Hazardous Walking
- Location must be inspected by district, road jurisdiction, law enforcement and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is applicable
- District, road jurisdiction, law enforcement and MPO must all agree that the location meets hazardous walking criteria
- District or charter school must document qualifying conditions, including speed limits, traffic counts, and the condition of roads, walking surfaces, intersections, and traffic controls. FDOE checklist available
- District must request a projected completion date for correcting hazard
- There is no longer a Hazardous Walking Database, Districts must report these students each year and are responsible for maintaining documentation

# Ridership and Surveys

- For each eligible student district or charter school must verify the specific bus (or other vehicle) and the days during the survey week when student rode, or at least the first day. Must be signed by the school bus operator and dated as a source document.
- PLEASE NOTE transportation ridership/membership will now ONLY be based on survey week, and the 6 days prior SHOULD NOT BE PART OF REPORTING.
- Sample Ridership Worksheet for Bus Operators is available. This “roll call” sheet must provide the following information, at a minimum:
  - District Name
  - Name of School
  - Name of Bus Operator
  - Bus Number
  - Route/Trip Number
  - Student Name
  - Student Grade
  - Student Number
  - Date(s) the student rode
  - Operator Signature
  - Operator Signature Date [www.FLDOE.org](http://www.FLDOE.org)

## Bus Operator Worksheets

- Bus operator worksheets should be neat, legible and complete (including a signature)
- Completed worksheets should be reviewed, verified and signed by a supervisor
- Although hardcopies of driver worksheets with original signatures are preferred, school districts who maintain scanned, electronic student database reports may use similar approved reporting formats for transportation record keeping. These formats must be coordinated with the district MIS.

## Summer School Eligibility

- Only two types of students are eligible to receive transportation funding during the summer.
  - Exceptional Education Students who's IEP requires Extended School Year Services. These can be either weighted or unweighted students.
  - DJJ students in a day treatment facility who also receive FEFP funding during the summer.
- All other Students transported during Survey 1 and Survey 4 must be reported under category "N".

## Summer School

- If the July or June summer school or SAI period is scheduled so that it takes place outside the regularly scheduled survey week window, a separate survey week must be established to cover these students. The middle day or middle week of the summer period should be used as the basis for establishment of the survey week. This effort must be coordinated with the district FTE administrator so that the same survey week is established for both FTE and Transportation reporting.

## Session Crossing Survey Years

- Whenever the summer session crosses two fiscal years, students must be reported in two separate surveys, one for June and one for July, with different term lengths, as applicable to the portion of the summer school session that takes place in each month. The middle day or middle week of the period should be used as the basis for establishment of the survey week. Please coordinate this effort with the district FTE administrator. Documentation of the term length for each student claimed must be maintained.



# Approved Conveyances

- Districts and charter schools must maintain vehicle inventory records and written contracts or agreements to verify that vehicles claimed in daily service are one of the following:
  - B: School buses meeting Florida School bus Specifications
  - E: Passenger car or allowable multipurpose passenger vehicle (MPV) owned, operated, or contracted by the school board, transporting fewer than ten students
  - P: Privately owned motor vehicle or boat (for disabled or isolated students)
  - G: General purpose transportation (city buses, trains, etc.)
- For General Purpose transportation, a list identifying students who are provided city bus passes, train vouchers, etc., must be maintained, along with other records to verify ridership and dates.
- For students claimed riding in private passenger cars or boats, the district or charter school must maintain board minutes reflecting mileage to the bus route or school, names of the students, and school attended, pursuant to Rule 6A-3.0171(11), FAC.

## FDOE Post-survey Reviews

- EIAS prepares reports following each survey comparing current and prior surveys' data for each district's:
  - Adjusted Base FTE students transported
  - Adjusted ESE FTE students transported
  - Buses in daily service
  - Resulting funding calculation
- EIAS report identifies variations in these data of  $\geq 5$  percent
- FDOE Offices (EIS, OFFR, STMS) contact respective local district counterparts
- Variations are outlined; explanations are requested and documented

## FDOE Post-survey Reviews

- Variations due to inaccuracy of reported data are corrected by districts
- Variations that are valid are documented as to causes
- Overall goal (and result) is accuracy of reporting and improved timeliness
- Process ensures accountability to Legislature and others



## Audit Documentation:

- Ensure retention of records to document student's home address at the time of the scheduled survey
- Prevent duplication of students and counting of any individual student on more than one bus or mode during survey week
- For each student document the eligibility category. Edits may be implemented to cross-check against school record.

# Resources

- FDOE School Transportation: [www.fldoe.org/transportation](http://www.fldoe.org/transportation)
  - ✓ Quality Links: Florida School District Transportation Profiles
- FDOE Funding and Reporting: [www.fldoe.org/fefp](http://www.fldoe.org/fefp)
  - ✓ Student Transportation General Instructions
- FDOE Education Information and Accountability Services: [www.fldoe.org/eias](http://www.fldoe.org/eias)

# Transportation Reporting Contacts

- Lee Davis or Josh Bemis  
Office of Funding & Financial Reporting  
(850) 245-0405  
[lee.davis@fldoe.org](mailto:lee.davis@fldoe.org)  
[josh.bemis@fldoe.org](mailto:josh.bemis@fldoe.org)
- Kevin Snowden  
School Transportation Management  
(850) 245-9795  
[kevin.snowden@fldoe.org](mailto:kevin.snowden@fldoe.org)
- Samantha Starks-Harrison  
Education Information & Accountability Services  
(850) 245-0400  
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Questions?



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