



PROCEDURE T-1

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Legal References: AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) 2005; IASR (Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation) Ontario Regulation 191/11

Persons or Bus Companies providing School transportation services shall provide integrated (inclusive of student needs) School transportation for all students.

Where the provision of integrated School transportation is not possible, or not the best option for the student with a disability due to the nature of the disability or safety concerns, the Learning Services/Special Education Teams of each Board shall indicate alternative accessible transportation for students with disabilities.

Emergency Preparedness and Response - Responsibilities

HPSTS:

- Shall establish an emergency preparedness and response Procedure (Procedure S-4 - Student Support Plan – Transportation – AODA/IASR)
- Ensure School Bus Company Employees are advised of emergency preparedness and response policies and procedures.
- Shall provide guidance, oversight, and training as required

The School, Parents or Guardians of children with disabilities shall ensure:

- The identification of students with disabilities prior to the commencement of each School year.
- That individual School transportation plans (ITP) be established for each child with a disability.
- Assist persons with disabilities with boarding and securement conveyances.

The School Bus Company shall:

- Be trained in the proper use of accessibility-related equipment or features.
- Obtain appropriate, adequate, and regular training related to the handling of mobility equipment, the various types of disabilities, and how to interact appropriately with students with disabilities.
- Work closely with School and Parents or Guardians to ensure a person with a disability can travel with medical aids allowed under the relevant health and safety laws and HTA Regulations.
- Train all Transportation Employees to detach all securement systems and assist students with disabilities when evacuation is required.

Last Review: March 2014

Next Scheduled Review: February 2017 or as required