

Important 2025-2026 School Bussing Information

The School District 8 - Kootenay Lake Transportation Department is getting ready for the 2025/26 school year. Please take note of the following important school bussing information.

Key Topics

2025/26 School Bus Registration Deadline: June 13, 2025.

Applications received after the deadline will be considered only if space is available on routes as scheduled. All students requesting SD8 school busing privileges MUST register annually. <u>Apply Here!</u>

Riding the School Bus: School bus privileges are reserved for students who have been registered for SD8 bussing for the given school year and who have received a confirmation email including the assigned bus route information. Students are only permitted to ride the school bus as assigned. Families must agree to SD8 bus pass procedures and bus conduct guidelines in order to ride the school bus.

Bus Routes: School bus routes are built annually by the Transportation Department prior to September school start up. Route design is based on school catchment and eligible rider demand as of the registration deadline. A student's bus route and stop assignment will be determined based on the home address on file with the school. Families will receive a bus registration confirmation email communicating which routes and stops are assigned to their student.

Eligible Riders: Students who live within their school's catchment and outside of the walk limits.

Courtesy Riders: Students who live outside of their school's catchment *or* within the walk limits or ride the bus less than 4 times per week.

School Walk Limits: Students are expected to walk to school wherever possible. To be eligible to ride an SD8 school bus a student must reside at a distance from their catchment school greater than 2.5 km for elementary, and 3 km for intermediate and secondary.

Bus Passes: Please hold onto your pass over the summer! Students registered for transportation in the current school year will continue to use their bus pass for the 2025/26 school year. Students new to SD8 bussing will have a bus pass delivered to their school for September startup. Students must follow bus pass procedures to utilize their SD8 bussing privileges.

School Bus Registration Application Process

Complete the 2025/2026 school bus registration application form <u>Apply Here!</u> Processing and route design take place during the summer months. Once processing and route design is complete, you will receive an email confirmation that:

- a) Your request for transportation privileges has been approved OR
- b) You have been put on a waiting list.

Students eligible for SD8 bussing will be awarded a seat on the bus. Students not eligible for SD8 bussing (courtesy riders) may be granted a seat on the bus after all eligible students are placed and only if there is an extra seat available on a set run.

Please note: If you are a courtesy bus rider and have a seat on the bus this year, you may not have a guaranteed seat in the 2054/2026 school year.