



NASDPTS

(National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services)

National Survey

January 29, 2015



Vehicle Definitions used for this Survey

School Bus - Type A, B, C, or D school bus certified by its manufacturer as meeting all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) for "School Bus" performance and construction, and painted National School Bus Yellow, per each state's requirements.

Activity Bus - "School Bus," as defined above, meeting all applicable Federal requirements, including flashing student loading and unloading lights and stop arm(s), but painted a color other than yellow. Allowed by some states for field and activity trips.

MFSAB - "Multi Function School Activity Bus." Type A, B, C, or D, certified by its manufacturer as meeting all applicable FMVSS for "MFSAB" performance and construction. Federally, these buses must meet all standards for "School Bus" with the exception of flashing student and unloading lights and stop arm(s). May not always be required to be yellow by states that allow them.

Full-Size Van - Full-size windowed passenger van, usually designed to transport about 15 passengers. Federally classified and certified by manufacturer as a "Bus" (not "School Bus"). Often referred to as a "non-conforming vehicle."

Airport-type Shuttle - Small bus, usually with large side windows and side-facing seating, often with fiberglass or other non-metal construction of outer body skin. Federally classified as a "Bus" (not "School Bus").

Motor Coach - Large bus, primarily designed for over-the-road use. Federally classified as a "Bus" (not "School Bus"). Usually with large side windows and front-facing activity seating. Often under the authority of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in use as chartered transportation.

Public Transit Bus - Bus operated on fixed routes, accessible to public, usually in cities and requiring paid fares, under authority of the Federal Transit Administration.

Multipurpose Vehicle or Light Truck - Small, passenger carrying vehicle of varying common descriptions, including sedans, mini-vans, sport utility vehicles (SUVs), and light trucks. Certified by its manufacturer as meeting all applicable FMVSS for one of these vehicle types, designed to transport 10 or fewer persons, including the driver.

Passenger Car, Multipurpose Vehicle or Light Truck - Small, passenger carrying vehicle of varying common descriptions, including sedans, mini-vans, sport utility vehicles (SUVs), and light trucks. Certified by its manufacturer as meeting all applicable FMVSS for one of these vehicle types, designed to transport 10 or fewer persons, including the driver.



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This survey asked state directors of pupil transportation to report the types of vehicles that may be used to transport public school students, including charter school students, and under what circumstances.

- 40 states responded
- All 40 states allow the use of the Yellow School Bus for student transportation
- 1 state allows MFSAB (Multifunction School Activity Bus) for regular home to school and school to home *
- 19 states allow MFSABs for curriculum-related trips
- 22 states allow MFSABs for non-curriculum field trips or extracurricular trips



States that Allow Transport of Students in an MFSAB on Curriculum-Related Trips

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Arizona
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Illinois (grades 9-12)
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- North Carolina
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Virginia
- Vermont



Vehicles States Allow to Transport Students on Curriculum-Related Trips

State	ACTIVITY BUS	MFSAB	FULL-SIZE VAN	AIRPORT-TYPE SHUTTLE BUS	MOTOR COACH	PUBLIC TRANSIT BUS	PASSENGER CAR, MPV, OR LIGHT TRUCK
Alaska							
Alabama	X	X			X		
Arkansas	X	X			X		X
Arizona	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
California					X		X
Colorado	X	X				X	X
Connecticut	X	X	X				X
Delaware					X		X
Florida						X	X
Iowa			X	X	X		X
Idaho							
Illinois		X					X
Indiana	X	X			X	X	
Kansas	X	X			X	X	X
Kentucky							
Massachusetts			X		X		
Maryland							X
Michigan		X				X	X
Minnesota	X	X			X	X	X



Vehicles States Allow to Transport Students on Curriculum-Related Trips

State	ACTIVITY BUS	MFSAB	FULL-SIZE VAN	AIRPORT-TYPE SHUTTLE BUS	MOTOR COACH	PUBLIC TRANSIT BUS	PASSENGER CAR, MPV, OR LIGHT TRUCK
Missouri							X
Montana	X		X		X		
North Carolina		X	X			X	X
North Dakota	X				X		X
Nebraska	X	X	X		X		X
New Jersey					X		X
New Mexico	X						
Nevada		X					X
Ohio						X	X
Oregon	X	X	X		X	X	X
Rhode Island	X	X					
South Carolina	X	X					
Tennessee							
Texas	X	X			X		X
Virginia	X	X					
Vermont		X			X		X
Washington						X	X
Wisconsin	X		X	X	X	X	X
West Virginia							
Wyoming							X
	18	19	9	3	18	12	26