

# 1. Is state funding provided - in part or in full - for the replacement of publicly owned school buses?

Yes - Within an overall state transportation funding allocation to districts	Yes - Funds earmarked only for bus replacement.	Other state funding sources which may be used for multiple (typically capital) purposes, including school buses.	School buses are owned by and replaced by the state.	No state funding allocated to districts for school bus replacement.	STATE /	COMMENTS
GA	AL	CA	SC	AR	CA	Funding through California Air Resources Board for bus replacement for emissions and air quality control
IL	CA	FL		CO	FL	Florida does not have a "fleet renewal" program.
MI	DE	IA		IA	GA	The Governor and State Legislature appropriates funds each year for the purchase of School buses. The Department of Education allocates the funds to the local districts using a formula based on the needs of our local districts.
MI	NC	KY		IN	HI	The state does not provide funding for vehicle replacement. Replacement of non age compliant vehicles is the responsibility of bus contractors.
MN	NM	NV		KS	IA	We have the PPEL fund (Physical Plant & Equipment Levy). Every district votes individually to allow a PPEL fund in their district, so it's really not a "state" funding source so much as a "local" funding source. However it's a funding source allowed per state rules and must be spent according to state rules. It can be used for many items of a "physical equipment" nature, which includes school buses. Last year it was expanded to also include single item school bus repairs totaling at least \$2500 or more. This would include transmission or engine repairs or replacement, as those would be viewed as a single item. A new set of 6 tires for a bus would not be eligible because those 6 tires would not be considered a "single" item. Otherwise, schools purchase their buses out of general fund dollars.
MO	OR	SC		MD	KY	There is a reimbursement program for transportation that can be found at <a href="http://education.ky.gov/districts/SEEK/Pages/default.aspx">http://education.ky.gov/districts/SEEK/Pages/default.aspx</a>
ND	SC	WI		MS	MI	Each local public school district received a "per pupil foundation allowance". This funding provides all programs and services that each district determines to provide. Pupil transportation services are also paid from the "per pupil foundation allowance".
NJ	WA			NE	NC	100% funded by state
NM	WV			OH	NJ	State transportation funding allocation is a general fund revenue.
VA				SD	TN	Districts receive funding for transportation. That money is not enough for the purchase of buses nor is it earmarked for a specific purchase.
WV				TX	VA	State transportation funding is based on a student ridership cluster average and buses are reimbursed based on a replacement cost of a 15 year cycle.
WY				UT	WA	District owned vehicles are paid for by the state with a replacement cost basis on a 8 and 13 year cycle for the final year.
					WI	Wisconsin provided general aid to most school districts based in part on their overall costs, which can include the cost of replacement busses or contracting for bus service. In addition, the state provides categorical state aid based on the miles transported for each child - aid the district can use for bus purchases or other transportation costs.

## 2. Does your state have a state school bus specification including a menu of approved options?

**No - There is no state specification; left up to the district.**

CO
IL
NE
NJ

YES	Comments
AR	There are state specifications and buses may be purchased via state contract offered annually by the Office of State Procurement. Options are listed per the type and capacity bus awarded under state contract.
CA	
DE	Title 14, 1105 was just implemented on January 1, 2017 and reviewed every five years.
FL	Currently, all new buses in the State of Florida must conform to the Florida School Bus Specifications, Revised 2013.
IA	Last updated following the 2010 NCST, with those rules becoming effective on July 15, 2014. We are in the process of updating now from the 2015 NCST.
KY	
MN	
MS	
NC	October, 2015 <a href="http://www.ncbussafety.org/documents/buses/TypeCSpecs2015.pdf">http://www.ncbussafety.org/documents/buses/TypeCSpecs2015.pdf</a>
ND	ND has adopted NCST standards for school bus specification
NM	
OH	
OR	
SC	limited options
SD	Minimum standards
TX	2016 Texas School Bus Specifications is the current document. <a href="http://www.dps.texas.gov/schoolbus/sbtexspecs.htm">http://www.dps.texas.gov/schoolbus/sbtexspecs.htm</a>
VA	latest specifications revisions December 2013
WA	9/1/2016
WI	See the Administrative Rule, Trans 300, of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation - <a href="https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/trans/300.pdf">https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/trans/300.pdf</a>
WY	

**YES there is a state specification, but no menu of approved options.**

	Comments
AL	
GA	GA is in the process of updating the State's school bus specifications. The anticipated date of submission to our State Board of Education for approval is July, 2017. Our current bus specifications were approved in Jan., 2010.
HI	
IN	We do allow options, they are covered in our state specifications but not in a menu.
KS	Kansas adopts the National Standards for specifications.
MD	COMAR 11.19 School Vehicles 4/2/01
MI	
MI	
MO	7/1/2017
NV	Current school bus specifications adopted by Nevada State Board of Education 06/16/16.
TN	We have basic specifications. Additional items are reviewed as necessary.
UT	
WV	

**3. Are any add-on technology options such as GPS and Camera Systems included in the formula for state funding of replacement school buses?**

YES Yes - Comments		NO No-Comments	
FL	As optional equipment in both the specifications and on the bid.	AL	
IL	Our funding model goes off the purchase price of the bus. Meaning that if they include GPS and cameras they would be included in the bus price and included. Some items such as GPS are not funded if not in the purchase price of the bus.	CA	
MO		DE	
OR		GA	
SC	GPS	HI	
WY		IA	
		IN	
		KY	Only the base price of the bus is included in the funding.
		MI	
		MI	
		MN	
		MS	
		NC	one small appropriation for some stop arm cameras
		ND	
		NE	
		NJ	
		NM	
		NV	
		SD	
		TN	
		VA	
		WA	
		WI	
		WV	

Most technology is not funded through the Transportation Vehicle Fund but the districts can pay for some improvements through their transportation funding

**4. Are seat belts included in the formula for state funding of replacement school buses?**

No - State funds cannot be used for seat belts.	Yes - lap belts or lap/shoulder belts	Yes - Only lap/shoulder belts
AL	FL Lap belts are required by State law for new bus purchases. Lap/shoulder belts are optional.	CA Lap/Shoulder restraints have been mandated since 2004.
GA	IL Whatever the district added into the price of the bus is currently included.	DE Only buses designated for special education buses and Type A under 10,000 GVWR.
HI	MO State funding received can be used for any number of upgrades to a school bus	IA Only as noted in earlier questions. Lap belts are not allowed in Iowa school buses. And though lap/shoulder belts are not required in Iowa buses, those are the only type of belts allowed.
IN	ND Lap belts or lap/shoulder belts are required and are included in the transportation funding allocation.	NC Included as an option
KY		OR
MI		WA Only on small buses
MS		WY
NE		
NM		
NV		
SC		
SD		
VA		
WV		

NOTES:

KY: Seatbelts are not mandatory, therefore not calculated in the state funding calculation. A district may purchase a bus with seatbelts if they choose.

NV: A funding formula for seat belts is not included in district funding allocation, but state funds can be used when purchasing school buses equipped with seat belts.

**5. Is there a maximum mileage mandated by state law, policy or code for school buses transporting public school students?**

<b><u>NO</u></b>	<b><u>YES</u></b>	<b><u>YES Comments</u></b>
	NC	Eligible for replacement at 250,000 Miles
	TN	200,000 miles for school buses that exceed 18 years.
	WV	Recommended replacement is 180,000 miles

**NO**

AL	MS
AR	ND
CA	NE
CO	NJ
DE	----> <i>(In DE eligible for replacement at 160,000 miles)</i>
FL	NM
GA	NV
HI	OH
IA	OR
IL	SC
IN	SD
KS	TX
KY	UT
MD	VA
MI	WA
MI	WI
MN	WV
MO	WY

**6. Is there a maximum age mandated by state law, policy or code for school buses transporting public school students?**

<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>Comments</u>
AL	DE	14 years
AR	HI	15 years
CA	KS	25 years from the date of manufacture. The 25 year restriction does not apply to activity buses.
CO	MD	... a school vehicle may not be used for more then 12 years, unless the conditions for its extended use are satisfied under education article 7-804(b), Annotated Code of Maryland, or it is specifically exempted by stature. B. A school vehicle may not be used at any time to transport students if it has been in operation for 15 years or more.
FL	NC	Eligible for replacement at 20 years.
GA	NJ	Fifteen years for vehicles with a GVW up to 25,000 lbs.; twenty years for those of the transit type with a GVW exceeding 25,000 lbs.(NJSA 39:3B-5.1 and 5.2).
IA	NM	Regular to-and-from buses are allowed to be used for 12 years. Spare buses and activity buses can be used up to 20 years.
IL	OR	Pre-1977 not allowed. Pre-9/1/98 can't be moved between districts.
IN	SC	15 years if funded
KY	TN	18 years Type C and D 15 years Type A and B
MI	WA	any bus manufactured prior to 1977
MI		
MN		
MO		
MS		
ND		
NE		
NV		
OH		
SD		
TX		
UT		
VA		
WI		
WV		
WY		

**7. Describe the differences in the replacement policies for district-owned fleets vs. contractor-owned fleets.**

AL	None
AR	No age or maximum mileage mandated in law or regulations, left up to individual school districts and fleet operators.
CA	Left up to the district.
CO	Policies vary by organization.
DE	The State of Delaware purchases the bus for the district-owned fleets and are co-titled with the local school district. Contractor owned buses are purchased by the contractor and receive a capital allowance over 7 years.
FL	None
GA	None
HI	All school bus vehicles in Hawaii are contractor-owned
IA	Contractor owned fleets tend to be much newer fleets as the agreement between the school and the contractor will typically stipulate that the average age of the buses in the fleet cannot be more than 7 years old for an example, or that the oldest bus in the fleet cannot be more than 10 years old. Meanwhile, a district fleet will be, hopefully, on some sort of rotation - either age or mileage specific. However, those specifics tend to be much higher than the specs called for with contractors.
IL	None
IN	There is none unless addressed in the contract by the district with the contractor.
KS	286 School Districts; approximately 30 districts using contractors. Each district and contractor has its own policy.
KY	The Dept of Education only monitors district owned fleets.
MD	None
MI	Each educational entity determines and develops its own school bus replacement policy and procedures.
MI	None
MN	None
MO	None
MS	None
NC	No restrictions on contractor fleet
ND	Districts and contractors establish their own policies
NE	Local Decision
NJ	None
NM	None
NV	No contractor owned fleets
OH	Both contractors and districts determine their own replacement cycles.
OR	None
SC	
SD	
TN	None
TX	Not applicable.
UT	The State doesn't have a statewide policy on bus replacement. We are on an average of about 20 years.
VA	None
WA	District owned vehicles are paid for by the state with a replacement cost basis on a 8 and 13 year cycle for the final year. Contractor buses are reimbursed on a depreciation method on a 8 and 13 year basis by the year they were purchased.
WI	The state education agency is not involved in replacement policies for either district- or contractor-owned fleets
WV	No contractor owned fleets
WY	No contractor owned fleets