

FRIENDS SELECT

2017-2018

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

There are several transportation options available to Friends Select School students. This information will focus on the private bussing service and the transportation service available through the Philadelphia Board of Education.

Option A: Private Transportation

1. This transportation is available for students in grades **Pre-K through 12**.
2. The areas covered by the two routes are Center City, West Philadelphia, and South Philadelphia. The routes are designed for door-to-door service wherever possible and aim to have a route length of no more than 60 minutes. (Note: route length dependent upon actual location of pick-up/drop-off points). The bus will be scheduled so that it can arrive in the school parking lot by 7:50 a.m. in order to meet the 8:00 a.m. start time for Middle and Upper School classes. Lower School students upon arrival go to the Dining Hall supervised by Friends Select staff and wait until they are dismissed for their 8:15 a.m. class start. The bus will depart promptly after the 3:00 p.m. dismissal.
3. Parents will be notified of pick-up times by phone call in late August. (Please note that there could be some adjustments in routing/times in the first two weeks or so as the route "settles out" and the potential for some late adds/deletions of students on the route).
4. The fee charged is for the entire school year. If a student is involved in an after school activity that goes beyond the departure time of the bus, other arrangements need to be made to get the student home. No credit will be made on your bill.
5. Rate schedule:

Distance from FSS	Grades 1 - 12		Grades PK - K**	
	Round Trip	One Way	Round Trip	One Way
Within 2 Miles	\$2,720	\$1,770	\$2,265	\$1,470
Over 2 Miles	\$3,315	\$2,155	\$2,740	\$1,780

** **Discounted fee available for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten as the alternative of free public school transportation is not available for these grades.**

6. Occasionally we receive a request from a parent whose child rides the private bus to go home with a schoolmate who **also** rides the private bus service. This is permissible but we request that you notify the Lower School/Middle School Assistant in writing at least one week in advance. Parents must make their own arrangements for guests who do not ride one of the private busses.
7. If you are interested in this bus service, please complete the "Option A" form (enclosed) and return it to the school with a \$30.00 deposit by **April 4, 2017**. **A new request form must be completed even if your child rides the bus this year.**

OPTION B and C PHILADELPHIA BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSSING AND “STUDENT TRANSPASS” PROGRAMS

1. Bus transportation is available at no cost to children in Grades 1 through 8 who live more than one and one-half mile, but no more than ten miles from the school. (Note: due to the school's location, the Philadelphia School Board has extended this service to grades 7 and 8). Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students are not included in this program. The Philadelphia School Board transportation office determines whether a student is eligible for the free bus transportation.

A monthly “Student Transpass” is available at no cost to students in grades 9 through 12 who live more than one and one-half mile but no more than ten miles from the school. The passes are picked up monthly at the reception desk in the front lobby **(one week prior to month they are valid)** by the students who are enrolled in this program. The transpasses may be used on SEPTA bus, trolley and subway transportation systems. They are not useable on the regional rail lines. The Philadelphia School Board transportation office determines whether a student is eligible for the free student transpass. **Please note that it can take up to one month for a transpass request to be processed.**

Suburban (non-Philadelphia) School Districts

Transpasses are also available to students living in the Cheltenham School District and Lower Merion School District (for Lower Merion only when bussing is not available). Other suburban districts do not offer transpasses for students.

2. The Philadelphia School District Transportation Office will notify parents of the pick-up and drop-off point locations in late August for the service.
3. If you are interested in these transportation options, please complete the "Option B or C" form and return it to the school by **April 4, 2017**.

NOTE: If you live in a school district other than Philadelphia and are interested in transportation to Friends Select School, please contact your local school district transportation office. In order to qualify, the boundary of your school district must be within 10 miles of Friends Select School and your district must be already providing transportation for public school students. Districts that currently provide a school bus or a transportation subsidy to students attending Friends Select are: Abington, Cheltenham, Haverford, Lower Merion, Radnor, Springfield, Upper Darby, and William Penn.

If you have questions or need further information please call 215-561-5900, extension 116.