

Transport Assistance

For students with disabilities

Responsibilities of parents/carers

You are responsible for:

- providing accurate information to the preschool or school by completing the appropriate form (ED039A or ED039B)
- providing emergency contact numbers to the preschool or school
- notifying the taxi/bus company if your child is not attending preschool or school on a particular school day
- ensuring your child is ready to meet the transport at the specified time and place
- assisting or lifting your child in and out of the vehicle
- being present or organising for a responsible person to supervise your child at the pick-up/drop-off point
- providing appropriate seating, if necessary, e.g. booster seat or car seat
- contacting the director or principal, immediately, about any transport issues that concern you.

How can students be trained to use public transport to get to school?

School staff can train secondary students with disabilities to use public transport, where possible.

The training requires parent/carer permission. Ask at your school for more information.

Transport for children with disabilities by taxi/access cab/bus

Special Education Resource Unit
72A Marlborough Street
Henley Beach SA 5022

Telephone: 8235 2871

TTY: 8235 0465

Facsimile: 8235 1907

Email: admin@seru.sa.edu.au

Website: <http://web.seru.sa.edu.au>

(Click: Specialised Services/Transport Assistance)

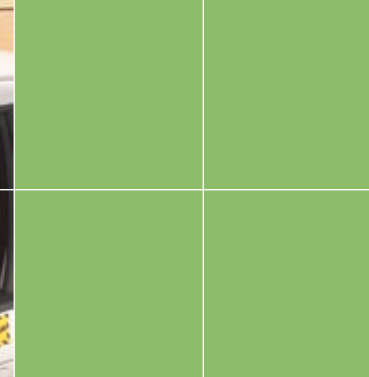
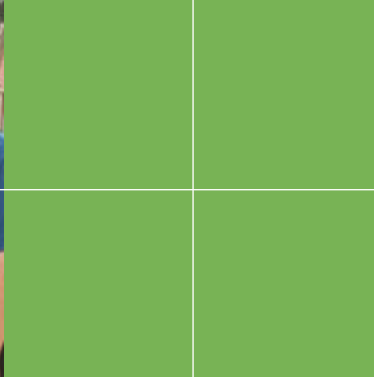
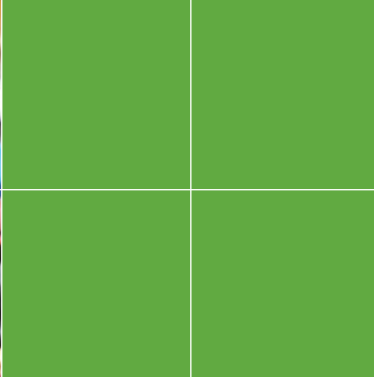


Information for parents and carers



Government of South Australia

Department of Education and
Children's Services



Who is eligible for transport assistance?

Parents/carers can receive transport assistance if they have a child with a disability who needs help to travel to one of the following:

- special preschool or school
- special unit
- special class.

What transport assistance is available?

Assistance can be one of the following:

- a car allowance paid to parents/carers (**You can take your child to school in your own vehicle. A per kilometre allowance will be paid to you each term.**)
- a Public Passenger Transport grant paid to parents/carers to cover the cost of bus, train or tram tickets
- a private bus fare allowance, where public transport is not available
- transport by taxi, Access Cab or specialist bus.

Transport assistance is provided to the nearest specialist facility, using the shortest practical route.

How to apply for transport assistance

- Contact your preschool director or school principal
- Obtain a transport assistance application form (ED039A). Fill it in and give it to the director or principal. (They will help you with completing the form if necessary.)
- If you wish, you can view a copy of the application form on the website of the Special Education Resource Unit (SERU). This will show you what information you will need to provide. SERU website: <http://web.seru.sa.edu.au> (Click: Specialised Services/Transport Assistance.)

Who approves and organises transport assistance?

All transport assistance is approved through SERU and organised by the Transport Services Unit in the Department of Education and Children's Services.

Transport arrangements cannot be made directly between parents/carers and taxi/bus drivers or taxi companies.

Any transport assistance must be approved by SERU.

How long will it take to organise transport assistance?

Transport arrangements will take **at least ten working days** to approve and organise.

Applying for a temporary change to transport arrangements

If you want to change the pick-up/drop-off address for a few days (e.g. for respite):

- Contact your preschool director or school principal
- Obtain a form for a temporary change to transport assistance (ED039B). Fill it in and give it to the director or principal.

A temporary change will only be approved if:

- it can be accommodated in an existing transport assistance route
- changes to transport do not disadvantage other students travelling in the same bus or taxi.

You must arrange the change through your preschool or school. You cannot make a direct arrangement with a driver or company.

Note that a minimum of seven working days is needed to complete temporary arrangements.