

PASSENGER TRANSPORT SERVICES BRANCH CONTRACT SCHOOL BUS SERVICES GUIDELINES

PROVISION OF NEW BUS SERVICE

PTS002-5(1)GL

1. Contract school bus services will not be introduced in areas already provided with government-funded public transport.
2. A contract service will only be introduced in areas that are more than five (5) kilometres from the school.
3. A service may be introduced provided it will carry at least ten (10) full-time students on a regular basis (three or more return trips per student per week).
4. Only students who would board the bus at least three (3) kilometres from the school can be counted as part of the required minimum of ten (10).
5. New services will only be provided to your home area school (Primary School) as defined by the Department of Education, or the nearest college, or a school identified by the Department of Education as being a school for which your area is a defined “feeder” area (High School).
6. Provided space is available, any student is free to travel on any existing contract bus service to and from school. It is recommended that parents/guardians check with the operator about the availability of space before sending their children to travel on the bus at the start of each school year.
7. A Conveyance Allowance will be paid for eligible students (5 kilometres or more from nearest appropriate school or bus stop) who cannot be accommodated on a bus travelling to their appropriate school.
8. A bus service carrying less than ten (10) full-time students on a regular basis (three or more return trips per student per week) will be withdrawn.
9. Sections of bus services that carry fewer than eight (8) regular full-time students will be curtailed to a point at which at least eight (8) students would be collected.

Note:

Where the above criteria are not met, an operator may choose to apply for authorisation to provide what is called a “non-core” service. If approved, the service will not receive government funding.

Students electing to use such a service may be charged a fare set by the operator. No concession passes are issued for travel on these services.