

# Texas Public School Finance

Layers of Knowledge Series

An Equity Center Presentation

**SF 12: Calculating the  
Transportation Allotment**



# The Foundation School Program

## Tier 1

Regular Program

Special Education

Compensatory Education

Bilingual Education

Career and Technology Education

Transportation

Gifted and Talented

Public Education Grant

New Instructional Facility (NIFA)

High School Allotment

# Transportation Allotment

- Basic funding is for transportation between home and school
  - Includes transportation between campuses for educational purposes
- To be eligible, students must live **more than two miles** from their campus, except for ...
  - Designated hazardous traffic areas
  - Some handicapping conditions
  - Intra-day travel for educational purposes (e.g., area vocational school or between campuses for classes not taught at the home campus)

## Two reports filed at the end of each year

- **Transportation Route Services Report**
  - Reports mileage and ridership for the school year
  - **Primary source** for determining a district's transportation allotment *for the following year*.
- **Student Transportation Operations Report**
  - Reports all costs and all mileage a district incurred for student transportation and includes ineligible service, such as transportation to and from field trips or sports activities
    - “Costs” often reflect having the revenue to spend—*very important!*
  - Determines an actual cost of operations per mile traveled during the school year—*the cap for the following year's funding level*.

## Calculation of Ridership – Rider Counts

- Average of actual rider counts from **two days** during the prior school year
  - Can be any day, morning or afternoon
  - Must be from different months
- Districts can keep records for every day and pick the two largest—as long as they come from different months
- This average is **multiplied by 180**, regardless of the number of days of instruction, to annualize the ridership

# Effective Linear Density

Two-day Count Average x 180

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Annual Number of Miles on Approved Routes

## Effective Linear Density (from previous year reports)

- Average best two days' of student counts
  - Example: 195 and 205, average to 200.
- Multiply by 180
  - Example: 200 x 180 = 36,000 riders (annualized)
- Divide by annual mileage
  - Example: 36,000 ÷ 60,000 miles = 0.6
- Effective Linear Density is 0.60

## Allotments-per-Mile of Approved Rate for Each Legislative Linear Density Grouping

Linear Density Group	Rate
2.400 or above	\$1.43
1.650 to 2.399	\$1.25
1.150 to 1.649	\$1.11
0.900 to 1.149	\$0.97
0.650 to 0.899	\$0.88
0.400 to 0.649	\$0.79
Up to 0.399	\$0.68



## Allotments-per-Mile of Approved Rate for Each Linear Density Grouping

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\$0.79 is the effective rate per mile for the regular program

The assigned allotment-per-mile rate for the school year is determined using your district's preceding school year's effective linear density and cost per mile.

In our example, \$0.79 is the effective rate per mile for the regular program, **provided** the prior year's cost per mile for the regular program was higher.



# Equity Center

Standing Up for Texas Taxpayers and Children