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**To:** Superintendents, Business Managers, and Transportation Directors  
**From:** Doug Scott, Transportation Director  
**Date:** July 3, 2017  
**Re:** Basic Bus Bids and Maximum Depreciation

In accordance with Idaho Code 33-1006 and Standards for Idaho School Buses and Operations, the State Department of Education recently solicited bids for Conventional and Transit basic school buses. SDE will solicit bids again in January 2018 to set maximum depreciation allowed for the following six months.

School districts will continue to independently bid buses in accordance with bidding requirements outlined in Idaho Code. Districts may bid for school buses using individual specifications or may bid using the state basic bus specifications. Idaho basic bus specifications are available online at <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/student-transportation/index.html>. New school bus depreciation reimbursements will be limited to the state basic bus low bid plus any pre-approved safety options. The following table lists maximum depreciation allowed on district bus bids accepted between July 1, 2017 and January 1, 2018. Districts will submit a copy of school board meeting minutes as documentation of the bid acceptance date.

Diesel	Actual Passenger Capacity (Lift buses based on rated capacity)					
	41-42	53-54	65-66	71-72	77-78	83-84
Conventional	\$82,710	\$85,601	\$86,988	\$88,653	\$89,512	\$108,899
Transit FE	\$111,244	\$100,441	\$101,217	\$103,217	\$104,650	\$105,720
Transit RE	\$127,789	\$111,717	\$112,839	\$113,799	\$114,588	\$116,022
Gasoline	Actual Passenger Capacity (Lift buses based on rated capacity)					
	41-42	53-54	65-66	71-72	77-78	83-84
Conventional	\$86,810	\$89,105	\$91,255	\$92,346	\$93,101	\$107,072

Type A	Actual Passenger Capacity (Lift buses based on rated capacity)
	29-30
Diesel	\$75,460
Gasoline	\$55,792
Alternative Fuel LPG or CNG (specify)	Propane \$84,600

In addition to the above listed maximum depreciation, the following safety options may be allowed as additional reimbursement on a pre-approval basis. Districts that need safety options beyond the basic bus, two-way radio, and four camera passenger surveillance system must submit a pre-approval request in advance of bidding the bus. Bus safety option pre-approval requests should be submitted online via IBUS (Idaho Bus Utilization System). The following table reports the maximum reimbursement added to the basic bus for each safety option and the amount removed for non-reimbursable options.

<b>Safety Options</b>	<b>Blue Bird</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Thomas</b>
Additional Integrated Child Restraint Seats and include LATCH attachments cost per seat	\$950	\$800	
Air Conditioning	\$20,000	CE - \$10,600 RE - \$16,300	\$8,500
Air conditioning vest	\$500	\$400	\$298
Alternative fuel compressed natural gas engine-CNG engine	\$50,000	N/A	\$30,200
Alternative fuel liquefied petroleum gas engine-propane-LPG engine	\$20,000	\$13,000	\$10,100
Automatic chains	\$3,850	\$2,600	\$2,250
Cost per wheel chair station	\$1,250	\$920	\$800
Driver's side window sun visor	\$1,100	\$65	\$50
Electromagnetic driveline retarder	\$20,000	\$10,500	\$10,500
Flat floor	\$2,500	\$1,200	\$1,820  71 – 77 Pass
Front bumper mounted student crossing arm	\$1,500	\$370	\$315
Full track seating 72 passengers	\$14,000	\$10,000	\$7,090
Heated entry steps	\$1,300	\$331	\$401
Passenger three point seat belts, cost per seat	\$850	\$475	\$450
Roof mounted air deflector	\$1,450	\$575	\$550

<b>Safety Options</b>	<b>Blue Bird</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Thomas</b>
Second stop arm – left side rear	\$750	\$345	\$375
Track seating per station	\$950	\$682	\$800
Track seats to be installed, cost per seat	\$650	\$460	\$310
Wheel chair lift package # lbs. cap.1000, w/seat belt cutter having a full width handgrip to be included.	\$9,980	\$7,100	\$6,420
<b>Safety Options Non-Reimbursable</b>	<b>Blue Bird</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Thomas</b>
Additional price per camera for passenger surveillance system with more than four cameras	\$100	\$475	\$420
Fire block seating per seat in-lieu of standard seat	\$21	\$35	\$31.75
White roof	Included in Base Price	\$456	\$601
<b>Non-Reimbursable Extended <u>Engine</u> Warranties</b>	<b>Blue Bird</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>Thomas</b>
5 year 150,000 miles extended any major component	\$650	\$1,400	N/A
7 year 150,000 miles extended coverage	\$1,250	\$2,300	\$2,200
7 year 150,000 miles extended any major component	\$400	\$1,800	\$750
10 year 200,000 miles extended coverage	\$3,200	\$4,200	\$4,250
10 year 200,000 miles extended any major component	\$600	\$850	\$1,050
10 year Unlimited miles extended coverage	\$3,500	\$4,650	\$4,750

Please contact SDE with any questions on the new basic bus bids or maximum depreciation. Bus sizes or types that fall outside the basic bus specifications will be depreciated at a rate not to exceed the prior year's average low bid price.