

Cache County School District Policy and Procedures

Siblings riding with their sibling that qualifies for special services on Special Needs Bus

We realize sometimes it is a great benefit for a qualified to have a sibling or siblings on the Special Needs bus with them. It is important to note that special needs buses provide special services for qualified Special Education or 504 students. Therefore prior approval from the IEP team and the District Transportation Department (i.e. determination that seating is available) is required for a sibling, or siblings to ride the Special Needs bus with another qualified member of their family. Decisions to allow a sibling to ride a bus will be made on a case by case basis looking at the needs of the qualified rider. If a sibling is approved, they are to be on time, and follow the driver's and attendant's instructions. This approval may be denied as conditions change on the bus (e.g. seats are needed for qualified riders) **or** if a sibling fails to follow the bus rules, policies, or procedures. If the qualified family member is not riding the bus, their sibling(s) will not be picked up or taken home by the Special Needs bus. Siblings cannot displace any qualified riders.

In summary, three steps are required to initiate bussing for a sibling. First, agree as an IEP team that sibling transportation is needed by the student with disabilities. Second, contact the District Transportation Department to learn if seating is available for the sibling. Finally, if seating is available, the teacher of the student with a disability is to talk with the bus driver to coordinate transportation for the sibling. If you have questions regarding this policy, please contact Ed Crookston at 792-7626.