

Ipswich Public Schools  
**Transportation Fee Procedure**

**2019-2020  
School Year**

**Purpose:** Implementing a transportation fee provides a source of revenue that offsets a portion of the district's annual transportation costs. Revenue raised allows funds currently budgeted for transportation to be spent for other educational purposes.

**Transportation Fees:**

- \$250 for the first student rider
- \$250 for the second student rider
- \$500 family cap
  
- \$25 discount for early registration by June 23, 2019
- \$25 charge for returned checks
- \$25 charge for late registration, after August 11, 2019
- \$10 charge for lost card replacement

**Exempt Riders:**

M.G.L. Ch. 71, Sec. 68 states that a school district cannot charge a transportation fee to students in grades Kindergarten through 6 who reside two or more miles away from the school they are entitled to attend.

Students who qualify for the Federal Child Nutrition Program (Free and Reduced Lunch) will not be charged the transportation fee. However, they must still register.

**Refunds:** Pro-rated refunds will only be provided to students moving out of the district.

**Registration:**

- All students who ride the bus must be issued a school bus pass and must register in order to be issued a bus pass.
- Only FULL DAY/FULL YEAR passes are available.
- Students will only be allowed to ride the school bus to which they are assigned to be transported from “home to school” and “school to home.”

### **Mileage determination:**

- The district will use <https://www.google.com/maps/> to determine distance between home and school. The shortest walking route will be used.
- Disputed distance will be measured from the student's driveway at the street (public way) ending where students are dropped off at school.
- Further review, if necessary, can be made by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

### **Timeline:**

- ❖ Mail-in registration for 2019-2020 bus transportation begins May 15, 2019. Passes will be provided to students at their school during the first week of the 2019-2020 school year.
- ❖ Online registration is available by going to the Ipswich Public Schools website, clicking on **Make an Online Payment** under **Quick Links**, and then **City Hall Systems**. You may also pay with a credit card via your **My School Bucks Online Payment** account, accessed from the same page. An additional fee is charged by these banks for online purchases made with a credit card (see the websites for details) and a small transaction fee is assessed for online purchases from your checking account (allowed on City Hall Systems only).
- ❖ **Early Registration:** **By June 23, 2019**, at the discounted rate of \$225 per child, with a family cap of \$450
- ❖ **Regular Registration:** **June 24, 2019 through August 11, 2019** at the rate of \$250 per child, with a family cap of \$500
- ❖ **Late Registration:** **After August 11<sup>th</sup>**, at the rate of \$275 per child, this includes a late fee of \$25
- ❖ Week of August 12, bus routes will be determined from the list of students registered.
- ❖ Week of August 26, bus routes will be published in the Ipswich Chronicle and on our website ([www.ipsk12.net](http://www.ipsk12.net)).
- ❖ A bus pass will be provided to each qualifying student at his or her school during the first week of the 2019-2020 school year.