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Ohio School Boards Association

August 22, 2019

This issue contains information on the following

1. **T2 final deadline**
2. **Ohio Fuel Tax rebates**
3. **Revised code update – reduction in service levels**
4. **Revised code update – school bus driver physicals**
5. **MTA enrollment – payment in lieu of transportation class**

1) T2 final deadline

T2 transportation reports must be submitted with ODE on or before August 31. Updated instructions have been posted by ODE. Districts enrolled in OSBA's Virtual Transportation Supervisor program should refer to T2 assistance tools available on our website.

2) Ohio Fuel Tax rebates

In this year's state transportation bill the fuel tax was increased on both gasoline and diesel fuel. The bill also increased the exemption for school districts, in essence resulting in no change to the amount of tax ultimately paid on fuel. Each district will see an increase in the state tax charged per gallon on fuel receipts, however districts can file for a rebate with the Ohio Department of Taxation. Look for form MVF81-2 posted on their website (<https://www.tax.ohio.gov/Forms.aspx?TaxType=Motor%20Fuel%20Tax>).

3) Revised code update – reduction in service levels

The new operating budget bill for Ohio includes a new piece of law in RC 3327.015. This code prohibits a school district from reducing transportation it has opted to provide to students the district is not required to transport after the first day of the school year.

The immediate implication is that a district that initiates transportation for students in addition to state minimum at the beginning of the school year may not reduce their service to state minimum transportation during the year, whether because of a failed levy or any other reason.

There are some questions about the impact of this bill on transportation for students who experience a change in eligibility due to timings, school relocations, or payment in lieu of transportation. Our understanding is that ODE will be issuing a guidance on these matters.

This bill is effective October 17, 2019.

4) Revised code update – school bus driver physicals

RC 3327.10 has been amended to resolve an inconsistency inadvertently caused by a previous bill. In the new language, the list of approved medical examiners for school transportation drivers has been amended and is now consistent for both privately employed and publicly employed drivers. Employers are still required to designate their locally approved medical providers, but may choose from the following: Any

person licensed to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery, physician assistants, certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse midwife, licensed chiropractor or any medical professional listed on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners (FMCSA).

5) MTA enrollment – payment in lieu of transportation class

If you are interested in joining other transportation administrators in the popular OSBA Master of Transportation program, we are still accepting registrations for the upcoming school year. Details about the classes scheduled for the upcoming school year are available on OSBA's website at the following link: [MTA 2020](#).

The first class is scheduled for September 18 and will focus on the always challenging topic of 'impractical to transport' and payment in lieu of transportation. This class will be repeated on October 2.

If you have questions about this program or want to sign up, call us at (614) 540-4000 and ask for one of the transportation team, or send an email to MTA@Ohioschoolboards.org.

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