



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Catherine Truitt, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

WWW.DPI.NC.GOV

TO LEA Transportation Directors

FROM Kevin Harrison, Section Chief
Transportations Services

DATE March 26, 2021

2021 Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference Scholarship

The Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC) is a non-profit corporation created almost seventy 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. With the support of the conference attendees and industry vendors, the SESPTC accumulated funds which the SESPTC Board of Directors decided to disburse in the form of student education scholarships. This year the SESPTC Board has approved the award of one \$2,000 scholarship to a deserving student in each of the fourteen member 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 2021-2022 school year expenses.

To qualify, a parent/guardian family must have a gross taxable income less than \$80,000 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 2021. The \$2,000 scholarship can be used for any part of the student's 2021-2022 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 transportation 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 23, 2021 and the local finalist packet must be submitted by the local committee to the Department of Public Instruction Transportation Services no later than April 30, 2021 (postmark). Each LEA may submit only one application packet.

KH/tw

Enclosures

DISTRICT OPERATIONS DIVISION

Kevin Harrison, Section Chief, Transportation Services | kevin.harrison@dpi.nc.gov

6319 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6319 | (984) 236-2940

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER