



Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation

Transportation Department

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Fall 2020-21 Transportation - COVID-19 Safety Procedures

Driver Screening,

Consistent with St. Louis City/County Department of Public Health guidance, drivers who have coronavirus symptoms will notify their supervisor and stay home. Please see below.

1. A fever 100.3 or higher, or a sense of having a fever – bus drivers will have temperature taken at dispatch window prior to operating service vehicle. Taxi/Non-Yellow vendors will have drivers self-monitor.
2. A cough that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
3. Shortness of breath that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
4. Have lost any sense of smell or taste.
5. Muscle aches or pains (myalgias) that cannot be attributed to another health condition, or that may have been caused by a specific activity (such as physical exercise).
6. A sore throat that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
7. Have had any close contact with a person that has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 or demonstrated any of the symptoms.
8. Have had chills or repeated shaking with chills?
9. Have had a headache that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
10. Have tested positive for COVID-19.
11. Have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting results.
12. Have traveled inside or outside of the United States by air, bus, train, or cruise ship in the past 14 days.

The following practices will be followed to help minimize contact with passengers.

- Driver and Monitors will wear masks while students are aboard service vehicle and loading and unloading. Once all students have boarded the vehicle and are traveling to school from last pickup or from school to first stop, drivers can use face shields – switching back to masks once the loading/unloading is initiated again.
- The seat located directly behind the driver will be left unoccupied.
- Any contact made with student should only be made during a preventative or an emergency, and driver must be wearing sanitized gloves.

Vehicle Sanitation,

- Ensure the interior of the bus (or other service vehicle) has been cleaned and disinfected, paying attention to “high-touch” surfaces such as the entrance handrail, seats, seat belts (if applicable), steering wheel, and door handles.
 - Consult materials provided by the bus manufacturers and St. Louis Taxi Commission for recommended products and procedures for proper sanitation, i.e.,
 - [Blue Bird Corporation](#)
 - [IC Bus](#)
 - [Thomas Built Buses](#)
 - [St. Louis Taxi Commission](#)
- Staff has been provided safety training, so they understand how to effectively clean the bus/vehicle.
- High touch areas will be cleaned such as handrails and door handles in between runs.
- Increased circulation of outdoor air into the vehicle will be practiced to the extent possible.
- Taxi/Non-Yellow vehicles will have a barrier in between driver and passenger seating.
- Open food or drink containers will not be allowed on the bus or other vehicle unless water needed due to extreme high temperatures (slim top bottles only).
- Hand washing or use of hand sanitizer prior to boarding transportation and subsequent to is highly recommended. Hand sanitizer should be available pending supplies.

Passenger Screening

Players/Students should be screened by parent/guardian prior to boarding transportation to school and by coaches or school sponsor prior to boarding transportation to home for symptoms following the most recent [CDC guidelines](#) including but not limited to;

1. A fever 100.3 or higher, or a sense of having a fever. (coaches/sponsors exempt)
2. A cough that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
3. Shortness of breath that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
4. Have lost any sense of smell or taste.
5. Muscle aches or pains (myalgias) that cannot be attributed to another health condition, or that may have been caused by a specific activity (such as physical exercise).
6. A sore throat that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
7. Have had any close contact with a person that has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 or demonstrated any of the symptoms.
8. Have had chills or repeated shaking with chills?
9. Have had a headache that cannot be attributed to another health condition.
10. Have tested positive for COVID-19.
11. Have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting results.
12. Have traveled inside or outside of the United States by air, bus, train, or cruise ship in the past 14 days.

Any Student showing any of the above signs should not board VICC transportation.

Students who are high risk should not be in group settings. Any students with medical conditions should ensure VICC transportation is made aware so additional accommodations can be made if medically necessary. Documentation from a physician on medical necessity may be required.

Social Distancing

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations regarding use of buses includes limiting seating to one child per seat when wearing a mask, or in every other seat without masks, and alternating the rows. Strict adherence to these recommendations, for a 77-passenger bus, would allow for approximately 26-13 students to be transported. Due to various constraints, to meet these recommendations, it will not be feasible for VICC. Therefore, VICC will implement practices to reduce the likelihood of spreading the disease, such as:

- Students will load the bus/vehicle beginning with the rear of the bus/vehicle; unload beginning with the front of the bus/vehicle giving thought to younger student placement. Avoid congregating in the bus aisle.
- Allowing single riders or same family households to sit together in single seat.
- Assigning passengers to sit in the same seat going to and returning from the school trip.
- Use of face masks for all students.
- Students must remain in their seat and must abstain from touching or talking directly to another passenger.
- Permission will not be given for students to ride to or from school with others assigned to different buses/cabs.

If a case is identified, spending more than 15 minutes within 6 feet would be considered close contact. Those persons involved would need to quarantine. Communication to those students will be identified and every attempt to contact will be made. **Drivers MUST keep track of student attendance and location while on transportation on all runs.**

Please communicate to our office if alternate transportation arrangements, such as riding with a parent, has been chosen.

Questions

If you have questions, please contact the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Transportation Office – 314-721-8657 and select 1 for assistance. Thank you.

C: David Glaser, Transportation Vendors, VICC District Contact Persons