

## VENTURA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

**SUPERINTENDENT POLICY NO. 3541.2**

**ADOPTED: 10/31/22**

**CLASSIFICATION: Business and Non-Instructional Operations**

**SUBJECT: Transportation for Students with Disabilities**

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The County Superintendent of Schools desires to meet the transportation needs of students with disabilities to enable them to benefit from special education and related services. The VCOE shall provide appropriate transportation services for a student with disabilities when transportation services are required by the individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 accommodation plan.

The specific needs of the student shall be the primary consideration when an IEP team is determining the student's transportation needs. Considerations may include, but are not limited to, the student's health needs, travel distances, physical accessibility and safety of streets and sidewalks, accessibility of public transportation systems, midday, or other transportation needs, extended-year services, and, as necessary, implementation of a behavioral intervention plan.

The County Superintendent of Schools or designee shall provide IEP teams with information about transportation services in order to assist them in making decisions as to the mode, schedule, and location of transportation services that may be available to each student with disabilities. The IEP team may communicate with transportation staff and/or invite transportation staff to attend IEP team meetings where the student's transportation needs will be discussed.

Transportation services specified in a student's IEP or Section 504 plan shall be provided at no cost to the student or the parent/guardian.

If a student whose IEP or accommodation plan specifies transportation needs is excluded from school bus transportation for any reason, such as suspension, expulsion, or other reason, the VCOE shall provide alternative transportation at no cost to the student or parent/guardian. (Education Code [48915.5](#))

When contracting with a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency to provide special education services, the VCOE staff shall ensure that the contract includes general administrative and financial agreements related to the provision of transportation services if specified in the student's IEP. (Education Code [56366](#))

The VCOE staff shall arrange transportation schedules so that students with disabilities do not spend an excessive amount of time on buses compared to other students. Arrivals and departures shall not reduce the length of the school day for these students except as may be prescribed on an individual basis.

When transportation is not specifically required by the IEP or Section 504 plan of a student with disabilities, the student shall be subject to the rules and policies regarding regular transportation offerings within the VCOE.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

[41850-41854](#) Allowances for transportation

[56040](#) No cost for special education and related services

[56195.8](#) Adoption of policies

[56327](#) Assessment for special education and related services

[56345](#) Individualized education program

[56365-56366.1](#) Nonpublic nonsectarian schools or agencies

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

[1400-1482](#) Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

[794](#) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

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