



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

UPDATE: Student Transportation Allocation Determination

2022

Authorizing Legislation: [RCW 28A.160.180](#)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	3
Introduction	3
Conclusion and Next Steps	4
Legal Notice	5

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each year, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) submits a report to the Legislature outlining the method used to determine the coefficients for each measured site characteristic (the attributes from each school district) to establish the transportation allocation for the following year. The 2022–23 school year allocation will be determined by the Student Transportation Allocation Reporting System (STARS). The 2022–23 regression analysis will use data from spring 2022, fall 2022, and winter 2023.

INTRODUCTION

STARS uses a statistical regression analysis to determine each school district’s student transportation operations allocation. The regression analysis process determines coefficients (connections or correlations between different sets of data) by comparing certain characteristics to statewide reported transportation expenditures. The allocation for each school district is then calculated using the statewide coefficients and the reported data from individual school districts.

2022–23 STARS Formula Coefficients

For the 2022–23 school year student transportation allocation, OSPI will use student transportation reports, expenditure data from the 2021–22 school year, and certain district data elements to determine the formula coefficients. The 2021–22 expenditure data will be available December 2022. At that time, OSPI will perform the regression analysis to determine the coefficients used to calculate the student transportation allocations for 2022–23.

Data Elements Reported by School Districts

- Basic program student counts:
 - Total students riding basic program school buses
 - Students riding school buses from stops within the designated walk area
 - Students riding public transit
- Special program student counts by category:
 - Special education
 - Gifted
 - Bilingual
 - Early education (district-operated Head Start, district-operated Early Childhood Education Assistance Program, and other district-operated early education programs)
 - McKinney-Vento and Foster Care
- The average distance from each school bus stop to the corresponding destination

- The number of destinations (schools or learning centers) served
- For non-high school districts: If the districts provide transportation service for resident high school students
- The total land area of the district (OSPI provides the district land area and excludes categories such as national parks and forest areas not provided with transportation services)

CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS

The apportionment payments from September 2022 through January 2023 will be based on the 2021–22 school year apportionment amounts, with an adjustment in February 2023 to reflect current year reported data. The February apportionment payment will adjust the prior year amounts to actual calculated apportionments based on the data collected in the 2021–22 spring report and the 2022–23 fall and winter reports. The individual district allocations are available on OSPI’s website under Student Transportation’s STARS Operations Allocation Detail Reports.

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