Transportation Services
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Transportation main line: 720-423-4600
transportation@dpsk12.org
@DPSTransportation
@DPSSchoolBus

We’re Hiring!
If you’re looking to join a dedicated and hardworking team, visit careers.dpsk12.org to apply today.

We provide paid training and we’re hiring for the following benefited positions:

- CDL Bus Driver ($19.72)
- Non-CDL Bus Driver ($16.31)
- Bus Paraprofessional ($14.20)
The mission of DPS Transportation Services is to provide safe, equitable and efficient transportation services to our students. We know that getting to school safely is the first step in a great learning experience and helps ensure that Every Child Succeeds.

Quick Tips
While your student may not be eligible for school bus transportation for the 2020-21 school year, as established by The Denver Public Schools’ Board of Education policy, we would like to help you prepare for another great school year with some helpful commuting tips. Please read this mailer carefully and use it as a resource throughout the year as a reference.

We also offer families the opportunity to apply to our Exception Request program to see if there are available resources in your area to transport your student. For more information on this program, see the Exception Request section in this mailer.

For additional information or if you have questions about transportation, please visit our website at transportation.dpsk12.org or call us at the numbers provided in this mailer.

About the Program
CommuteDPS provides school leaders and parents with the tools to create and communicate transportation options at their school, all in an effort to promote healthier environments and improved academic performance.

Transportation is more than driving. Students have multiple options for traveling to and from school including walking, biking, taking the school bus and carpooling. CommuteDPS aims to encourage parents and school leaders to use provided resources to explore the many options that are available to safely improve transportation at their schools. Visit transportation.dpsk12.org/commutedps to explore these resources. Email questions to commutedps@dpsk12.org.

The Transportation Department has partnered with the City of Denver, Denver Public Health, CDOT and Denver Safe Routes to School Coalition using a grant from Kaiser Permanente to implement Commute Denver Public Schools [CommuteDPS]. The program is designed to decrease traffic congestion around schools, while increasing safety, academic performance and wellness for DPS students.

About the Exception Request Process
Families of students who are not eligible to ride the school bus can submit a request for their student to be considered for transportation. This process is called the Exception Request process.

Exception Requests should only be submitted for students who meet the following criteria:
- Students who live within the walk zone and are attending their neighborhood/boundary school.
- Students who choice into a school that is not their neighborhood school or one that is outside of their Enrollment Zone.

How to Submit a Request
Families with students who meet the above criteria can complete the form on the “Transportation” page within the Parent Portal by visiting myportal.dpsk12.org.

The forms can take up to four weeks to process at the start of the school year. You will be notified of the approval or denial of your request by phone or mail at the contact information you provided.

QUESTIONS? Email transportation@dpsk12.org or call the Routing Department at 720-423-4699.

Due to COVID-19, we will approve a limited amount of Exception Requests.
Arriving to the School

Drop-off and pick-up times can be chaotic. Knowing where to park, or where the designated loading zone(s) is, can help speed up the process and keep students, school staff and parents safe. Every school is different, so be sure to familiarize yourself with the traffic flow system at your school! Here are some helpful tips:

• Know your school’s drop-off and pick-up plan. Is there a Travel Plan in place?
• Get to know all street signs. Know where the designated areas for parking and loading/unloading are, so you know where you should and should not be.
• When a yellow school bus is dropping off or picking up students, always practice extra caution! Provide the bus with adequate space and remember that just because you can see the bus, does not mean that the bus driver (or passengers) can see you.
• Watch for students walking or biking to/from campus. Children do not always follow proper procedures.

What does this sign mean?
The School Bus Loading and Unloading Sign means that the marked area is a no-parking and no-waiting zone for all vehicles except yellow school buses and Transportation Services vehicles. Keep this area clear to ensure that the school bus can operate as efficiently and safely as possible.

TRAFFIC LAWS FOR SCHOOL BUS FLASHING LIGHTS & STOP SIGNS

Walking is a great way to get your daily exercise, and it can be fun for people of all ages. Here are some tips to ensure that safety is always the top priority:

• Whenever possible, use a crosswalk to cross the street
• If a Crossing Guard is present, obey all directions they give you.
• Stop at the curb, edge of the street or corner before crossing the street. Look in all directions, making sure it’s clear before crossing. Continue to look for traffic that may be approaching while crossing.
• If possible, walk with others and choose the safest route.
• Never take rides from strangers.
• Wear bright-colored clothing so drivers see you. When walking at night, wear reflective gear or use a flashlight.
• Do not use a cellphone when crossing a street. Keep your head up and stay aware.
Active Transportation

Active Transportation is any self-propelled mode of transportation. This includes walking, biking and riding a scooter. Encouraging kids to use active transportation is a great way to increase physical activity.

Nationwide, schools that have increased the number of students walking and biking to school have had:

- Less traffic congestion around schools
- Less air pollution around schools
- Reduced tardiness and absences
- Improved student safety
- Improved academic performance

Using active transportation is also fun for students! You can find more fun facts, as well as resources to create safe active transportation systems at your school, on the CommuteDPS website, transportation.dpsk12.org/commutedps.

Safe Biking Tips

Colorado Rules of the Road states that in most cases bicyclists are required to follow the same laws as drivers. Here are some helpful rules that all riders should know to stay safe:

- Ride on the right side of the road.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Be sure to yield to pedestrians.
- Pass slower traffic on the left, while ringing your bell or loudly saying “On Your Left.”
- Use front and rear lights while riding at night so drivers can see you.
- When riding in a group, ride single file to allow traffic to pass.
- Use hand signals to let drivers know which way you will go.

BIKING FACT: In Denver, anyone 10 and under is allowed to ride their bike on the sidewalk.

Picking and wearing the right helmet is an important part of bike safety. Helmets should fit properly and be replaced every five years or sooner if they become damaged. Here are some tips for picking the right helmet for you or your student:

1. There should be space for two fingers between your eyebrow and the bottom of the helmet.
2. Using two fingers, make a “V” and place underneath each ear to mark where the straps should go.
3. Leave no more than a two-finger gap between the straps and chin.