

The board may enter into contracts with public or private carriers in accordance with G.S. 115C-253, State Board of Education policy, any other applicable law, and this policy. Any contracts also must comply with board policy 6450, Purchase of Services.

The superintendent or designee shall develop safety standards for contracted commercial transportation services used to transport students to school-related activities. The standards must comply with the requirements established by the State Board. The superintendent or designee shall develop a list of companies or individuals that meet these standards and are approved to provide student transportation services. If appropriate, the superintendent shall recommend that the board enter into interlocal cooperation agreements to assist in developing the standards and list of approved entities required under this paragraph. The superintendent shall ensure that the school system contracts for commercial bus transportation services for school-related activities only with entities on the approved list.

The board may purchase or lease student transportation vehicles in accordance with law and board policy, including policy 6432, Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials and Supplies and policy 6425, Continuing Contracts. Any such vehicle must meet federal safety standards.

All titles will be issued to the board of education. Sufficient liability coverage must be maintained in accordance with board policy 8340, Insurance.

The board will consider requests for providing transportation services to a charter school. Such consideration will take into account any factors required by law.

Legal References: 49 U.S.C. 30125, 30165; G.S. 115C-42, -47(25), -239, -240, -247, -249, -249.1, -253, -255; *North Carolina School Transportation Fleet Manual*, State Board of Education Policy TRAN-005; State Board of Education Policies TRAN-009, -010, -011; *School Charter Transportation Recommended Guidelines and Procedures*, available at <http://www.ncbussafety.org/motorcoach/index.html>.

Cross References: Continuing Contracts (policy 6425), Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials and Supplies (policy 6430), Purchase of Services (policy 6450), Insurance (policy 8340)

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