



# STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

**Date:** March 11, 2026  
**To:** Local Educational Agency Leads  
**Route To:** School District Transportation Coordinators, Coordinated Transportation Services Agencies  
**From:** Joseph Howe, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Finance and Business Services  
**Deadline:** August 17, 2026

## Information Submission for CDL-Exempt Drivers

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) today is releasing guidance, [Designating Drivers for Student Transportation pursuant to P.L. 2024, c.81 for the 2026-2027 School Year](#). Pursuant to P.L. 2024, c.81, school districts, including coordinated transportation services agencies, may designate qualified school personnel to provide transportation between home and school in vehicles with a passenger capacity of eight or fewer, not including the driver. These drivers are not required to possess a commercial driver's license and are exempt from many other requirements of school bus drivers. Please note that the law's provisions are only available to school personnel and are not available to school bus contractors.

A school district electing to designate school personnel to provide transportation between home and school during the 2026-2027 school year, pursuant to P.L. 2024, c.81, must provide documentation to their NJDOE [Executive County Superintendent](#) by August 17, 2026. Specifically, the school district must provide information regarding each school employee who has been designated to transport students under the law, as well as the vehicles in which students will be transported. The information must be submitted through the NJDOE's [Homerom webpage](#) in the *Transportation: CDL-Exempt Driver* application. The web application contains detailed instructions for submitting the required information.

Questions should be addressed to the Student Transportation Unit at [student.trans@doe.nj.gov](mailto:student.trans@doe.nj.gov).