

## Response to Questions on the FY 2019 Budget

**Request By:** Supervisor Herrity

**Question:** How many students are bussed to schools outside of the school in whose boundary they reside? Please provide a breakdown of reasons the students are bussed if possible.

**Response:** The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

School Board-approved [Regulation 8617](#) establishes student eligibility rules for riding school buses and guidelines for developing bus routes and schedules. As indicated in the chart below, FCPS provides transportation for students to schools out-of-base-school boundary, excluding academies for which transportation are provided during mid-day from schools to schools.

| Programs                                 | Number of Students<br>(As of April 2018) |
|--|--|
| Advanced Academics                       | 6,124                                    |
| Special Education Programs               | 3,044                                    |
| Magnet Schools                           | 1,719                                    |
| Academy*                                 | 1,268                                    |
| Administrative Placements                | 631                                      |
| Exception to Ride                        | 691                                      |
| Alternative Schools/Centers              | 260                                      |
| Family Early Childhood Education Program | 215                                      |
| Boundary Adjustment - Temporary          | 75                                       |
| Temporary Housing                        | 66                                       |
| Project Opportunity                      | 61                                       |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>14,154</b>                            |
| *Part of the day                         |  |

### Advanced Academics

#### Family Early Childhood Education Program

Neighborhood transportation is provided to students who live within the program’s boundary. Transportation for students outside the program boundary is not provided.

### Special Education Programs

Students enrolled in designated special education programs with transportation requirements in their Individualized Education Programs are provided transportation.

### Magnet Schools

Limited transportation is provided for Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Bailey’s and Hunters Wood elementary schools. Students are picked up at several geographically dispersed locations around the county as designated annually by Transportation Services.

**Administrative Placements****Alternative Schools/centers**

Transportation is not required but may be provided based on need, available resources, and other requirements. Transportation may be required if deemed to be a related services of special needs.

**Exceptions to Ride**

When transportation is not provided, students may ride existing school buses if they can safely access an existing bus stop and if space is available. An exception-to-ride form (TR-52) must be completed by the parent or guardian and approved annually by Transportation Services. Exceptions to ride include support for students attending day care centers, or for transferred students with reasons outlined in [Regulation 2230](#).

**Boundary Adjustment**

Per Regulation 2230, transportation is provided only for School Board-approved boundary phase-ins. No transportation is provided for reasons other than boundary adjustments.

**Temporary Housing**

Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act and Virginia Project Hope program, transportation is provided to ensure the enrollment, attendance, and the school success of children and youth experiencing homelessness. FCPS provides transportation assistance for homeless students to help them remain at their school of origin for the remainder of the school year or until they are permanently housed.

**Project Opportunity**

Transportation is provided to Bryant and Mountain View. Based on available resources, transportation is provided by shuttle to and from base schools or from neighborhood stops.