



**POLICY SECTION:** TRANSPORTATION

**SUB-SECTION:**

**POLICY NAME:** Transportation

**POLICY NO:** S.T. 01

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| <b>Date Approved:</b><br>June 6, 2007- Board   | <b>Date of Next Review:</b> | <b>Dates of Amendments:</b> |
| <b>Cross References:</b><br><i>Education Act, Section 190</i><br><i>Education Act, Section 21(2)(c)</i><br><i>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, Section 75</i><br>Highway Traffic Act, Regulation 612<br>Elementary Admission and Placement Policy, S.A.01<br>Placement of Pupils, S.A.02<br>Elementary School Attendance Boundary Policy, S.A.03<br>Code of Conduct, S.S. 09 |                             |                             |

**Purpose:**

**This policy outlines the conditions required in order for transportation services to be provided to students attending schools in the Toronto Catholic District School Board.**

**Scope and Responsibility:**

**This policy extends to all students who may require student transportation services to support their regular daily routine in travelling to and from school. The Director of Education is responsible for this policy, supported by the Toronto Student Transportation Group.**



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**Alignment with MYSP:**

**Strengthening Public Confidence**

**Fostering Student Achievement and Well-Being**

**Providing Stewardship of Resources**

**Financial Impact:**

**Funding for student transportation services is provided by the Ministry of Education through the Annual Grants for Student Needs.**

**Legal Impact:**

**When student transportation services are provided by the TCDSB, the Board assumes the same responsibility as if the student has been received at a school facility.**

**Policy:**

Transportation may be provided to pupils in Special Education Programs or where a substantial number of Catholic pupils have difficulty in availing themselves of a Catholic education.

**Regulations:**

1. Home to school transportation shall:

- (a) be provided for elementary level pupils who are deemed exceptional by an I.P.R.C. and require programs not offered in their home school;



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- (b) be provided for elementary level pupils who are certified by a medical practitioner to be temporarily or permanently unable to walk to school due to ongoing medical issues and supported through Board approved documentation signed by a physician;
- (c) be provided for qualified pupils living within the transportation area of an Eastern Rite Catholic elementary school where the walking distance to the school is more than 1.5 km;
- (d) be provided where no less than 30 existing or new elementary school pupils live more than 1.5 km from the nearest Catholic school or the proposed site thereof; or where safety hazards, as defined, exist;
- (e) be considered by the school principal for elementary level pupils as a temporary service where individual hardship exists and home to school transportation is the most appropriate response in accordance with the guidelines for extenuating circumstances as established by the Board from time to time; and
- (f) where funds are available, service is provided for all (resident) pupils attending the gifted program who reside more than 1.5 km from the centre school which they attend.
- (g) where funds are available, service is provided for all French Immersion students (SK to grade 8) who reside more than 1.5 km from the centre school they attend.
- (h) be provided for students in select geographical areas whose home school is over subscribed and redirection to another local facility with sufficient



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capacity best addresses the needs of the community and the School Board;

2. TTC tickets shall:

- (a) be provided for elementary pupils attending St. Michael Choir School who live more than 1.5 km from the school;
- (b) be provided for individual pupils attending Eastern Rite Catholic Schools who do not live within a school transportation area;
- (c) where funds are available, be provided for elementary secondary school pupils as a temporary service where individual hardship exists and TTC tickets are the most appropriate response;
- (d) be provided for elementary school pupils attending partial immersion programs (middle immersion grades 5 to 8) where the walking distance to the program is 1.5 km or more and TTC service is available and utilized;
- (e) where funds are available, be provided for resident and non-resident pupils attending the Gifted Program who reside 1.5 km or more from the centre school and TTC service is available and utilized;
- (f) be provided one way for resident and non-resident secondary school pupils enrolled in cooperative education programs provided that TTC service is available and utilized.



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3. Regular home to school transportation for kindergarten programs shall:

- (a) be provided for all pupils who reside more than 1.5 km from the school to which transportation is normally provided; and
- (b) be considered by the school principal for any pupil residing less than 1.5 km from school where adequate parental supervision cannot be provided while en route to or from school or personal hardship, family circumstances or unusual hazards warrant.

4. Where funds are available, School to School transportation shall be provided for all Grade 5 and 6 pupils enrolled in the gifted program.

5. Anyone wishing to appeal a decision or recommendation made by staff can appear in person at the Board's **Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee** to present their case to the Board of Trustees.



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**Definitions:**

**Eastern Rite**

**The TCDSB supports three Eastern Rite schools that provide educational instruction with the Ukrainian Church as the primary religious doctrine.**

**Extenuating Circumstances**

**The individual application for student transportation that does not meet transportation eligibility requirements, but may receive consideration to receive TTC tickets.**

**Non-Qualifying Students**

**Students transported from a select geographical area that do not meet transportation eligibility but have received approval through a Board motion.**

**Resident Student**

**Students whose primary address falls within the City of Toronto.**

**Toronto Student Transportation Group (TSTG)**

**This group facilitates the student transportation services for the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the Toronto District School Board.**

**Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)**

**The public transit service for the City of Toronto**



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**Evaluation and Metrics:**

**The effectiveness of the policy will be determined by measuring the following:**

- 1. Transportation statistics ranging from operational performance to policy adherence will be included in the Toronto Student Transportation Group's 'Annual Report'.**
- 2. Key performance indicators are collected on a monthly basis and provided to the TSTG Operations Committee for review.**

APPENDIX A