



TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURE

NWOSSC 116

SECTION 100 GENERAL

116 ACCESSIBLE STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Statement and Rationale

The Northwestern Ontario Student Services Consortium is committed to providing accessible home to school transportation services in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

Procedure

1.0 Transportation Services

The Consortium will provide integrated accessible transportation services whenever possible, or appropriate alternative accessible transportation services for students with disabilities. Where, in the opinion of the board, integrated accessible school transportation services are not possible or not the best option because of the nature of the disability or a safety concern, alternatives will be considered.

In circumstances where it is not possible for the Consortium to provide alternative accessible transportation services, financial assistance may be provided to parents/guardians.

2.0 Identification of Students

Member school boards will, in consultation with parents or guardians, identify students with disabilities requiring accommodation or specialized transportation services to the Consortium. Such identification will be made, wherever possible, before the commencement of each school year.

As part of the annual planning schedule, the Consortium will contact school boards before the end of June each school year to request a list of students with disabilities requiring accommodation or specialized transportation for the upcoming school year.

3.0 Individual Transportation Plans

The Consortium will coordinate the development of Individual Transportation Plans (ITP) with school board staff and parents/guardians annually for each student with a disability. The ITP will include:

- I. Details of the student's disability and accommodation/assistance needs.
- II. Plans for individual student boarding, securement and debording, as appropriate.
- III. Identification of roles and responsibilities of the parties including the student, parents/guardians, bus operator, school staff, and the Consortium.

Whenever possible, the ITP will be completed before the commencement of the school year or, if necessary, during the school year prior to the start of bus service.

The Consortium will coordinate the distribution of ITP to all appropriate parties.

Operators will ensure that bus drivers receive and carry a current version of each ITP on the school bus.

Date Last Reviewed	August 2025
Date First Approved	2025
Associated Policies/Procedures	NWOSSC 126 – Financial Assistance for Transportation Provided by Parent or Legal Guardian
References	