

Government of the District of Columbia Criteria to Request New Public Service for Schools

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) occasionally receive requests for new transit to serve schools. DDOT provides approval and funding for new transit services and WMATA provides the services. This document is intended to set forth criteria by which DDOT will consider schools' requests for new transit, making the process objective and transparent.

If requesting new transit services using the Request for New Public Transit Service for Schools form, you must meet the three prerequisites listed below. The deadline for submitting the form is March 31 if applying for the following school year (September through June). Please note that DDOT reserves the right to deny your request.

The three prerequisites listed below must be met to request new transit services.

- ✓ Your school will have at least 500 enrolled students.
- ✓ Your school will be located within 0.5 miles from at least one already existing Metrorail or Metrobus stop.
- ✓ Your school will have a transportation plan to assess how students and staff will reach the school.

If the above prerequisites are met, the following factors will be used when considering requests for new transit services. Through these factors, schools are encouraged to consider their location and how students and staff will reach the school. The goals of this transit program are twofold: 1) improve school accessibility and 2) responsibly allocate the District of Columbia's resources towards schools that are located in accessible areas.

- Generally where students are traveling from and how many times they will transfer to reach your school.
- Number of schools within a 0.5-mile radius of your school.
- Plans for expansion or growth in the next one to five years.
- Availability of sidewalks, the state of pedestrian infrastructure, and the existence of Traffic Control Officers or school crossing guards within a 0.5-mile radius of your school.
- Availability of bus zones within a 0.5-mile radius of your school.
- School hours.
- Availability of buses and storage facilities for buses. WMATA will determine this information.
- Current passenger loads of buses serving your school. WMATA will determine this information.