



NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

Transportation Reserve Fund for Homeless
and Foster Children

*Pursuant to SB 508/SL 2024-1; G.S.
115C-250.5*

Date Due: March 15, 2026

DPI Chronological Schedule, 2025-2026

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION VISION

Every public school student in North Carolina will be empowered to accept academic challenges, prepared to pursue their chosen path after graduating high school, and encouraged to become lifelong learners with the capacity to engage in a globally-collaborative society.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MISSION

The mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education is to use its constitutional authority to guard and maintain the right of a sound, basic education for every child in North Carolina Public Schools.

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NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Maurice "Mo" Green, State Superintendent / 301 N. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

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Inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination issues should be directed to:

Thomas Tomberlin, Senior Director, Educator Preparation, Licensure, and Performance, NCDPI
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BACKGROUND

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is charged with annually reporting on the Homeless and Foster Student Transportation Grant (PRC 081). The Homeless and Foster Student Transportation Grant is authorized under Session Law 2023-134, section 115C-250.5. The grant is established to cover extraordinary school transportation costs incurred by students experiencing homelessness or a foster setting. \$3 million dollars of state funding is appropriated for this grant annually. This grant program provides additional funding to selected PSUs to cover extraordinary school transportation costs for homeless and foster students.

GUIDELINES

The NCDPI established guidelines and awarded funds consistent with the following statute requirements:

- In determining extraordinary transportation costs, the Department shall consider total prior-year transportation expenditures for homeless and foster children, including expenditures from local funds and all other funding sources, as a proportion of total expenditures.
- Priority shall be given to applicants in proportion to the extent that their applications and prior-year expenditures demonstrate use of available federal funds to cover the cost of transporting homeless and foster children.
- Awards shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of extraordinary transportation costs as determined pursuant to this subsection.
- Awards shall not be issued on a pro rata basis to each eligible applicant.

2024-2025 AWARDS

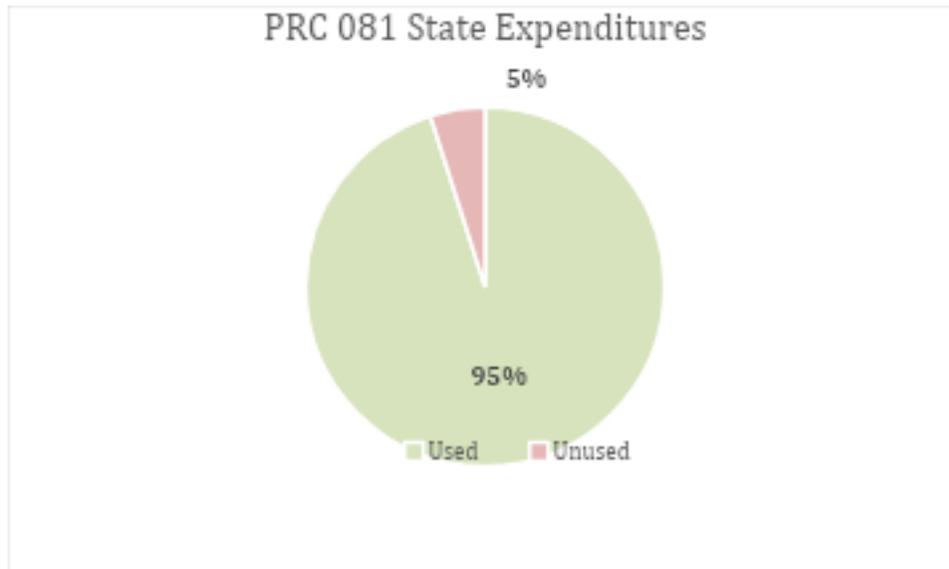
In May 2025, 56 PSUs were awarded PRC 081 Homeless and Foster Student Transportation Grant funds

PSU Code	PSU Name	Award Amount
020	Alexander County Schools	\$ 7,551.97
030	Alleghany County Schools	\$ 13,001.42
050	Ashe County Schools	\$ 48,959.66
060	Avery County Schools	\$ 10,414.67
090	Bladen County Schools	\$ 24,401.25
110	Buncombe County Schools	\$ 71,122.51
111	Asheville City Schools	\$ 12,558.48
130	Cabarrus County Schools	\$ 112,145.07
150	Camden County Schools	\$ 1,347.32
180	Catawba County Schools	\$ 18,531.30
182	Newton Conover City Schools	\$ 2,853.09
190	Chatham County Schools	\$ 32,830.04
230	Cleveland County Schools	\$ 37,059.24
241	Whiteville City Schools	\$ 3,588.41
270	Currituck County Schools	\$ 12,915.73
290	Davidson County Schools	\$ 25,056.35
291	Lexington City Schools	\$ 7,996.27
292	Thomasville City Schools	\$ 3,611.63
320	Durham Public Schools	\$ 168,813.77
350	Franklin County Schools	\$ 27,658.19
370	Gates County Schools	\$ 1,996.11
380	Graham County Schools	\$ 8,192.04
400	Greene County Schools	\$ 17,941.73
410	Guilford County Schools	\$ 418,625.80
420	Halifax County Schools	\$ 26,905.83
421	Roanoke Rapids Schools	\$ 2,827.86
422	Weldon City Schools	\$ 6,666.10
440	Haywood County Schools	\$ 22,922.48

PSU Code	PSU Name	Award Amount
491	Mooreville Graded School District	\$ 9,275.52
520	Jones County Schools	\$ 5,422.02
530	Lee County Schools	\$ 25,275.97
590	McDowell County Schools	\$ 40,285.99
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	\$ 739,994.13
610	Mitchell County Schools	\$ 8,282.42
620	Montgomery County Schools	\$ 23,373.90
630	Moore County Schools	\$ 23,126.11
650	New Hanover County Schools	\$ 76,382.33
690	Pamlico County Schools	\$ 7,319.86
700	Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools	\$ 23,301.39
720	Perquimans County Schools	\$ 7,813.21
761	Asheboro City Schools	\$ 2,048.68
770	Richmond County Schools	\$ 19,824.88
790	Rockingham County Schools	\$ 16,815.78
810	Rutherford County Schools	\$ 49,759.87
850	Stokes County Schools	\$ 9,392.88
861	Elkin City Schools	\$ 856.07
862	Mount Airy City Schools	\$ 806.00
870	Swain County Schools	\$ 8,375.78
880	Transylvania County Schools	\$ 10,791.16
890	Tyrrell County Schools	\$ 1,394.26
910	Vance County Schools	\$ 14,174.21
920	Wake County Schools	\$ 609,681.91
930	Warren County Schools	\$ 15,816.55
960	Wayne County Public Schools	\$ 22,311.16
970	Wilkes County Schools	\$ 42,724.66
980	Wilson County Schools	\$ 33,579.03

2024-2025 PRC 081 ExPENDITURES & LESSONS LEARNED

In total \$2,923,359 were awarded to 56 PSUs. Of that approximately 95% (\$2,719,471) was used to help with transportation expenses incurred by students experiencing homelessness or a foster setting. This is an improvement from last year’s 91% usage rate.



Most PSUs reported that funds were used to cover fuel costs, salaries of bus drivers, and/or additional transportation contracts. Here are some statements collected from the PSUs:

- “The funds provided transportation for homeless youth housed outside of the district’s attendance zone. Many of the homeless children live in homes where the adults do not have transportation making it difficult for students to remain in their previous school of choice during a very difficult

transition time. Hotels and couches of family members are already difficult living arrangements. The comfort of riding a school bus for our young children returns some sense of normalcy.”

- “Our district uses these funds to support the unique needs of our foster and homeless student populations, with a primary focus on ensuring consistent and reliable transportation. Because we have a large geographic area, as well as a North Carolina Baptist Children’s Homes facility located within our district, transportation needs are significant and ongoing. The funds help us provide daily transportation to and from school, after-school programs, and essential appointments that support students’ stability and well-being. This support ensures that students experiencing housing instability can maintain regular school attendance, which is critical for their academic success. Additionally, the funding allows us to respond quickly to emergency placements and school transitions so students do not miss instructional time. Overall, these resources play a vital role in removing barriers and helping our foster and homeless students remain engaged, supported, and connected to their education.”
- “These funds were used to provide transportation for MV students who moved outside their homeschool attendance area. These funds have helped the district do everything possible to keep MV students in their home school when they move.”

With regards, to the 5% of unused PRC 081 funds (\$141,731), PSUs informed us that funds would have been used if they had been awarded earlier in the fiscal year. In 2024-2025, PSUs were told of the funds in early June and funds had to be spent by June 30th. We have made adjustments to deliver these funds three months earlier for 2025-2026.

UNUTILIZED FUNDS BY PSU:

LEA	LEA Name	Unused Funds
02000	Alexander County	\$ 2,924.98
03000	Alleghany County	\$ 12,105.42
05000	Ashe County	\$ -
06000	Avery County	\$ 10,414.67
09000	Bladen County	\$ 24,401.25
11000	Buncombe County	\$ -
11100	Asheville City	\$ -
13000	Cabarrus County	\$ -
15000	Camden County	\$ -
18000	Catawba County	\$ -
18200	Newton-Conover	\$ -
19000	Chatham County	\$ -
23000	Cleveland County	\$ -
24100	Whiteville City	\$ 3,588.41
27000	Currituck County	\$ 7,927.87
29000	Davidson County	\$ -
29100	Lexington City	\$ -
29200	Thomasville City	\$ -
32000	Durham Public	\$ 938.77
35000	Franklin County	\$ -
37000	Gates County	\$ 1,996.11
38000	Graham County	\$ -
40000	Greene County	\$ 17,941.73
41000	Guilford County	\$ -
42000	Halifax County	\$ -
42100	Roanoke Rapids City	\$ -
42200	Weldon City	\$ -
44000	Haywood County	\$ 19,487.57

LEA	LEA Name	Unused Funds
49100	Mooreville City	\$ -
52000	Jones County	\$ 165.21
53000	Lee County	\$ -
59000	McDowell County	\$ 29,062.34
60000	Mecklenburg County	\$ -
61000	Mitchell County	\$ 6,298.42
62000	Montgomery County	\$ 1,268.12
63000	Moore County	\$ -
65000	New Hanover County	\$ 34,574.26
69000	Pamlico County	\$ -
70000	Pasquotank County	\$ 14,630.54
72000	Perquimans County	\$ -
76100	Asheboro City	\$ -
77000	Richmond County	\$ -
79000	Rockingham County	\$ -
81000	Rutherford County	\$ 21.22
85000	Stokes County	\$ -
86100	Elkin City	\$ 856.07
86200	Mount Airy City	\$ -
87000	Swain County	\$ -
88000	Transylvania County	\$ -
89000	Tyrrell County	\$ -
91000	Vance County	\$ -
92000	Wake County	\$ -
93000	Warren County	\$ -
96000	Wayne County	\$ 211.16
97000	Wilkes County	\$ -
98000	Wilson County	\$ -