

[SR-29] PUBLIC SCHOOLS: ROADS, DRIVEWAYS AND SCHOOL BUS PARKING LOTS

[G.S. 136-18\(17\)](#) sets forth that the NCDOT is hereby authorized and required to maintain and keep in repair, sufficient to accommodate public school buses, roads leading from state maintained public roads to all public schools and public school buildings to which children are transported on public school buses to and from their home. Said Department is further authorized to construct, pave, and maintain school bus driveways and stabilize sufficient parking facilities for the school buses at these schools. The NCDOT is further authorized to construct, pave, and maintain all other driveways and entrances to the public schools leading from public roads not required in the proceeding portion of this subdivision.

The operating policies of the NCDOT relating to the implementing of the above mentioned statute is set forth as follows:

1. The construction of all new school bus drives and school bus parking areas will be financed by the Division of Highways. Funding for this activity generally comes from the "Access and Public Service Road Fund" with a \$50,000 limit per facility. A request for such construction funds should include the appropriate plans for the areas with estimated costs. These should be forwarded to the Division Engineer for recommendations, then to the Chief Engineer-Operations for consideration and final recommendations to the Board of Transportation.
2. The construction of other driveways and entrances to public schools should be handled in the manner as previously set forth in (1). Work performed for other governmental units or agencies shall be on a cost reimbursement basis, and shall be in accordance with an agreement describing the work to be performed and the terms and conditions under which the work is to be performed.
3. The maintenance of all school bus driveways, routes and parking lots is the responsibility of the NCDOT as set forth in this statute. The Division is responsible for maintaining these roads in the same manner as other State Highway System streets.
4. All major entrances to the schools, such as school bus driveways, of any significant lengths should be made a part of the State Highway System and given an appropriate secondary road number.

There is no general statute or State regulation requiring the NCDOT to perform construction or maintenance at school bus turn-around. NCDOT does have responsibility of maintaining the edge of pavement and shoulders at all drives and/or school bus turn-around.

For any and all other questions relating to the interpretation of this statute, the Chief Engineer-Operations should be consulted.

Refer to [\[MN-8\]](#), Public Access Funds, Chapter 7 of this manual.

[G.S. 136-18\(17\)](#)

[MISC19910924.pdf](#) (Attorney General, Driveways-Turn Lanes)