

**OFFICE OF PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION
COMPLIANCE REVIEW FOR
SECTION 5310 AND 5311 TRANSIT AGENCIES**

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

TRANSIT AGENCY	DATE OF COMPLIANCE REVIEW
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REQUIREMENT

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and its subrecipients are prohibited from providing exclusive school bus service unless the service qualifies and is approved by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Administrator under an allowable exemption. Federally funded equipment or vehicles cannot be used to provide exclusive school bus service. School tripper service that operates and looks like all other regular service is allowed.

FTA defines tripper service as regularly scheduled transit service that is open to the public and that is designed or modified to accommodate the needs of school students and personnel, using various fare collection and subsidy systems.

REFERENCE

The FTA rule for school bus transportation is 49 CFR Part 605: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/CFR-2012-title49-vol7/CFR-2012-title49-vol7-part605/content-detail.html>.

EXEMPTIONS

An FTA subrecipient may operate exclusive school bus service with locally funded buses, when stored in locally funded facilities, under the following conditions:

1. The subrecipient operates a school system in the area and operates a separate and exclusive school bus service for that system.
2. Existing private school bus operators are unable to provide adequate, safe transportation.
3. The subrecipient, a public entity, operated the service prior to August 12, 1973, or received a grant for facilities before November 26, 1974.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Does the subrecipient operate exclusive school bus service? YES NO

If yes, under which exemption does it qualify? (Dispatch records/schedules will be reviewed to ensure the service meets an exemption).

Comments:

2. Is the service operated with locally owned equipment? YES NO

If yes, the equipment cannot be housed or maintained in a federally funded facility.

Comments:

3. Does the subrecipient provide "tripper service"? YES NO

If yes, does the service meet the following criteria?

YES NO

Regularly scheduled public transportation service?

Buses are clearly marked as open to the public?

Service was modified to meet the needs of students/school personnel?

Service uses various fare collection systems or subsidies?

Buses have no special designations (e.g. "school bus")?

Buses use regular bus stops (fixed route only)?

Service is noted on published schedules (fixed route only)?

School tripper service that does not meet the above requirements must modify the service to comply with FTA requirements or discontinue the service.

Comments:

COMPLIANCE ANALYST	DATE
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