

## **BUSING ELIGIBILITY**

The Wellesley Public Schools shall provide transportation to and from:

1. The regular day school programs maintained by the Wellesley Public Schools;
2. The regular day school programs maintained by other schools within the community;
3. Special needs programs as specified in the student's Individual Education Plan; and
4. Vocational programs when the student's enrollment has been approved by the Superintendent or designee.

### **Regular Day Programs in Wellesley Public Schools**

The District provides free transportation to and from school for students in grades K – 6 who live two miles or more from their assigned school, as measured in accordance with Department of Elementary and Secondary guidelines. In all other cases, parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from school. The District may offer fee-based transportation to students in grades 7 – 12 and students in grades K – 6 who live less than two miles from their school. Transportation shall not be provided to elementary students attending a school as open enrolled.

Wellesley Public Schools shall provide for appropriate pickup and discharge points. No other stops shall be permitted.

### **Regular Day Programs in Other Schools in Wellesley**

Wellesley residents who, in the fulfillment of the compulsory attendance requirements attend private school for elementary or high school grades, shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges of transportation to and from school as are provided by law for pupils of public schools and shall not be denied such transportation because of their attendance in a school conducted under religious auspices or that includes religious instruction in its curriculum.

### **Special Education**

Transportation shall be provided for special needs students regardless of the distance between their homes and the location of their program in Wellesley, or in a state approved program in the community closest to Wellesley as specified in their Individual Education Plan. In the event the parent/guardian elects to send the child to a school other than that designated in the student's IEP the parent/guardian will be required to pay the cost of transportation. To the extent possible transportation shall be shared with other students from the Town or from other cities or towns.

### **Vocational Programs**

Transportation shall be provided to and from vocational programs for students enrolled in those programs, as required by state law.

Exceptions to these guidelines may be made at the discretion of the Superintendent. This will

apply particularly to any student who must travel in a hazardous area to and from school. These students will be transported regardless of the mileage limits listed.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. [40:5](#); [71:7A](#); [71:68](#); [71B:5](#)

CROSS REF.: EEA, Student Transportation Services