

Transportation Funding Considerations for GSRP Programs

PA 586 of 2018 includes a section specific to reimbursing a GSRP program for costs related to parent or guardian accompanied public transportation. Section 32d.(20) reads as follows:

Subject to, and from the funds allocated under, subsection (19), the department shall reimburse a program for transportation costs related to parent- or guardian-accompanied transportation provided by transportation service companies, buses, or other public transportation services. To be eligible for reimbursement under this subsection, a program must submit to the intermediate district or consortia of intermediate districts all of the following:

- (a) The names of families provided with transportation support along with a documented reason for the need for transportation support and the type of transportation provided.*
- (b) Financial documentation of actual transportation costs incurred by the program, including, but not limited to, receipts and mileage reports, as determined by the department.*
- (c) Any other documentation or information determined necessary by the department.*

Required Documentation

For audit purposes, intermediate school districts (ISDs) are responsible for ensuring documentation submitted for reimbursement is sufficient. To ensure compliance with this legislation, MDE recommends review and signoff by an authorized ISD official. A documented need for the reason for the use of public transportation and financial documentation is required. Receipts must clearly disclose the public transportation provider, cost, date, time, and location (or MapQuest) of each round trip to/from the program.

Additional Considerations

Based on this legislation as written, to be considered for reimbursement a parent or guardian must accompany the child; costs for other passengers accompanying the parent or guardian and child are not reimbursable. The mode of public transportation utilized must comply with applicable state laws.

All transportation services in Michigan (limos, taxis, Uber, Lyft, etc.) are required to complete a criminal background check and a driving history check on employed drivers annually. Uber and Lyft are required to provide insurance coverage at the corporate level, as well as coverage at the personal level (meaning Uber is insuring the driver's car while the driver is conducting Uber business). Fingerprinting is not required.