



# PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

**CR-101 (October 2017)**  
**(Implements RCW 34.05.310)**

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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FILED

**DATE: February 12, 2026**

**TIME: 9:10 AM**

**WSR 26-05-043**

**Agency:** Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

**Subject of possible rule making:** Amend and/or add new sections to the following WAC chapters:

392-141, Transportation—State allocation for operations.  
392-142, Transportation—Replacement and depreciation allocation.  
392-143, Transportation—Specifications for school buses.  
392-144, School bus driver qualifications.  
392-145, Transportation—Operation rules.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:** Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1368 (Chapter 345, Laws of 2024); Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5009 (Chapter 372, Laws of 2025); RCW 28A.150.290; RCW 28A.160.210; RCW 46.61.380

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:** OSPI is considering rulemaking concerning student transportation to align with Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1368 (2024) related to the total cost of ownership for zero emission school buses and diesel school buses. The rulemaking would also align with Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5009 (2025), which relates to the transportation of students in a Washington state patrol-inspected school vehicle other than a school bus; adding vehicles other than school buses to the STARS formula; and changes to school bus categories, specifications, depreciation, and driver training requirements. Additionally, amendments to school bus driver qualifications would clarify procedures and provide additional guidance to school districts and school bus drivers.

**Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:** Washington State Department of Ecology; Washington State Patrol

**Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):**

- ☐ Negotiated rule making  
☐ Pilot rule making  
☐ Agency study  
☒ Other (describe) Early solicitation of feedback and recommendations concerning new or amended rules, and consideration of comments and recommendations in the course of drafting rule language.


**Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:**

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Other:

(If necessary)

Name:  
Address:  
Phone:  
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TTY:  
Email:  
Web site:  
Other:

Additional comments:

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| <b>Date:</b> February 12, 2026                           | <b>Signature:</b><br> |
| <b>Name:</b> Chris Reykdal                               |  |
| <b>Title:</b> State Superintendent of Public Instruction |  |