

# Can I Ride the Bus?

## DISTRICT SCHOOL BUS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Comox Valley Schools provides transportation for students to and from their catchment school under certain provisions.



### WALK LIMITS

All Elementary ages, K-7: 1.6 kilometer limit  
All Secondary ages, G 8-12: 4.0 kilometer limit

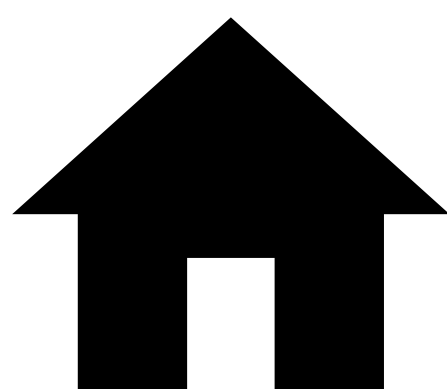
*Students residing within limits are not eligible for bus transportation.*

### ELIGIBLE RIDERS

Access to school bus service is provided to eligible riders in accordance with **Administrative Procedure 305 - School Choice**.

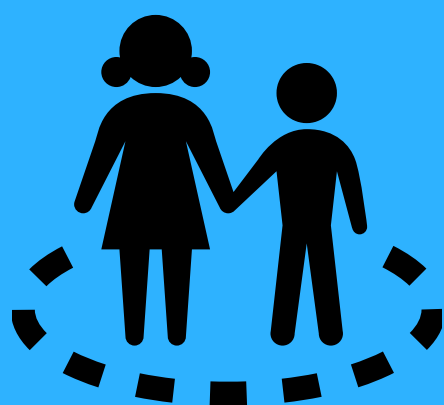
Eligible riders are defined as students residing within their school catchment area and whose homes are situated beyond the designated walk limits.

Eligible riders will be required to walk to the nearest bus stop for pick-up.



### CATCHMENT AREA CHILD

Of school age residing in catchment of their neighbourhood school. A school-age student residing outside their school catchment but a resident within the school district are a **non-catchment area** child. Students who transfer to a school outside their catchment area are not entitled to bus transportation or transportation allowance.



### BUS PASS

Bus passes are issued by a student's school at the start of the school year or within 7 - 10 days of applying for bus transportation. Students must display their pass to the bus driver each time they ride.

If a bus pass is lost/stolen, notify the school's administration office. A small fee may be charged for a replacement pass.

Bus routes and stops will be assigned based on address(es) provided with each bus registration.



**Regular Pass** - for eligible riders;

**Courtesy Pass**- Ineligible rider meeting criteria or eligible rider requiring child-care drop-off/pick-up provisions as disclosed at time of registration; or

**Temporary Pass** - awaiting issue of a Regular or Courtesy pass.





Questions, comments or concerns regarding school busing are to be direct to the Office of the Director of Operations at 250-334-5500 or [busing@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:busing@sd71.bc.ca)

## REGISTRATION

An online registration process is now available for all student riders.

New students, students who have a changed address and/or students who now meet the eligibility requirements are required to fill out an **Bus Transportation Form** available the District website at [comoxvalleyschools.ca/school-busing-registration/](https://comoxvalleyschools.ca/school-busing-registration/)

Please note that students progressing from elementary school to a middle/secondary school within the same catchment are not required to submit a new Bus Transportation Registration form unless they have changed their address within their catchment.

## COURTESY RIDERS

Students residing within walk limits or who reside outside their school's catchment area and attend a non-catchment school are considered **Ineligible Riders**.

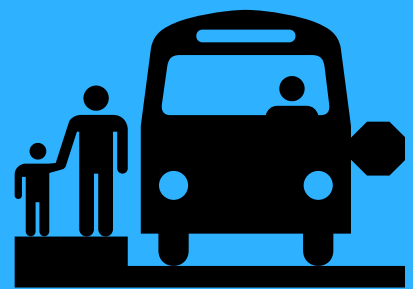
An ineligible rider may apply annually for a **Courtesy Pass**. Students will be notified in October if they have been approved once a head count of eligible riders has been completed.

Courtesy riders are required to walk to the closest bus stop. The school district will not create any new bus stops for courtesy riders.

Pick up of courtesy riders will be along bus routes already established for eligible riders and only where there is capacity available on the bus. Priority for courtesy riders will be as follows:

- **1st** priority - students who live furthest away from their attending school.
- **2nd** priority - students whose siblings have been granted ridership privileges, if the pickup and final destination are the same.
- **3rd** priority - the youngest student if all other factors are equal.

*Transportation granted to a non-eligible student rider in one school year, is not guaranteed for the following school year. At the start of each school year, new students considered an eligible rider will take priority over all other students.*



**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE