

Student Services Transportation

Norwood Public School



MA DESE Laws and Regulations - CMR 28.05 (a-c)

(5) Transportation. The Team shall determine whether the student requires transportation because of his or her disability in order to benefit from special education.

(a) Regular transportation. If the student does not require transportation as a result of his or her disability, then transportation shall be provided in the same manner as it would be provided for a student without disabilities. In such case, the IEP shall note that the student receives regular transportation, and if the school district provides transportation to similarly situated students without disabilities, the eligible student shall also receive transportation.

1. If regular transportation is noted on the student's IEP and the student is placed by the school district in a program located at a school other than the school the student would have attended if not eligible for special education, the student is entitled to receive transportation services to such program.
2. If regular transportation is noted on the student's IEP and the student is enrolled by his or her parents in a private school and receiving services under 603 CMR 28.03(1)(e), such student is not entitled to transportation services unless the school district provides transportation to students without disabilities attending such private school.

(b) Special transportation. If the Team determines that the student's disability requires transportation or specialized transportation arrangements in order to benefit from special education, the Team shall note on the student's IEP that the student requires special transportation. In such circumstances, transportation is a related service.

1. The Team shall determine necessary modifications, special equipment, assistance, need for qualified attendants on vehicles, and any particular precautions required by the student and shall document such determinations in the student's IEP. If specialized arrangements can be provided on regular transportation vehicles, the school district shall make such arrangements.
 1. The district shall arrange to have eligible students who use wheelchairs transported in vehicles that do not require such students to be removed from their wheelchairs in order to enter or leave the vehicles; provided, however, that this requirement shall not be applicable where a Team or the student's physician recommends that the student regularly transfer in and out of conventional vehicles to or from a wheelchair for therapeutic or for independence training reasons.
 2. The Team shall specify whether the student requires assistance in or out of the home, on or off of the vehicle, and in or out of the school. If such assistance is specified, the district shall ensure that it is provided.
 3. The Team shall specify if the student has a particular need or problem that may cause difficulties during transportation, such as seizures, a tendency for motion sickness, behavioral concerns, or communication disabilities.
2. If special transportation is noted on the student's IEP, the student is entitled to receive transportation services to any program provided by the public school and in which the student participates.
3. If special transportation is noted on the student's IEP and the student is enrolled by his or her parents in a private school and receiving services under 603 CMR 28.03(1)(e), the school district's obligation to provide transportation shall be limited to transportation services within the geographic boundaries of the school district.

(c) In no event shall a school district allow transportation considerations to influence, modify, or determine the educational program required by any student in need of special education.

Highlights of CMR 28.05 (a-c)

If the student does not require transportation as a result of his or her disability, then transportation shall be provided in the same manner as it would be provided for a student without disabilities.

If regular transportation is noted on the student's IEP and the student is placed by the school district in a program located at a school other than the school the student would have attended if not eligible for special education, the student is entitled to receive transportation services to such program

Transportation is a related service.

In no event shall a school district allow transportation considerations to influence, modify, or determine the educational program required by any student in need of special education.

Current Transportation Needs for Special Education



**NORWOOD
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

NORWOOD TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT – Students

As of 11/9/2023

SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021



137



257



= OUT of District

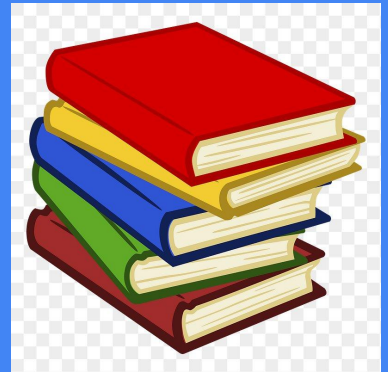


= IN District

SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024



Story behind the data...



In-District Specialized Transportation

LMPA/Willett

- **22** students eligible to access specialized transportation at LMPA
- **27** students access transportation*

- **23** students eligible to access specialized transportation at the Willett
- **19** students access transportation

Elementary

- **72** students in specialized programs accessing transportation due to it not being their homeschool.
- **23** students in specialized programs do not access transportation as they are at their homeschool
- **5** students in inclusion access transportation due to their disability
- **228** students in inclusion do not access transportation

In-District Specialized Transportation

Middle School

- **18** students in specialized programs access transportation due to disability
- **19** students in specialized programs do not access transportation
- **2** students in inclusion access transportation due to their disability
- **155** students in inclusion do not access transportation

High School

- **16** students in specialized programs access transportation due to disability
- **46** students in specialized programs do not access transportation
- **7** students in inclusion access transportation due to their disability
- **144** inclusion students do not access transportation

Out of District Transportation

- 100% of our Out-of-District students qualify for transportation
 - 73 students eligible
 - 69 currently accessing
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- Over past 2 ½ years **18** students have moved into district with out-of-district IEPs. They all qualify for transportation.

Major Influencers



Specialized Program Locations

- **72** students placed in specialized programs away from their home school at elementary level who require in-district transportation

Move-in with IEP related Transportation

SY 2023-2024 as of 11/30/2023:

- **11** students with transportation on IEPs
- **22** students without transportation on IEPs

SY 2022-2023:

- **10** students with transportation on IEPs
- **37** students with transportation on IEPs

LMPA

- **27** of **44** students eligible for special education access specialized transportation
- **22** of the **27** students have transportation on their IEPs
- **5** students access transportation but do not qualify for specialized transportation due to disability - other life factors

Proactive Steps Taken

New protocol put in place to approve all transportation requests through Student Services Office

Transportation eligibility document used in Team meetings to determine if students requires specialized transportation due to disability

Data Sources

ASPEN IEP transportation data

Transportation Office spreadsheets, in-district and out-of-district

Questions?

