Department of **Transport**

On-demand Transport Fact Sheet School Bus Services

School bus services are defined under the *Transport (Road Passenger Services) Regulations 2020* (the Regulations) as a passenger transport service that:

- uses vehicles that are equipped to carry more than 8 people; and
- is provided solely to carry students, with or without adults who are responsible for them, to or from –
 - a school (as defined in the School Education Act 1999); or
 - another place that students enrolled at school attend for an event or activity approved by the school.

Legislative requirements

Under the Regulations, school bus service providers are exempt from all the requirements of the *Transport (Road Passenger Services) Act 2018* (the Act), except the requirement to have a safety management system.

On-demand booking service authorisation

A school bus service provider is not an On-demand Booking Service (ODBS) if the service solely:

- takes or facilitates bookings for Passenger Transport Vehicles (PTVs) used in providing school bus services; and
- communicates the bookings to drivers of PTVs providing a school bus service or to providers of school bus services.

School bus service providers who meet these criteria do not require ODBS authorisation.

School bus vehicles

Vehicles that are used solely to provide a school bus service do not require a PTV authorisation.

Vehicles that are used to provide school bus services, as well as any on-demand charter, regular or tourism passenger transport services need to have the applicable PTV authorisation.

School bus drivers

Drivers of a school buses may require a Passenger Transport Driver (PTD) authorisation, depending on the terms of their employment or arrangements for driving the school bus.

For further information regarding PTD authorisations visit the <u>Department of Transport website</u>.

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