

**Adopted:** February 2004  
**Revised:** September 2023, June 2023, May 7, 2014, 2020, 2014, 2013, 2010, 2008  
**Review Date:** June 2027

## Policy Statement

The Halton District School Board (“HDSB”) is committed to supporting the safe and efficient provision of transportation services to eligible students attending HDSB schools, to be provided through Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS), which is a consortium that consists of the two member boards, the HDSB and the Halton Catholic District School Board.

## Guiding Principles

- a) The HDSB understands there are conditions which warrant provision of transportation for certain eligible students, or as a result of safety concerns determined by HSTS,
- b) The HDSB understands that parents/guardians share in the responsibility for the safety and welfare of their children, and realizes that an appeal process should be available to resolve disagreements,
- c) The HDSB recognizes that transportation services are provided for eligible students as a privilege, rather than as a right,
- d) The HDSB provides transportation services in the most safe, cost-effective and economically feasible manner possible.
- e) The HDSB is committed to communicating with parents/guardians in a timely manner any transportation changes that may occur, including changes to eligibility and annual exemption reviews.
- f) The HDSB is committed to communicating with parents/guardians in a timely manner any transportation delays or cancellations that may occur during the course of the school year.

## Requirements

1. The HDSB will provide transportation for registered Halton District School Board pupils due to distance eligibility, school board-approved programs,

hazardous walking conditions, physical disabilities or as otherwise determined by HDSB staff.

2. Transportation privileges may be withdrawn at any time if student responsibilities are not met.
3. The following distances determine eligibility for home to school transportation:

**Urban Areas:**

Grades K-8	more than 1.6 km
Grades 9-age 21	more than 3.2 km

**Rural Areas:**

Grades K- age 21	more than 1.6 km
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4. The home to school distance calculation is measured using the municipal road centre line on public roads or walkways from the closest property line of the student's primary address to the closest property line of their board-designated school of attendance; this includes townhouse, condominium and other multi-residential complexes with one municipal address. The home to school distance calculation is measured using Ministry approved software with the base map provided by the Region of Halton.
5. An appeal process will be used for the resolution of disputes regarding transportation eligibility, hazardous walking conditions or physical disabilities.
6. The HDSB recognizes it may be necessary to alter transportation services as a result of safety or operational concerns, or in order to accommodate the validated needs of students and/or their parent(s)/guardian(s) because of their identification with a ground or grounds under the Ontario Human Rights Code (race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, family status, or disability). Transportation exemptions are temporary and reviewed annually.

## Scope

This policy applies to eligible students attending schools within the jurisdiction of the HDSB and served by the HSTS.

### **Related Administrative Procedures**

[Daily Sessions/School Start and End Times](#)

[Video Surveillance](#)

[Halton Student Transportation Services – Operating Procedure HS-1-002 –](#)

[Transportation Eligibility](#)

[Halton Student Transportation Services – Operating Procedure HS-1-003 – Eligibility Factors](#)

[Halton Student Transportation Services – Operating Procedure HS-1-004 – Courtesy Seats](#)

[Halton Student Transportation Services – Operating Procedure HS-1-008 – Transportation Eligibility Reassessment](#)

[Halton Student Transportation Services – Operating Procedure HS-3-013 –Distance Measurement](#)

[Halton Student Transportation Services – Operating Procedure HS-3-014 – Process for Appealing Decisions](#)

[Halton Student Transportation Services – Operating Procedure HS-3-015 – School Bell Times Review](#)