

# Student Transportation: Funding & Reporting

Presented By:

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FAMIS Summer Conference

June 29, 2021



### Florida's Numbers (2019-20):

- 954,888 total students transported (42% of total enrollment in public schools).
- 91,381 ineligible students transported (9.6% statewide).
- 42,769 students with disabilities (ESE) transported.
- 19,761 hazardous walking students transported.
- 14,488 school buses in daily service.
- 17,896 total public school buses statewide.



### Florida's Numbers (2019-20):

- \$1,151,156,158 Total Expenditures for Student Transportation.
- \$403 FEFP Funding per Student.
- \$1,426 ESE Supplement (weighted).
- 203,499,785 Total Route Miles (daily routes).
- 7,552,020 Total Field Trip/Activity Miles.
- 211,051,805 Total Miles Driven.



### **Transportation Profiles**

- The 2019-20 District Transportation Profiles Publication has been posted to the department's transportation web page at: <a href="http://www.fldoe.org/schools/healthy-schools/transportation/">http://www.fldoe.org/schools/healthy-schools/transportation/</a>.
- For more information about the Profiles, please contact Ray Gray at Ray.Gray@fldoe.org



#### Florida School District 2019-20 Transportation Profiles

Volume 30, March 2021

Florida Department of Education Bureau of PK-20 Education Data Warehouse and Office of Funding and Financial Reporting



## Full-time Equivalent (FTE) General Instructions 2020-21







#### Included with the Transportation General Instructions each year.



#### APPENDIX A Schedule of State Processing Dates 2020-21 through 2023-24

#### 2020-2021

Survey 1

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

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

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

Survey Week: June 14-18, 2021 Due Date: July 2, 2021

State Processing: June 21-July 9, 2021 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2021

#### 2022-2023

Survey 1

Survey Week July 11-15, 2022 Due Date: July 29, 2022

State Processing: July 25 - September 9, 2022 Final Update/Amendment Date: September 30, 2022

#### Survey 2

Survey Week: October 10-14, 2022 Due Date: October 21, 2022 State Processing: October 17 - November 4, 2022 Final Update/Amendment Date: December 15, 2022

#### Survey 3

Survey Week: February 6-10, 2023 Due Date: February 17, 2023 State Processing: February 13 – March 3, 2023 Final Update/Amendment Date: April 15, 2023

Survey Week: June 12-16, 2023 Due Date: June 30, 2023 State Processing: June 19 - July 7, 2023 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2023

Survey 1

Survey Week July 12-16, 2021 Due Date: July 30, 2021

State Processing: July 26 - September 10, 2021 Final Update/Amendment Date: September 30, 2021

Survey Week: October 11-15, 2021 Due Date: October 22, 2021 State Processing: October 18 - November 5, 2021 Final Update/Amendment Date: December 15, 2021

Survey Week: February 7-11, 2022 Due Date: February 18, 2022 State Processing: February 14 – March 4, 2022 Final Update/Amendment Date: April 15, 2022

Survey Week: June 13-17, 2022 Due Date: July 1, 2022 State Processing: June 20 - July 8, 2022 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2022

#### 2023-2024

Survey 1

Survey Week July10-14, 2023 Due Date: July 28, 2023 State Processing: July 24 - September 8, 2023 Final Update/Amendment Date: September 30, 2023

#### Survey 2

Survey Week: October 9-13, 2023 Due Date: October 20, 2023 State Processing: October 16 - November 3, 2023 Final Update/Amendment Date: December 15, 2023

#### Survey 3

Survey Week: February 5-9, 2024 Due Date: February 16, 2024 State Processing: February 12 - March 1, 2024 Final Update/Amendment Date: April 15, 2024

#### Survey 4

Survey Week: June 10-14, 2024 Due Date: June 28, 2024 State Processing: June 17 – July 5, 2024 Final Update/Amendment Date: August 15, 2024



### 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.

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



### 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 labor.







### **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 U.S. Census data.



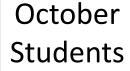


#### **Average Bus Occupancy (ABO) Index**

- Adjustments are made based upon the average number of eligible students transported per bus (category B) in daily service.
- In 2019-20, ABO ranges from high of 110 (ABO = 1.10) to low of 39 (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)



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

Average
Bus
Occupancy
85.81



## 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 (vehicle category B).



#### **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).



- 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
    - February, preceding fiscal year
    - June, second preceding fiscal year



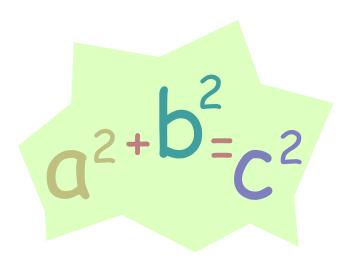


- Second Calculation
  - Completed upon receipt of student data from district's transportation surveys for:
    - July, current fiscal year
    - October, current fiscal year
    - February, duplicated October data
    - June, preceding fiscal year



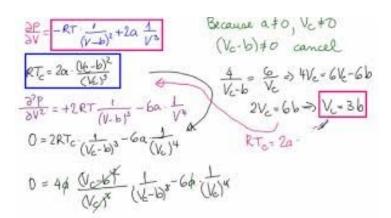


- Third Calculation
  - Completed upon receipt of student data from district's transportation surveys for:
    - July, current fiscal year
    - October, current fiscal year
    - February, current fiscal year
    - June, preceding fiscal year





- 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
    - June, current fiscal year





#### **Allocation Factors**

Example: Alachua

**Adjusted** July **Students** 0.00

Adjusted October Students 4,078.00

Adjusted February **Students** 4,078.00

Adjusted June Students 8.09

**Total Adjusted Students** 8,164.09



#### **Base Allocation Students**

Example: Alachua

Adjusted
July
Students
0.00

Adjusted October Students 4,078.00 Adjusted
February
Students
4,078.00

Adjusted
June
Students
8.09

Total
Adjusted
Students
8,164.09



#### **Base Allocation Factor**

Total
Adjusted Base
Students
8,164.09



X

Florida
Price Level
Index
1.0019

X

Average
Bus Occupancy
Index
0.9697

X

Rurality Index

0.9423

Base Allocation Factor 7,474.10



#### **Exceptional Allocation Students**

Adjusted
July ESE
Students
0.00

Adjusted
October ESE
Students
197.00

Adjusted
February ESE
Students
197.00

Adjusted June ESE Students 7.70

Total
Adjusted ESE
Students
401.70

X

Factor of 1.8

Weighted
Adjusted
ESE
Students
723.06



### **ESE Allocation Factor**



Total
Weighted Adjusted ESE
Students
723.06

X

Florida
Price Level
Index
1.0019

X

Average
Bus Occupancy
Index
0.9697

X

Rurality Index

0.9423



=

ESE
Allocation Factor
661.95



### **Funding Summary: State Base Allocation**

District
ESE
Allocation
Factor

629.33

X

Appropriated Funds Per Student

\$894

ESE

Allocation

District

\$562,621

Total
State Allocation
2021-22

\$458,641,984

Total
State ESE
Allocation

\$63,997,135

Total
State Base
Allocation

\$394,644,849



### **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 <u>not</u> enrolled in IDEA programs, or whose parent or parents are <u>not</u> enrolled in a TAP program, are <u>not</u> 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-5 Elementary <u>only</u> students eligible under Hazardous Walking. If the elementary school includes grade 6, then funding is extended to these students.
- Location must be inspected by district, road jurisdiction, law enforcement and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), where 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.



### **Hazardous Walking (continued)**

- 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 (or preceding 6 days) when the 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 once again be based on survey week AND the 6 days prior to survey week.



### Ridership and Surveys (continued)

- Sample Ridership Worksheet for Bus Operators is available. This "roll call" sheet must provide the following information, at a minimum:
  - School District Number (where student receives current instruction/service).
  - Florida Education Identifier (FLEID) for each transported student.
  - Survey Period Code.
  - Fiscal Year.
  - Year-Round/Extended School Year FTE Indicator.
  - Days In Term.
  - Transportation Membership Category.
  - Vehicle Category.
  - Bus Number.
  - Bus Route Number.
  - School District Number (where the student is currently enrolled).
  - Date and Signature of driver.



#### **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.



### **Sample Ridership Data Collection Form**

SAMPLE STUDENT RIDERSHIP DATA COLLECTION FORM																												
								TUDE	NT RI	DERS	HIP D	ATA C	OLLEC	TION	FORN	1												
Days in Term 90 Survey# 3 Term Type: Z-Regular								Signat	ure of [	Oriver:		Bu	ter	Bus	<b>∆</b> та	н												
Vehicle Bus #	hicide Category B Fiscal Year 17/18 Driver (print) Buster Bussman  15 # 2015-11 Route # 63521 District: 01-Alachua						Date s	igned b	y Drive	er:	Frida	у, Тебі	uary 9	, 2018														
Bus Stop	Student Student ID # School # Grade		Survey	Membership Category	District # of Instructional Services	District # of Enrollment	Fri 01/2					Tuesday 01/30/18		Wednesday 01/31/18		Thursday 02/01/18		Friday 2/2/18		Monday 02/05/18		Tuesday 02/06/18		Wednesday 02/07/18		Thursday 02/08/18		day 2018
#			Code #				АМ	PM	АМ	PM	AM	PM	АМ	PM	АМ	PM	АМ	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
1	Ralph K. Stewma 1998877665543 1152	21 9	E	М	1	1	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]
1	Jim Bob Dishwa 2001122334455 101	89 8	E	М	1	1	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	П	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	П	[]	[]	[]	П	[]	[]
1	Bartholwew P. Sim 1998877665565 7022	65 9	E	L	54	1	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]
2	Johnnie B. Goods 2001122334705 101	97 8	E	N	1	1	[]	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
2	Bob E. Bowda 1998877665815 1152	67 9	E	N	1	1	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]
2	Jame C. Moore 2001122334956 101	05 8	E	F	1	1	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[x]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
3	Jack N. Jillhil 1998877666063 7022	69 9	E	L	54	1	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[x]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]
4	Garfield N. Od 2001122335206 1152	13 8	E	N	1	1	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	П	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[x]	[]	[X]	[]
4	Jim B. Fisherm 1998877666315 1152		E	М	1	1	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[x]	[x]	[]	[]	[x]	[x]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[x]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	Larry D. Cabler 2001122335456 101		E	М	1	1	[]	[X]	[x]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	John D. Cook 1998877666565 1152	73 9	E	М	1	1	[]	[]	[x]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[x]	[x]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[x]	[x]	[x]	[X]	[x]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	Joe D. Phumms 2001122337956 101	31 8	E	М	1	1	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	Mark D. Bosum 1998877666813 1152		E	М	1	1	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	П	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	П	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	Marco Polo 2001122340456 1152	46 8	E	N	1	1	[]	П	[]	[]	[]	[]	П	[]	[X]	П	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[X]	[]
4	John Walton 1998877667103 1152	9	E	М	1	1	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	Larry Theotherbro 2001122340706 101	62 8	E	М	1	1	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[x]	[X]	[x]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	John D. Cookse 1998877669609 1152		E	М	1	1	П	П	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[x]	[X]	[]	П	[]	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	П	[]	[]
4	Joe D. Biden 2001122343209 101	8	E	М	1	1	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4	Maria L. Valasq 1998877670259 1152		E	М	1	1	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	п	[]	[]	[]	[X]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
							[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
							[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]



#### **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.).



### **Approved Conveyances (continued)**

- 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.







- 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.



### **Summer School Eligibility**

- Only two types of students are eligible to receive transportation funding during the summer:
  - Exceptional Education Students whose IEP requires Extended School Year Services <u>and</u> transportation as a related service. 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 supplemental academic instruction 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.



#### **FDOE Post-survey Reviews**

- EIS 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 ≥ 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, and ensuring that district staff are aware of reported data.
- Process ensures accountability to Legislature and others.



#### Resources

- FDOE School Transportation: www.fldoe.org/transportation.
  - Quality Links: Florida School District Transportation Profiles.
- FDOE Funding and Reporting: www.fldoe.org/fefp.
  - Student Transportation General Instructions.
  - All Transportation reporting memorandums posted at "Student Transportation" link.
- FDOE Education Information Services: www.fldoe.org/eias.



### **Transportation Reporting Contacts**

- Robert Manspeaker
   School Transportation Management
   (850) 245-9795
   robert.manspeaker@fldoe.org
- James Andrews Office of Funding & Financial Reporting (850) 245-0405 james.Andrews@fldoe.org
- Teresa Sancho Education Information & Accountability Services (850) 245-0400 teresa.sancho@fldoe.org





## www.FLDOE.org

## Questions?

