



OCECD Parent Toolkit

BASICS SHEETS



Be INFORMED.

Be EMPOWERED.

Be your child's ADVOCATE.

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Transportation of Students with Disabilities What parents need to know...

Most children with disabilities receive the same transportation services as nondisabled children. However, some children with disabilities require special transportation in order for them to benefit from special education. The need for special transportation must be considered for any child with a disability between the ages of 3 to 21 years of age.



If your child has an IEP, he or she may qualify for transportation as a related service on their IEP. The decision about a child's need for transportation is made by the child's IEP team, and is based on the child's unique needs resulting from their disability. As members of the IEP team, parents are involved in the discussion and decision-making about their child's need for transportation services.

Here are some examples of a child's needs resulting from their disability that would require transportation as a related service:



The child is unable to physically board a bus.

The child cannot walk to, or wait at a bus stop, safely.

The child has behaviors that would cause safety concerns for the driver or other children on the bus.

The child has medical needs that require health-related services or monitoring during transportation.

The child needs transportation to and from a provider of special education services.



All transportation services are documented in section 8 of your child's IEP, and may include:

A special or adapted bus

Wheelchair lifts

Special seat belts or systems to secure a wheelchair

Car seats or special seats

A person who serves as a bus aide

Security devices to keep the child safely in their seat, such as a seat belt, harness or vest

Transportation to and from a child's provider of special education services.



Your child's IEP team also must consider if any help is needed once your child leaves the bus. Some children will have unique needs for their travel in and around school buildings. The following may be necessary:

Curb cut-outs
Handrails

Ramps
Stair tracs

Elevators
Walkers