



BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

&

PROCEDURES MANUAL

Effective: January 2023

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE POLICY & PROCEDURES

1. VEHICLE REQUESTS

All vehicle requests must be submitted on-line via the University's Agile Fleet reservation system at https://www.dbs.umd.edu/Motor_BSU at least three (3) business days prior to the requested usage date. Each request must be confirmed by e-mailing rchiles@bowiestate.edu from any Bowie State University (BSU) computer terminal.

Requests are accepted and confirmed from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. The Transportation Department is physically located in room 0108 of the Facilities Building. All requests for services made less than three (3) business days of the usage date will be assessed an administrative late fee of \$25.00.

Coach buses, Vans, and Cars are subject to fleet availability. The Department of Transportation (DOT) will provide suitable transportation for BSU personnel. If no BSU cars or vans are available one will be provided from a local rental car company at a reasonable rate.

The Motorcoach buses must be operated by BSU CDL Drivers only. All other drivers must be BSU Employees who have completed a Driver's Training class conducted by the BSU Procurement Offices. Driver's names, training certificate, copies of driver's licenses, and copies of current state driving records must be on file with the BSU DOT before they will be allowed to drive BSU or rental vehicles.

In the event that the University's Motorcoach buses are unavailable for usage, the DOT will obtain quotes from approved private bus companies that are on the University's bidder's list. Departments are not authorized to obtain quotes or contract for transportation services.

Because of liability concerns, the University's Motorcoach buses are available to transport BSU employees and students only. Under no circumstances will the BSU Motorcoach buses be used to transport individuals not directly associated with Bowie State University i.e. employees and students. In addition, family members and friends of BSU employees and students are not permitted to be transported on/in the University's Motorcoach buses, vans or cars.

The low bidder's quote will be forwarded to the requesting department, which will be responsible for creating a purchase requisition, which will be converted into a purchase order by the University's Purchasing Department. This process assures that contractors will be paid in a timely manner. To expedite the process and guarantee that the buses are reserved, the requesting department should sign the quote and return it to the bus company with any additional instructions that may be necessary for the trip. All State employees who operate State-owned vehicles shall adhere to these policies and procedures and other instructions covering the use and operation of State-owned vehicles.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE POLICY & PROCEDURES

NOTE: Information regarding rental of vehicles will not be accepted verbally. All requests must be made in writing via the Agile Fleet reservation system

II. DRIVER TRAINING

All Bowie State University (BSU) employees requesting the use of University owned or third party leased vehicles (Enterprise) must first successfully complete a Driver's Training program conducted by the BSU Transportation Office.

In addition, all BSU employees driving university owned vehicles as a part of their normal work requirements, must complete the same training.

All employees successfully completing the driver's training program will receive a certificate of training, which is valid for a period of two (2) years. After two years, all employees must be recertified in order to continue driving university owned vehicles.

Because of new driving requirements issued by the State of Maryland any employee trained prior to January 1, 2012, must participate in, and successfully complete the BSU driver's training program.

III. DRIVING RECORD REVIEW

Institutions and departments must exercise care in allowing individuals to operate University vehicles in order to promote safety, reduce liability, and costs associated with poor driving. Institutions will review the driving record of each employee permitted to use University vehicles when the employee begins work, and at least once a year thereafter. In addition, the University shall use the Motor Vehicle Administration's Special Attention Code Flag System to facilitate the record review function. Employees must provide their driving records upon request.

Employees who have driving records that show an accumulation of six or more points for moving violations will not be allowed to operate University vehicles. An employee whose driver's license is suspended or revoked may not operate a vehicle during the period that the suspension or revocation is in effect. Employees who have driving records that exhibit a general disregard for individual responsibility in operating a vehicle either through point accumulation, repeated violations, reckless driving, or driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs may not be allowed to operate University vehicles.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE POLICY & PROCEDURES

IV. VEHICLE KEYS

The BSU Transportation Office will issue all vehicles and Keys to the individual requesting use of the vehicle through the Agile Fleet Kiosk. Vehicles and keys must be returned to the Kiosk at the end of the requested rental period. If vehicles and keys are not returned on the required date, the DOT Office will continue to assess charges for each full day of service until the vehicle and keys are returned.

V. VEHICLE INSPECTION

All employees who request use of university or rental vehicles are required to inspect and determine the physical condition of the vehicle prior to usage.

Drivers returning vehicles after business hours return the keys to the Kiosk. Drivers are responsible for reporting to the DOT any damage that occurs to the vehicle during the time the vehicle is in their possession (prior to return of the vehicle and mutual inspection).

Note: All drivers should familiarize themselves with the vehicles operations prior to leaving State property. For example: Windshield wipers, headlights, four way flashers etc. Drivers must always wear seatbelts during the operation of the vehicle.

VI. RATES

BSU vans are available at a flat rate of \$65 per day. BSU cars are available at a flat rate of \$45 per day.

Coach buses are available at a flat rate of \$80 per hour, per vehicle, with a four-hour minimum. Included in the four hours are one half hour at the beginning and one half hour at the end rental for preparation and clean up.

VII. COURIER SERVICES

The DOT contracts out Courier Services to departments that need to have university documents delivered to, and picked-up from State Office Buildings in Annapolis, Maryland.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE POLICY & PROCEDURES

VIII. CANCELLATIONS

All cancellations for motor coach trips must be made in writing within 48 hours of the scheduled trip to avoid an administrative fee to be assessed at 10% of the total cost of the requested trip.

IX. CHARGEBACKS/PAYMENTS

All payments will be made by usage of the University's chargeback system. The bottom portion of the chargeback form must be completed in its entirety. Cash payments *will not* be accepted. The DOT will contact the individual that rented the vehicle if additional charges are applied.

- Additional charges will be included if the vehicles are damaged, vandalized, or left with garbage inside.
- Additional charges will be included if a vehicle is returned without a full tank of gasoline (required).
- Additional charges will be included if a vehicle is not returned to the DOT at the end of a requested period. Vehicles will be charged a daily rate until the vehicle and keys are returned.

X. RETURNING VEHICLES - FUEL

All departments returning state vehicles to the DOT must replace the used portion of fuel. If vehicles are not refueled before being returned to the DOT, the department renting the vehicle will be charged the cost of refueling plus a twenty dollar (\$50.00) refueling fee.

When vehicles are returned after normal business hours the vehicles must be parked at the Facilities Building outside of the Transportation Gate. The keys must be deposited in the Kiosk. All unattended vehicles must be properly secured (windows closed and doors locked).

Drivers are responsible for reporting to the DOT any damage that occurs to the vehicle during the time the vehicle is in their possession (prior to return of the vehicle and mutual inspection).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE POLICY & PROCEDURES

XI. STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

- DOT Drivers are instructed to wait for the passengers for up to 30 minutes from the pick-up time listed on the vehicle rental agreement.
- When chartering more than one bus, the buses will travel as a group whenever possible. Unscheduled stops will be made only at the discretion of the driver.
- Absolutely no smoking or open alcoholic beverages will be permitted on any bus at any time.
- Lodging for the driver on overnight trips, parking fees, and tolls are the responsibility of the group.

The driver reserves the right to request any passenger exit the bus if:

- The passenger smokes or possess open containers of alcoholic beverages.
- Violates The Code of Student Conduct as established by BSU.
- Any activity occurs that limits the driver's ability to safely drive or affects the wellbeing of the passengers.

Please note: The State of Maryland State Vehicle Fleet Policies and Procedures states that Article, Section 2 under sub-article 2.02-6 [All traffic and parking laws are to be obeyed. Posted speed limits are not to be exceeded, nor is the vehicle to be operated above safe driving speeds for road conditions. All violations/ fines shall be the responsibility of the driver involved.] DOT must be notified of any violations/parking tickets immediately upon return of the rented vehicles.

The DOT reserves the right to cancel vehicle requests without notice in the event of safety concerns such as severe weather conditions and other emergency situations.

XII. ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS/BREAKDOWNS

In the event of an accident, the Driver must stop immediately and contact the proper legal authorities in the jurisdiction where the accident occurred, and file a police report. All accidents must be reported regardless of the degree of damage sustained.

It is the responsibility of the Driver to take pictures of both vehicles and obtain at least one witness statement from the passengers. Once the Driver has contacted the proper local legal authorities they must contact the Bowie State University Campus Police Department at (301) 860-4040. The BSU Campus Police will notify the appropriate individuals in the BSU Transportation Department to provide assistance as needed.

It is the responsibility of the Transportation Department Head to advise the Vice President for Administration & Finance and the appropriate Cabinet members of the accident/incident in the event of any injury to students or employees.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE POLICY & PROCEDURES

The Transportation Supervisor will collect the completed insurance forms and witness statements prior to forwarding to the University's Insurance Coordinator.

XIII. ACCIDENT REVIEW BOARD

The BSU Accident Review Board (ARB) will review all vehicular accidents and incidents that occur when a BSU employee has a university vehicle in his or her possession. The ARB will determine if the accident/incident was preventable or non-preventable.

If "Preventable", the ARB will take corrective action based on the State Vehicle Fleet Policies and Procedures for Drivers of State Vehicles Manual, along with any additional policies dealing with the Statewide Driver Corrective Action Program. See the BSU Accident Review Board Policies and Procedures for more detailed information.

XIV. DRIVER EVALUATION/SURVEY FORM

The DOT has developed and implemented a driver evaluation/survey form to be used for the evaluation of all Transportation Department Motor Coach travel.

It is the intent of the DOT to use feedback from clientele to evaluate the performance of the Vehicles and Driver's to increase department efficiency and effectiveness.

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY WITNESS STATEMENT

Date: _____ Time: _____

Witness
Name: _____

Witness
Address: _____

Witness
Title: _____

Contact Number: _____

Witness Statement: _____

I voluntarily provide the above statement and affirm that to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein is accurate and true.

Witness Signature