



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

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March 13, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Transportation Directors

FROM: Derek Graham, Section Chief *DSG*
NCDPI-Transportation Services

SUBJECT: SESPTC Student Scholarship

The enclosed scholarship documents provide information about the Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC) scholarship, including parent and student qualifications, the application form, required supporting documentation, and the selection/award process used.

The SESPTC is a non-profit corporation created to host an annual conference focused on educating student transportation professionals working in the southeast. The member southeastern states are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. The conference has been held annually since 1951. Each state is allowed to nominate 25 delegates to attend the annual conference. This year the SESPTC Board has approved the award of two \$1,000 scholarships to deserving students in each of the fourteen southeastern states. The scholarship funds must be used to cover education expenses at a postsecondary educational institution and will be paid to the institution in support of a student's 2009-2010 school year expenses.

To qualify, a parent/guardian family must have a gross taxable income less than \$75,000 for each of the past five tax years. A parent/guardian of the student must have been actively employed in public school transportation for the past five years. A student qualifies by graduating from a public high school and then attending a postsecondary educational institution in 2009. The \$1,000 scholarship can be used for any part of the student's 2009-2010 school year tuition, books or fees.

To assure that all eligible students have an opportunity to apply for this scholarship, please help distribute this information to your transportation staff and high school counselors. Eligible transportation staff include any of the following: bus drivers, bus aides/monitors, bus mechanics, directors of student transportation services, bus supervisors, bus driver trainers, bus safety inspectors, and many other positions either employed by a school district, their contractors, a state school, or the State Department of Education.

Applications are due to the local director of transportation by no later than April 30, 2009 and the local finalist packet must be submitted by the local committee to the Department of Public Instruction Transportation Services no later than May 15, 2009. Each LEA may submit only one application packet.

The awards will be announced at the NCPTA Conference Awards Banquet on June 17, 2009.

SCHOOL SUPPORT DIVISION

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