



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO**  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF CAMPUS OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

July 7, 2025

Re: School Year 2025-2026: Student Transportation Options and Registration

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As we gear up for the upcoming school year, the Student Transportation Services Branch (STSB) remains dedicated to ensuring students travel to and from school safely and reliably. Below you'll find information on transportation options and how to register. Please read through these carefully and bookmark the deadlines.

**1. School Bus Service – Quarter 1 Applications open July 14, 2025**

The Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) provides school bus service to ensure broad access to educational opportunities for students attending select schools.

**Who is eligible?**

- Students in grades K-5 must reside 1 mile or more from their home school.
- Students in grades 6-12 must reside 1.5 miles or more from their home school.
- Students must be actively enrolled in a HIDOE public school that has bus service available.

Due to the ongoing bus driver labor shortage, available school bus service will continue to be prioritized for elementary students and students receiving special education transportation services as per their Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). For more information and to access the online registration portal, visit <https://go.hidoe.us/SchoolBusService>. Paper applications are also available at your school. Due to limited seating, we recommended registering as soon as the application period opens. All school bus applications are reviewed and approved on a first come, first served basis as determined by your school.

As a reminder, all school bus applications for both paid and free-qualified student riders must be submitted on a **quarterly basis**:

Quarter 1 registration window: July 14, 2025 to Aug. 15, 2025  
Quarter 2 registration window: Sept. 22, 2025 to Oct. 17, 2025  
Quarter 3 registration window: Dec. 12, 2025 to Jan. 9, 2026  
Quarter 4 registration window: Mar. 2, 2026 to Mar. 27, 2026

Applications submitted after the quarterly period deadline, unpaid applications, and/or unreviewed applications will be automatically denied.

## **2. EXPRESS Bus Pass (free county service) – Registration opens July 14, 2025**

For the first time, middle and/or intermediate school students will now qualify for a no-cost county bus pass through the Department's EXPRESS program. **Who is eligible?**

- Interested middle and/or intermediate school and high school students must attend their designated home school and reside at least 1.5 miles walking distance from the nearest public access point to the school.
- Walk zone distance is calculated from the home address (indicated in Infinite Campus) to the nearest public access point for the school, not the main office.
- Eligibility details available at <https://go.hidoe.us/EXPRESS>.
- For students eligible under the McKinney-Vento Act (MVA), please contact your complex area MVA liaison for more assistance with this process.

## **3. Carpool Pilot Program (Mililani and Kekaulike Complexes ONLY):**

Launching in Central O'ahu and Upcountry Maui neighborhoods, the GoKid carpool pilot program connects families via computer and/or mobile application. Upon parental review and acceptance, families are provided access to the GoKid platform, allowing them to connect and create parent-approved share routes, simplifying the creation of carpool itineraries. More information shall be provided by participating schools soon. Please check your email regularly for a personal invitation to participate.

Mahalo for your continued partnership. We look forward to a smooth, safe year ahead! If you have any questions, please contact our office via email at [stsb@k12.hi.us](mailto:stsb@k12.hi.us) or by phone at 808-784-6850.

Sincerely,



Megan Omura  
Administrator  
Student Transportation Services Branch