

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION



Division of Student Transportation

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

Please note: OSSE DOT will be operating as follows during periods of inclement weather. These guidelines apply to ALL public, non-public, and charter schools.

CODE RED – No transportation

CODE YELLOW – Limited transportation

Scenario	OSSE DOT	Customer Service
CODE RED DCPS is CLOSED DC Government is CLOSED	Transportation is suspended. OSSE DOT WILL NOT provide transportation services to any jurisdiction.	Parent Resource Center is CLOSED
CODE RED DCPS is CLOSED DC Government is OPEN	Transportation is suspended. OSSE DOT WILL NOT provide transportation services to any jurisdiction. OSSE DOT WILL open.	Parent Resource Center is OPEN 5 a.m.–7 p.m.
CODE YELLOW DCPS is OPEN School systems in neighboring jurisdictions are CLOSED	OSSE DOT WILL only transport students that reside in and attend schools in DC. OSSE DOT WILL NOT provide transportation services to/from residences or schools in neighboring jurisdictions. <i>Example: If a student resides in the neighboring jurisdiction and attends a school in DC, OSSE DOT WILL NOT transport to/from school.</i> <i>If a student resides in DC and attends a school in the neighboring jurisdiction, OSSE DOT WILL NOT transport to/from school.</i>	Parent Resource Center is OPEN 5 a.m.–7 p.m.
CODE YELLOW DCPS is OPEN School systems in neighboring jurisdictions are operating on a DELAYED OPENING	OSSE DOT WILL transport to/from schools in DC on time. OSSE DOT WILL provide transportation services to/from neighboring jurisdiction on a delayed schedule. Pick-up/Drop-off times will be based on the DELAYED OPENING TIMES in the respective jurisdictions. <i>Example: If a student resides in DC and attends a school in the neighboring jurisdiction, OSSE DOT WILL transport to school based on the school's delayed opening.</i> <i>If a student resides in the neighboring jurisdiction and attends a school in DC, OSSE DOT WILL transport to school based on the delayed opening in the respective jurisdiction.</i> <i>See TABLE 1 on the back for an example.</i>	Parent Resource Center is OPEN 5 a.m.–7 p.m.

CODE YELLOW	OSSE DOT <u>WILL</u> provide transportation services to/from schools in DC and neighboring jurisdictions based on DCPS delayed opening. Pick-up times will be based on DCPS <u>DELAYED OPENING TIME</u> .	Parent Resource Center is <u>OPEN</u> 5 a.m.–7 p.m.
DCPS is operating on a <u>DELAYED OPENING</u>	<p><i>Example: If a student resides in DC and attends a school in the neighboring jurisdiction, OSSE DOT <u>WILL</u> transport to school based on DCPS delayed opening.</i></p> <p><i>If a student resides in the neighboring jurisdiction and attends a school in DC, OSSE DOT <u>WILL</u> transport to school based on DCPS delayed opening.</i></p> <p><i>See TABLE 1 below for an example.</i></p>	
CODE YELLOW	OSSE DOT will dispatch routes based on the school's <u>EARLY DISMISSAL TIME</u> . OSSE DOT will close after the last student is dropped off.	Parent Resource Center is <u>OPEN</u> 5am – until the last student is transported home
DCPS and schools in neighboring jurisdictions are operating on <u>EARLY DISMISSAL</u>	<p><i>Example: If a student attends school in DC or in the neighboring jurisdiction, OSSE DOT <u>WILL</u> transport from school based on the school's early dismissal time.</i></p> <p><i>See TABLE 2 below for an example.</i></p>	

TABLE 1: 2-hour delayed opening

Normal Pick-Up	6:45 a.m.
Delayed Pick-Up	8:45 a.m.
Normal School Opening	8 a.m.
Delayed School Opening	10 a.m.

TABLE 2: 2-hour early dismissal

Normal School Dismissal	3 p.m.
Early School Dismissal	1 p.m.
Normal Drop-Off	3:30 p.m..
Early Drop-Off	1:30 p.m.

Alternative Transportation

Parents/guardians are responsible for arranging alternative transportation if their child's school chooses to remain open when OSSE DOT is not providing services due to inclement weather. In such case, OSSE DOT will reimburse parents/guardians on a per-mile basis.

Unsafe Road Conditions

In addition to the above procedures, OSSE DOT bus drivers are empowered to use discretion when transporting students during inclement weather. If the driver feels the road, sidewalk, stairway or entryway leading to a student's residence is impassable, the driver may choose not to attempt pick-up/drop-off, even when school is open.

In such cases, OSSE DOT's Parent Resource Center will make every effort to contact parents/guardians to inform them of the situation and attempt to obtain alternate pick up arrangements where available, such as the main intersection. Please expect delays in this event.

Transportation Status Updates

On days with inclement weather, OSSE DOT will send transportation status reports to schools and parents/guardians via automated email and telephone messages. It is imperative that parents/guardians keep their contact information updated with their child's school to ensure they receive these automated messages.

Transportation status updates will also be posted regularly during inclement weather on OSSE's website (osse.dc.gov), OSSE DOT's webpage, and social media outlets, including Facebook (facebook.com/ossedc), Twitter (@OSSEDC), and the OSSE blog (ossedc.wordpress.com), as well as the local news.