

# School Start Times and Student Transportation Changes for the 2023–2024 School Year

Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) school start times are changing for the 2023–2024 school year, effective August 2023. Additionally, new for the 2023–2024 school year, families who qualify for bus transportation will be required to request it through the HCPSS Transportation Registration program.



## 2023–2024 School Start and End Times

These times are an estimation, and some schools may start slightly before or after the time listed. Exact start times will be shared with school communities as bus routes are finalized.

<b>Tier 1</b>	All high schools and some middle schools	8 a.m.–2:45 p.m.
<b>Tier 2</b>	Some middle schools	8:40 a.m.–3:25 p.m.
	Some elementary schools	8:40 a.m.–3:10 p.m.
<b>Tier 3</b>	Some elementary schools	9:15 a.m.–3:45 p.m.



## Transportation Registration

New for the 2023–2024 school year, HCPSS will implement transportation registration. **All HCPSS families who are eligible for bus transportation will receive it once they register for bus service for the 2023–2024 school year.** Students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or a Section 504 plan that includes transportation do not need to register. Families should complete this process in HCPSS Connect by June 1, 2023. Please reach out to your student’s school if you need assistance.

School bus routes will be finalized and available for families in August 2023.



## Non-Transportation Area Changes for 2023–2024

New non-transportation areas (areas not eligible for bus service) will take effect for the 2023–2024 school year. If the distance between a student’s home and school is shorter than the distance listed below, they are in a non-transportation area. This means they will not receive bus service for the 2023–2024 school year unless there are safety reasons determined by HCPSS that require bus transportation to be provided.

Grade Level	Distance between home and school
Prekindergarten through Grade 5	1.0 mile
Grades 6–8	1.5 miles
Grades 9–12	2.0 miles

Please scan the QR code to view:

- Individual school start times
- Registration instructions for bus transportation
- More information on non-transportation areas
- FAQs

