



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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January 26, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Transportation Directors

FROM: Derek Graham, Section Chief
NCDPI-Transportation Services 

SUBJECT: 2017 SESPTC Student Scholarship

The enclosed scholarship documents provide additional information about the scholarship, including parent and student qualifications, the application form, required supporting documentation, and the selection process to determine deserving students.

The SESPTC is a non-profit corporation created over sixty years ago 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. Over the last few years, with the support of industry vendors, the SESPTC has accumulated funds which the SESPTC Board of Directors has decided to disburse in the form of student education scholarships. This year the SESPTC Board has approved the award of one \$2,500 scholarship to a deserving student 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 2016-2017 school year expenses.

To qualify, a parent/guardian family must have a gross taxable income less than \$75,000 for each of the past three tax years. A parent/guardian of the student must have been actively employed in public school transportation for the past three years. A student qualifies by graduating from a public high school and then attending a postsecondary educational institution in 2017. The \$2,500 scholarship can be used for any part of the student's 2017-2018 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 applicants include any of the following transportation staff: 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 no later than April 28, 2017 and the local finalist packet must be submitted by the local committee to the Department of Public Instruction Transportation Services no later than May 5, 2017 (postmark). Each LEA may submit only one application packet.

DG/tw

Enclosures

SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS SUPPORT DIVISION

Derek Graham, Section Chief | derek.graham@dpi.nc.gov

6319 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6319 | (919) 807-3570 | Fax (919) 807-3578

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