

Magnet School Transportation

Transportation of magnet school students are provided at centralized pick up points across Hamilton County. These centralized pickup points are generally schools and community centers. The logistics and complexity of transporting students across 525 square miles of Hamilton County dictates the use of pickup points. It is not possible to provide neighborhood transportation services to magnet school students without incurring significant financial costs.

The safety of each student is of utmost importance to the Hamilton County Department of Education and its employees. With that in mind, parents are expected to be with their children when the bus arrives in the morning and when the bus drops off students in the afternoon. Students may be at risk if left at the bus stop in the morning or the afternoon for any period of time. To ensure the safety of the students, transportation may be denied for students whose parents are not at the stop when the bus arrives.

Several schools within the Hamilton County Department of Education have defined attendance zones in addition to being open to applicants from the entire county. Students residing in the attendance zone receive neighborhood transportation. Students residing outside of the school zone must go to designated pickup points for transportation.

The following magnet schools do not receive out of zone transportation. Parents of students who live outside the school zone must provide their own transportation.

Battle Academy

Brown International Academy

Donaldson Environmental Science Academy

Normal Park Lower

Normal Park Upper

Question: Why do students residing in the attendance zone receive neighborhood transportation?

Answer: Students living in the attendance zone receive neighborhood transportation since there is not any other school providing transportation in the neighborhood. Students attending out of the school zone have neighborhood transportation provided by the zoned school. Students attending outside of the zone always have the option of attending the zoned school if neighborhood transportation is needed.

Question: My child needs neighborhood transportation because the walk to the pickup location is dangerous?

Answer: Pickup points are not meant to be in safe walking distance for students. It is an ideal situation if students can walk to the stop safely; however, these pickup points are meant to be common places where parents bring the students for transportation.

Question: The bus comes right by my house. Why can't it stop at my house?

Answer: As stated previously, HCDE buses have to canvas 525 square miles of Hamilton County. The buses pass many houses along the way. Time is of the essence in getting to the school on time. Transportation wants to be consistent and make sure that everyone receives the same type of transportation.