

Maricopa Unified School District

Administrative Regulation

Business and Noninstructional Operations

Transportation For School-Related Trips

AR 3541.1

The district may provide transportation for students, employees, and other individuals for field trips and other school-related trips approved according to Board policy and administrative regulation.

(cf. 3312.2 - Educational Travel Program Contracts)

(cf. 3540 - Transportation)

(cf. 3541 - Transportation Routes and Services)

(cf. 6153 - School-Sponsored Trips)

The Superintendent or designee shall determine the most appropriate and cost-effective mode of transportation for each approved trip. He/she may authorize the use of district vehicles, contract to provide transportation, or arrange transportation by the use of other vehicles.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district or contractor has sufficient liability insurance for transportation on school-related trips.

(cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)

When district transportation is provided, students may be released from using district transportation only with the advance written permission of their parents/guardians.

School-related organizations requesting transportation shall be fully responsible for the costs of their trips unless funding has been approved by the Governing Board.

(cf. 1230 - School-Connected Organizations)

Transportation by Private Vehicle

The Superintendent or designee may authorize the transportation of students by private vehicle when the vehicle is driven by an adult age 21 or older who possesses a valid California driver's license or, if he/she is a nonresident on active military duty in California, possesses a valid license from his/her state of residence. To be approved, a driver shall have a good driving record and possess at least the minimum insurance required by law. Any person providing transportation to district students in a private vehicle shall register with the district for such purposes.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

Drivers shall receive safety and emergency instructions which shall be kept in their vehicle.

All student passengers shall submit permission slips signed by their parents/guardians. Teachers shall ensure that each driver has a copy of the permission slip for each student riding in his/her vehicle.

The number of passengers, including the driver, shall not exceed the capacity for which the vehicle was designed. Trucks may not transport more persons than can safely sit in the passenger compartment. The driver shall ensure that the manufacturer's recommendations for his/her vehicle are followed regarding the seating of children in seats equipped with airbags.

The driver or any other person shall not smoke or have in his/her immediate possession a lighted pipe, cigar, or cigarette containing tobacco or any other plant when there is a minor in the motor vehicle, whether the motor vehicle is in motion or at rest. (Health and Safety Code 118948)

Passenger Restraint Systems

All drivers shall wear safety belts and shall ensure that all passengers are properly secured in seat belts or child passenger restraint systems in accordance with law. (Vehicle Code 27315, 27360, 27360.5, 27363)

A child who is under age 8 years shall be properly secured in a rear seat in an appropriate child passenger restraint system meeting federal safety standards, except under any of the following circumstances: (Vehicle Code 27360, 27363)

1. The child is four feet nine inches or taller, in which case a safety belt may be used.
2. Use of a child passenger restraint system would be impractical by reason of physical unfitness, medical condition, or size and an appropriate special needs child passenger restraint system is not available.
3. There is no rear seat, the rear seats are side-facing jump seats or rear-facing seats, the child passenger restraint system cannot be installed properly in the rear seat, all rear seats are already occupied by children under age 8 years, or medical reasons necessitate that the child not ride in the rear seat.
4. The child is otherwise exempted by law.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35330 Excursions and field trips

35332 Transportation by air

39830 School bus

39830.1 School pupil activity bus

39860 Transportation to special activities by district

44808 Liability when students not on school property

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

118947-118949 Prohibition against smoking in motor vehicle with minor

PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE

5384.2 District not liable for charter-party carrier

VEHICLE CODE

545 School bus, definition

12814.6 Limitations of provisional driver's license

27315 Mandatory use of seat belts in private passenger vehicles

27360-27360.5 Child passenger restraint systems

27363 Child passenger restraint systems, exemptions

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Motor Vehicles: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov>

California Highway Patrol: <http://www.chp.ca.gov>

California Office of Traffic Safety: <http://www.ots.ca.gov>

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

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Reviewed/Revised: 4/9/15

Maricopa Unified School District Exhibit

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Exhibit 1

SCHOOL DRIVER REGISTRATION FORM

DRIVER INFORMATION

Driver (circle one): Employee Parent/Guardian Volunteer
Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____
Driver's License No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

Name of Owner: _____
Address: _____
Make: _____ Year: _____ License Plate No.: _____
Registration Expiration: _____ Seating Capacity: _____

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Insurance Company: _____ Telephone: (____) _____
Policy No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____
Liability Limits of Policy: _____

DRIVER STATEMENT

I certify that I have not been convicted of reckless driving or driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol within the past five years and that the information given above is true and correct. I understand that if an accident occurs, my insurance coverage shall bear primary responsibility for any losses or claims for damages.

I certify that I have received and will abide by the driver instructions provided by the district.

Name: _____ Date: _____

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Exhibit 2

DRIVER INSTRUCTIONS

When using your vehicle to transport students on field trips or other school activity trips:

1. Be sure that you have registered with the district for such purposes and have a valid driver's license and current liability insurance at or above the minimum amount required by law for each occurrence.
2. Check the safety of your vehicle: tires, brakes, lights, horn, suspension, etc.
3. Carry only the number of passengers for which your vehicle was designed. If you have a pickup truck, carry only as many as can safely sit in the passenger compartment.
4. Require each passenger to use an appropriate child passenger restraint system (child car seat or booster seat) or safety belt in accordance with law.
5. Do not smoke a pipe, cigar, or cigarette while there are minors in the vehicle, as required by law.
6. Obey all traffic laws.
7. Take the most direct route to the destination or event without unnecessary stops.

In case of emergency, keep all students together and call 911 and the district office.

(3/02) 11/07