

The Duty to Transport (NH)

Districts are required to provide transportation to all pupils in grades 1 through 8 who live more than 2 miles from the school to which they are assigned. Districts may provide transportation to kindergarten pupils, pupils in grades 8 through 12, or to pupils residing less than 2 miles from the school to which they are assigned, when providing transportation is appropriate, or when the district has been directed to furnish transportation by the Commissioner of Education. (RSA 189:6).

Pupils entitled to transportation may be required to walk a distance not to exceed one mile to a school bus stop established by the local school board. Pupils residing in areas which are inaccessible by a local school district's established mode of transportation may be required to walk a distance not to exceed 1.5 miles to a school bus stop, provided that the vehicle, route and schedule have been approved by the commissioner of education. School districts shall assure that pupils shall not be subject to unsafe conditions while walking the required distance to a school bus stop and that the school bus stop is established in a safe location (RSA 189:8).

Districts are required to instruct all pupils who receive transportation pursuant to RSA 189:6-a in the following:

- School bus safety;
- The evacuation procedure for buses in emergency situations; and
- Any other matters regarding the safety of pupils being transported to school.

The Superintendent, or a representative designated in writing, is authorized to suspend the right of pupils from riding in a school bus when said pupils fail to conform to the reasonable rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the school board. (RSA 189:9-a, I-II)

- Any suspension to continue beyond 20 school days must be approved by the school board.
- Said suspension shall not begin until the next school day following the day notification of suspension is sent to the pupil's parent or legal guardian
- If a pupil is suspended from the bus for disciplinary reasons, the parent/guardian may appeal within 10 days of suspension to the authority that suspended this pupil's right. Until the appeal is heard, or if the suspension of pupil's right to ride the school bus is upheld, it shall be the parents' or guardians' responsibility to provide transportation to and from school for that pupil for the period of the suspension.

In Vermont, there are no requirements for student transportation. Due to the interstate relationship with Dresden, SAU 70 has been applying the same route and stop guidance as used in the NH Districts.

TITLE XV EDUCATION

CHAPTER 189 SCHOOL BOARDS, SUPERINTENDENTS, TEACHERS, AND TRUANT OFFICERS; SCHOOL CENSUS

School Boards, Transportation and Instruction of Pupils

Section 189:6

189:6 Transportation of Pupils. – The local school district shall furnish transportation to all pupils in grade 1 through grade 8 who live more than 2 miles from the school to which they are assigned. The local school board may furnish transportation to kindergarten pupils, pupils in grades above the eighth or to any pupils residing less than 2 miles from the school to which they are assigned, when it finds that this is appropriate, and shall furnish it when so directed by the commissioner of education.

Source. 1885, 43:6. PS 92:1. 1919, 106:20. 1921, 125:6. PL 117:6. RL 135:6. RSA 189:6. 1992, 159:1, eff. July 5, 1992.

TITLE XV EDUCATION

CHAPTER 189 SCHOOL BOARDS, SUPERINTENDENTS, TEACHERS, AND TRUANT OFFICERS; SCHOOL CENSUS

School Boards, Transportation and Instruction of Pupils

Section 189:6-a

189:6-a School Bus Safety. –

The district shall instruct all pupils, who are transported by the district as provided in RSA 189:6, in the following:

- I. School bus safety.
- II. The evacuation procedure for buses in emergency situations.
- III. Any other matters regarding the safety of pupils being transported to school.

Source. 1996, 19:1, eff. July 1, 1996.

TITLE XV EDUCATION

CHAPTER 189 SCHOOL BOARDS, SUPERINTENDENTS, TEACHERS, AND TRUANT OFFICERS; SCHOOL CENSUS

School Boards, Transportation and Instruction of Pupils

Section 189:8

189:8 Limitations and Additions. – Pupils entitled to transportation in accordance with RSA 189:6 may be required to walk a distance not to exceed one mile to a school bus stop established by the local school board. Pupils residing in areas which are inaccessible by a local school district's established mode of transportation may be required to walk a distance not to exceed 1-1/2 miles to a school bus stop, provided that the vehicle, route and schedule have been approved by the commissioner of education. School districts shall assure that pupils shall not be subject to unsafe conditions while walking the required distance to a school bus stop and that the school bus stop is established in a safe location.

Source. 1919, 106:20. 1921, 125:6. PL 117:7. 1933, 76:1. RL 135:8. RSA 189:8. 1992, 159:2, eff. July 5, 1992.

TITLE XV EDUCATION

CHAPTER 189 SCHOOL BOARDS, SUPERINTENDENTS, TEACHERS, AND TRUANT OFFICERS; SCHOOL CENSUS

School Boards, Transportation and Instruction of Pupils

Section 189:9-a

189:9-a Pupils Prohibited for Disciplinary Reasons. –

Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 189:6-8, the superintendent, or a representative as designated in writing, is authorized to suspend the right of pupils from riding in a school bus when said pupils fail to conform to the reasonable rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the school board. Any suspension to continue beyond 20 school days must be approved by the school board. Said suspension shall not begin until the next school day following the day notification of suspension is sent to the pupil's parent or legal guardian.

I. If a pupil has been denied the right to ride a school bus for disciplinary reasons, the parent or guardian of that pupil has a right of appeal within 10 days of suspension to the authority that suspended this pupil's right.

II. Until the appeal is heard, or if the suspension of pupil's right to ride the school bus is upheld, it shall be the parents' or guardians' responsibility to provide transportation to and from school for that pupil for the period of the suspension.

Source. 1973, 462:1. 1995, 174:1, eff. Jan. 1, 1996.