



Ohio Revised Code Section 3317.0212 Transportation payment.

Effective: September 29, 2013

Legislation: House Bill 59 - 130th General Assembly

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Qualifying riders" means resident students enrolled in regular education in grades kindergarten to twelve who are provided school bus service by a school district and who live more than one mile from the school they attend, including students with dual enrollment in a joint vocational school district or a cooperative education school district, and students enrolled in a community school, STEM school, or nonpublic school.

(2) "Qualifying ridership" means the average number of qualifying riders who are provided school bus service by a school district during the first full week of October.

(3) "Rider density" means the total ADM per square mile of a school district.

(4) "School bus service" means a school district's transportation of qualifying riders in any of the following types of vehicles:

(a) School buses owned or leased by the district;

(b) School buses operated by a private contractor hired by the district;

(c) School buses operated by another school district or entity with which the district has contracted, either as part of a consortium for the provision of transportation or otherwise.

(B) Not later than the fifteenth day of October each year, each city, local, and exempted village school district shall report to the department of education its qualifying ridership and any other information requested by the department. Subsequent adjustments to the reported numbers shall be made only in accordance with rules adopted by the department.



(C) The department shall calculate the statewide transportation cost per student as follows:

(1) Determine each city, local, and exempted village school district's transportation cost per student by dividing the district's total costs for school bus service in the previous fiscal year by its qualifying ridership in the previous fiscal year.

(2) After excluding districts that do not provide school bus service and the ten districts with the highest transportation costs per student and the ten districts with the lowest transportation costs per student, divide the aggregate cost for school bus service for the remaining districts in the previous fiscal year by the aggregate qualifying ridership of those districts in the previous fiscal year.

(D) The department shall calculate the statewide transportation cost per mile as follows:

(1) Determine each city, local, and exempted village school district's transportation cost per mile by dividing the district's total costs for school bus service in the previous fiscal year by its total number of miles driven for school bus service in the previous fiscal year.

(2) After excluding districts that do not provide school bus service and the ten districts with the highest transportation costs per mile and the ten districts with the lowest transportation costs per mile, divide the aggregate cost for school bus service for the remaining districts in the previous fiscal year by the aggregate miles driven for school bus service in those districts in the previous fiscal year.

(E) The department shall calculate each city, local, and exempted village school district's transportation payment as follows:

(1) Multiply the statewide transportation cost per student by the district's qualifying ridership for the current fiscal year.

(2) Multiply the statewide transportation cost per mile by the district's total number of miles driven for school bus service in the current fiscal year.

(3) Multiply the greater of the amounts calculated under divisions (E)(1) and (2) of this section by



the greater of sixty per cent or the district's state share index, as defined in section 3317.02 of the Revised Code.

(F) In addition to funds paid under division (E) of this section, each city, local, and exempted village district shall receive in accordance with rules adopted by the state board of education a payment for students transported by means other than school bus service and whose transportation is not funded under division (C) of section 3317.024 of the Revised Code. The rules shall include provisions for school district reporting of such students.

(G)(1) In fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the department shall pay each district a pro rata portion of the amounts calculated under division (E) of this section and described in division (F) of this section, based on state appropriations.

(2) In addition to the prorated payment under division (G)(1) of this section, in fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the department shall pay each school district that meets the conditions prescribed in division (G)(3) of this section an additional amount equal to the difference of (a) the amounts calculated under division (E) of this section and prescribed in division (F) of this section minus (b) that prorated payment.

(3) Division (G)(2) of this section applies to each school district that meets all of the following conditions:

(a) The district qualifies for the calculation of a payment under division (E) of this section because it transports students on board-owned or contractor-owned school buses.

(b) The district's state share index is greater than or equal to 0.50.

(c) The district's rider density is at or below the median rider density of all districts that qualify for calculation of a payment under division (E) of this section.

(H) Each city, local, and exempted village school district shall report all data used to calculate funding for transportation under this section through the education management information system pursuant to section 3301.0714 of the Revised Code.