

Sierra Sands Unified School District Home to School Transportation Plan 2026-2027

Transportation Services:

1. Enter description of transportation services offered to pupils, and how it will prioritize planned transportation services for pupils in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and any of grades 1 - 6 inclusive and pupils who are low income. Plan may provide for the LEA to partner with municipally owned transit system to provide services to middle and high school students. An LEA may provide no-cost transit passes to students.

SSUSD is a large rural desert community that serves 970 square miles and is largely unincorporated. This landscape creates many barriers for families to ensure students are in attendance every day. Due to the location of the families SSUSD serves (rural desert with inclement weather and poor roads in rural areas) and the trend for many low income families living in the remote areas of the district, providing transportation is one aspect of improving student outcomes. In order to prioritize TK-6 and low income students, SSUSD will provide transportation for K-12 students throughout the school calendar year, at no cost to the student.

2. Enter description of LEA's transportation services that would be accessible to pupils with disabilities, and homeless children and youth.

Transportation services are provided free of cost to all students with disabilities according to their IEP guidelines. A detailed IEP with transportation information will be a requirement for all students riding on special education routes. Services for homeless children and youth are provided as requested by the Coordinator of Educational Technology, Projects and Categorical Programs as required by the McKinney Vento ACT. The district transports from home to school.

3. Enter description of how unduplicated pupils, would be able to access available home-to-school transportation at no-cost to the pupils.

Sierra Sands USD provides no cost Transportation Services to all eligible TK-12 grade pupils on General Education and Special Education school bus routes. 60% of these students are unduplicated pupils.

Consultations:

Enter description of the required plan consultation with classified staff, teachers, school administrators, regional local transit authorities, local air pollution control districts and air quality management districts, parents, pupils and other stakeholders.

Sierra Sands USD plans to engage educational partners on the use of funds provided as summarized below:

Engagement sessions related to planning may include, but are not limited to, School Site Council meetings, Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings, monthly Leadership Team meetings, and bargaining unit meetings. The district consulted with the Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (EKAPD) and Kern Transit.

Board Approval Date: March 31, 2026

The Transportation plan was developed in accordance with Education Code Sections 39800.1 and 41850.1.