

SULPHUR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BUS FEE INFORMATION

Why A Bus Fee?

A bus fee is collected in order to maintain a level of service commensurate with the basic needs of the community. Increased transportation costs have not been reimbursed by state funds; therefore, this fee is necessary to avoid reducing or eliminating bus services.

Who Is Eligible?

Students living within the bus route area for the District assigned home school are eligible for home-to-school transportation. Pupils on established bus routes who otherwise are ineligible for home-to-school transportation may participate on a space available program.

What Are The Fees?

The fees are \$200 for one student per year, when the entire fee is paid at the beginning of the school year. For parents who prefer to pay in two installments, the fee is \$110.00 due at the beginning of each half year (see back for dates). For parents with more than one student riding the bus, please read fee information below:

Families with more than one child attending a Sulphur Springs District School will qualify for the following rates:

Annual Fee	Semi-Annual Fee (for each HALF YEAR)
One Pupil: \$200.00	One Pupil: \$110.00
Two Pupils: \$325.00	Two Pupils: \$175.00
Three or more: \$400.00	Three or more: \$220.00

Single ride (one way) tickets are available for \$1.00 and must be purchased in advance from the school office.

Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch may qualify for free bus service. Qualification criteria and applications are available at your school office. **You must supply proof of income before your application for an exemption is considered.** Until then you may purchase single ride tickets.

Special Education students who are severely handicapped or orthopedic handicapped students who require door-to-door transportation specified in their I.E.P are exempt from the fee. Special Education students who are administratively transferred from their school of residence are also exempt.

A \$25.00 charge will be collected for checks that are refused payment by a bank. Postdated checks are not accepted.

How Is The Fee Paid?

PLEASE FILL OUT THE SCHOOL BUS APPLICATION AND MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SULPHUR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT. Please print your child's first name, last name and school on your check. Completed applications and payment should be in a sealed envelope and mailed to:

Sulphur Springs Transportation Department
27000 Weyerhaeuser Way
Canyon Country, CA 91351

You may send them through the U.S. mail or give them to your school office (**separate from the Food Services Application**) or to your child's bus driver in a sealed envelope, with your child's name, school and bus stop written on the front. The driver will deliver it directly to the Transportation Office.

Will Students Have To Carry A Pass?

No passes will be used! Drivers will have printed lists compiled from student applications. After a short initial collection period, students must be verified by the driver as having paid the bus fee, in order to ride a bus.

Are There Reduced Fees For Riding Only In The Mornings Or Afternoons?

No, the fee is not a daily ride fee. In order to guarantee current levels of bus service, the fee is an annual fee or semi-annual fee.

The School Months Have Different Numbers of Days. Why Isn't The Fee Based on Individual Months?

The fee of \$200 is for a school year, with payment options. It is true, however, that schools release students for varying numbers of days for staff in-service, holidays, etc. It is not feasible for the transportation fee to be adjusted for each different school configuration. Remember, this fee is for the purpose of continuing current levels of service and is not a monthly nor daily ride fee.

What About Occasional Rides?

Students who do not regularly ride the bus, who are going home with a friend, attending a group meeting, or are occasionally or temporarily unable to use their normal means of transportation may purchase single ride tickets at the school office for \$1.00 each. A single ride ticket is good for a one-way ride only. If the student will be using the bus both to and from school, two tickets will be required.

Will Students Be Denied Bus Service If The Fee Isn't Paid?

Yes. As a matter of parental responsibility, it is expected that the fee will be paid in a timely manner. If the fee is not paid by the due dates, the student may no longer ride a bus.

It is anticipated that parents will see this as a business transaction, and will not involve their child in a negative situation. However, in fairness to those parents who pay the fee in a timely manner the district must enforce the rule that the fee be paid in order to use the service.

If a student has been denied bus service for lack of payment, all that is necessary to re-instate service is for the fee to be paid.

What About Partial Months For New Students?

Students new to the district, or those who have moved within the district or for some other reason need to start riding the bus, must pay the fee. In order to do this as simply as possible this rule shall apply:

If the student requires bus service within the first 24 calendar days of any month, the entire fee for that month is due. After the 24th day of any month, the fee shall start with the next month. The annual or semester fee will be prorated based on this rule counting full months only. The fees for monthly increments are shown below:

	ANNUAL
First Pupil:	\$20.00
Two Pupils:	\$32.50
Three or more Pupils:	\$40.00

If A Student Moves Or Is Ill, Will The Fee Be Refunded For Unused Days?

The fee is not a daily ride fee; therefore, a refund based on unused days for illness, suspension from school or loss of bus riding privileges because of violation of bus rules will not be given. However, if a student moves out of the district a refund will be processed. The refund amount will not include the month in which the refund is requested, so please request refunds promptly when moving. Refunds for a previous school year will not be made after the beginning of the next school year.

Requests for refund must be in writing stating the students name, school and last date of attendance. Send refund requests to:

Sulphur Springs School District Transportation Department
27000 Weyerhaeuser Way
Canyon Country, CA 91351

When Is The Fee Due?

Fees must be received by the Transportation Office by Friday, August 26, 2011 for the 2011/2012 School Year. For parents using the semi-annual payment option, the second half year fee is due on January 20, 2012. Pupils who are administratively transferred by the School District for the 2011/2012 school year are not responsible for parent share fees.

Need Additional Information?

Contact the Sulphur Springs School District Transportation Office weekdays between 6:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. 661-252-3822