

State of Alaska FY2002 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Education and Early Development
Pupil Transportation
BRU/Component

Component: Pupil Transportation

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Component Mission

To reimburse school districts for qualifying transportation costs in a timely manner.

Component Services Provided

Pursuant to AS 14.09.010, the Department of Education & Early Development may provide for the transportation of pupils who reside a distance from established schools. Department of Education & Early Development regulations (4 AAC 27.060) provide that, subject to availability of funds, districts will be reimbursed for the cost of all approved regular routes, special education routes, other conveyance routes, and in-lieu-of agreements. 100% of the purchase price of approved district-operated school buses is also reimbursable, over a seven year period. 22 of the 48 school districts projected to receive reimbursement for pupil transportation services have contracted for transportation services to and from school with one or more private school bus operators. 11 districts run district-operated fleets and 8 districts run a combination of district owned and contracted fleets. 7 districts reimburse parent's in-lieu of providing transportation. The majority of those contracts have a provision for a cost of living allowance (COLA) to be added to the daily rate per bus or route in subsequent years of a multi-year contract. Changes in the total number of buses, routes and/or route miles affect reimbursement rates throughout the school year as student populations shift and school programs change.

Component Goals and Strategies

- * Review 100% of the Requests for Proposals (RFP) submitted by school districts.
- * Issue reimbursement checks to school districts within 30 days of receipt of claim.
- * Review district requests for additional reimbursement due to added buses and/or routes.

Key Component Issues for FY2001 – 2002

Continuing to find cost-effective means of providing transportation services is a key issue for the department and for school districts. Ensuring student safety through bus driver training, school bus inspections, and drug and alcohol testing of bus drivers continues to be a key issue.

Major Component Accomplishments for FY2000

In FY00 distributed approximately \$41.9 million to 47 school districts transporting over 48,000 students to and from school daily.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 14.09
4 AAC 27

Pupil Transportation
Component Financial Summary

All dollars in thousands

	FY2000 Actuals	FY2001 Authorized	FY2002 Governor
Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Contractual	200.0	200.0	200.0
74000 Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	41,714.8	44,502.1	44,502.1
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	41,914.8	44,702.1	44,702.1
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	41,914.8	40,302.1	44,702.1
1102 Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority Receipts	0.0	4,400.0	0.0
Funding Totals	41,914.8	44,702.1	44,702.1

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2000 Actuals	FY2001 Authorized	FY2001 Cash Estimate	FY2002 Governor	FY2003 Forecast
Unrestricted Revenues						
AK Industrial Dev. Export Auth. Receipts	51406	0.0	4,400.0	4,400.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Fund	68515	41,914.8	40,302.1	40,302.1	44,702.1	44,702.1
Unrestricted Total		41,914.8	44,702.1	44,702.1	44,702.1	44,702.1
Restricted Revenues						
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Estimated Revenues		41,914.8	44,702.1	44,702.1	44,702.1	44,702.1

Pupil Transportation

Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2002

The FY2002 budget includes a fund source change to replace one-time AIDEA funds with general funds. No additional increase in reimbursement is included, pending award of contracts for Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Mat-Su for pupil transportation for the next school year. Any adjustments needed will be considered as part of the FY2002 budget amendments.

Summary of Component Budget Changes

From FY2001 Authorized to FY2002 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2001 Authorized	40,302.1	0.0	4,400.0	44,702.1
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-AIDEA Fund Source Change	4,400.0	0.0	-4,400.0	0.0
FY2002 Governor	44,702.1	0.0	0.0	44,702.1