



MINIMUM SCHOOL PROGRAM TO & FROM SCHOOL PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
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ISSUE BRIEF

SUMMARY

The To & From School Pupil Transportation program provides state funding to assist Utah’s 41 school districts in transporting students to and from school each day. State funds are used to bus students based on statutory guidelines relative to the distance a student lives from school. In addition to state funding, local school districts also use local property tax revenues to support pupil transportation services.

STATUTORY GUIDELINES

Utah Code (53A-17a-127) provides guidelines for school districts to use in determining eligible students for state pupil transportation funding. Eligible students include students enrolled in grades K-6 that live at least 1 ½ from school and students enrolled in grades 7-12 that live at least 2 miles from school. Regardless of distance from school, some students with severe disabilities may qualify for state funding if they are incapable of walking or it is unsafe for them to walk. Please refer to the statute for all qualifying criteria.

Statute (53A-17a-126) also states that the “state shall contribute 85% of approved (see UCA 53A-17a-127) transportation costs, subject to budget constraints.”

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

The ongoing state-fund appropriation for To & From School Transportation in FY 2010 is \$65,646,865. Of this amount, \$2,584,435 funds pupil transportation services at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. The total allocated to school districts is \$63,062,430. This total amount provides for approximately 65% of approved costs in FY 2010. See Figure 1 for distribution details by school district.

State funding only pays school districts for actual bus routes operated. The Transportation Finance Formula includes statutory required items, namely, “an allowance per mile for approved bus routes; an allowance per hour for approved bus routes; and a minimum allocation for each school district eligible for transportation funding.” (UCA 53A-17a-127) Figure 2 provides a detail break-out of formula allowances by school district. Approximately 40 percent of state-supported transportation expenditures support secondary students in grades 7-12.

Figure 1: FY 2010 To & From School Pupil Transportation
Preliminary Allocations by School District

Alpine	\$7,130,874	Park City	771,110
Beaver	147,128	Piute	204,826
Box Elder	2,477,034	Rich	184,127
Cache	3,419,703	San Juan	1,533,215
Carbon	664,308	Sevier	709,458
Daggett	115,411	South Sanpete	465,071
Davis	5,892,965	South Summit	249,931
Duchesne	902,475	Tintic	63,143
Emery	451,436	Tooele	1,743,027
Garfield	186,091	Uintah	1,307,410
Grand	220,276	Wasatch	660,425
Granite	4,453,591	Washington	3,357,139
Iron	1,523,124	Wayne	171,212
Jordan	4,995,689	Weber	3,605,652
Juab	272,155	Salt Lake	2,430,066
Kane	327,801	Ogden	826,470
Millard	645,583	Provo	1,346,590
Morgan	418,756	Logan	669,858
Nebo	3,509,640	Murray	417,482
North Sanpete	547,210	Canyons	3,775,908
North Summit	269,060	USDB	2,584,435
State Total		\$65,646,865	

Source: Utah State Office of Education, Finance & Statistics.

Figure 2: Transportation Finance Formula Distributions - FY 2010

By School District - Mileage & Minute Allowances

School District	Mileage Allowance			Minutes Allowance		
	Eligible Miles	Formula Cost	State Allocation	Eligible Minutes	Formula Cost	State Allocation
Alpine	2,865,922	\$2,607,989	\$1,695,193	12,429,624	\$8,464,574	\$5,501,973
Beaver	61,038	55,545	36,104	165,600	112,774	73,303
Box Elder	1,209,384	1,100,539	715,351	3,780,835	2,574,749	1,673,587
Cache	1,486,929	1,353,105	879,519	5,722,914	3,897,304	2,533,248
Carbon	275,000	250,250	162,663	1,061,277	722,730	469,774
Daggett	45,164	41,099	26,715	105,528	71,865	46,712
Davis	2,353,158	2,141,374	1,391,893	10,258,273	6,985,884	4,540,825
Duchesne	420,008	382,207	248,435	1,257,824	856,578	556,776
Emery	219,478	199,725	129,821	646,823	440,486	286,316
Garfield	80,405	73,169	47,560	217,384	148,039	96,225
Grand	72,382	65,868	42,814	320,622	218,344	141,923
Granite	1,805,616	1,643,111	1,068,022	7,739,215	5,270,405	3,425,764
Iron	700,150	637,137	414,139	2,425,922	1,652,053	1,073,834
Jordan	2,007,208	1,826,559	1,187,264	8,585,569	5,846,772	3,800,402
Juab	91,332	83,112	54,023	325,800	221,870	144,215
Kane	126,696	115,293	74,941	469,596	319,795	207,867
Millard	275,994	251,155	163,250	923,866	629,153	408,949
Morgan	201,888	183,718	119,417	614,979	418,801	272,220
Nebo	1,618,778	1,473,088	957,507	5,693,383	3,877,194	2,520,176
North Sanpete	262,063	238,477	155,010	808,855	550,830	358,040
North Summit	120,420	109,582	71,228	385,140	262,280	170,482
Park City	353,849	322,003	209,302	1,204,595	820,329	533,214
Piute	103,677	94,346	61,325	252,861	172,198	111,929
Rich	80,606	73,351	47,678	206,860	140,872	91,567
San Juan	895,366	814,783	529,609	2,155,680	1,468,018	954,212
Sevier	284,464	258,862	168,260	1,130,402	769,804	500,372
South Sanpete	196,290	178,624	116,106	709,596	483,235	314,103
South Summit	106,088	96,540	62,751	339,540	231,227	150,297
Tintic	18,720	17,035	11,073	37,800	25,742	16,732
Tooele	772,267	702,763	456,796	2,858,997	1,946,977	1,265,535
Uintah	633,964	576,907	374,990	2,004,896	1,365,334	887,467
Wasatch	245,582	223,480	145,262	1,099,041	748,447	486,490
Washington	1,613,077	1,467,900	954,135	5,404,317	3,680,340	2,392,221
Wayne	76,054	69,209	44,986	191,779	130,601	84,891
Weber	1,445,255	1,315,182	854,868	6,235,050	4,246,069	2,759,945
Salt Lake	795,841	724,215	470,740	3,775,777	2,571,304	1,671,348
Ogden	295,787	269,166	174,958	1,398,928	952,670	619,235
Provo	447,124	406,883	264,474	2,434,174	1,657,672	1,077,487
Logan	209,169	190,344	123,723	1,195,616	814,214	529,239
Murray	122,857	111,800	72,670	729,588	496,849	322,952
Canyons	1,482,690	1,349,248	877,011	6,708,964	4,568,804	2,969,723
State Total	\$26,477,740	\$24,094,743	\$15,661,583	\$104,013,490	\$70,833,187	\$46,041,571

Source: Utah State Office of Education, Finance & Statistics Section. January 2010.