

Authorized Passengers means individuals authorized by the agency head or authorized designee to ride as passengers in a state vehicle driven by a state driver conducting official state business. Authorized passengers can include students, volunteers, contractors, clients, and private citizens.

Commuting means the same as “employee commuting” as defined in [RCW 43.19.560\(3\)](#)

Cargo Full Size Van (5 seats maximum) means a full-size van (12 or 15 seat capacity) originally designed or converted for cargo or maintenance purposes only. Seating includes the two front seats and may include one bench seat immediately behind the driver, for a maximum seating capacity of five.

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) refers to infrastructure used to charge battery electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles.

Local area for vehicle assignment purposes, means a metro area, county or agency defined work area/region. Some examples of local areas are the Lacey/Olympia/Tumwater; Seattle; and Spokane metro area.

Mini-Van (up to 8 seats) means a passenger vehicle with a maximum seating capacity of six to eight. It is smaller than the 15 or 12 passenger full size van and referred to as "mini-van" by auto manufacturers.

Motor vehicle - Any vehicle licensed for operation on the roadway.

Official state business means activities performed by an official or state employee, authorized volunteer, or contractor, work experience program participant, student or employee of another governmental jurisdiction as directed by his or her supervisor in order to accomplish state programs or as required by the duties of his or her position or office.

Privately owned vehicle (POV) means a vehicle privately owned, leased, or borrowed by a state driver for which the driver receives or is entitled to receive monetary reimbursement or per diem when the vehicle is used to conduct official state business. The state driver is responsible to maintain vehicle insurance on the POV in compliance with Washington mandatory liability insurance requirements as defined in RCW 46.29 and RCW 46.30.

State agency means the same as defined under [RCW 43.19.560 Motor vehicle transportation service—Definitions](#).

State driver means a person authorized by the agency head or authorized designee to operate a state vehicle used for conducting official state business. State drivers can include: state employees, volunteers, students (high school or college students that are 18 years of age and have minimum two years of driving experience), Department of Correction inmates (under the control of the Department of Corrections), and contractors (refer to Subsection [10.50.20.a](#)).

Student means, as used for the purposes of this policy, a person that a high school, or state university or community/technical college determines meets their criteria for student status. A student who performs work for compensation by an agency or college meets the state employee definition. Per WAC [296-125-030\(2\)](#) minors (those under 18 years of age) are prohibited from performing jobs that require motor vehicle operation. All student drivers must have a minimum of two years of driving experience.

Van driver means a state driver operating van(s) at the direction of a state agency.

Volunteer means a person, other than an emergency services worker as described by chapter [38.52](#) RCW, who, of his/her own free choice, performs any assigned or authorized duties for the state or any agency thereof. A volunteer receives no wages, and is registered and accepted as a volunteer by the state or any agency thereof, to engage in authorized volunteer service. A volunteer may receive reimbursement for actual expenses necessarily incurred in performing their assigned or authorized duties.

Policy Statement

State vehicle use is restricted to official state business.

Policy

A. [State Agency Responsibilities](#)

Every state agency having jurisdiction and control of [motor vehicles](#) shall:

- Manage the effective and efficient use of state owned vehicles;
- Put in place a driving safety program for agency employees, containing the minimum requirements described by the [Safety Program Standards](#);
- Establish policies and procedures containing the minimum requirements described by the [State Agency Transportation Policy & Procedure Content Standards](#);
- Make sure employees who operate motor vehicles on state business complete driver training, when available;
- Be financially accountable for all costs resulting from the authorization and use of state-owned or leased motor vehicles, including costs for damage to state-owned vehicles and property, and costs charged through the [Washington State Agency Self-Insurance Liability Program \(SLIP\)](#) for third-party injuries and vehicle damage;
- Abide by all applicable vehicle lease agreements and operating manuals.

B. [State Driver Responsibilities](#)

Anyone driving a motor vehicle on official state business shall:

- Thoroughly review and acknowledge in writing to comply with this policy, the [State Driver Standards](#), the [Collision/Accident Reporting Procedure](#), the [Van Management Procedure](#) (if applicable) and the employing agency's transportation policy;
NOTE: State agencies may develop their own [Authorized Driver Acknowledgement Form](#);
- Read and follow this policy and associated standards and procedures;
- Understand that failure to follow this policy and associated standards and procedures may result in disciplinary action per [RCW 43.19.635](#), including deductions from salaries or other allowances due, suspension without pay, or termination of employment.

Procedures

- [BR.01.01.P1 Permanent Vehicle Assignment Procedure](#),
- [BR.01.01.P2 Collision/Accident Reporting Procedure](#),
- [BR.01.01.P3 Van Management Procedure](#),
- [BR.01.01.P4 Purchase, Rent, or Dispose of a Motor Vehicle Procedure](#)

Standards

- [BR.01.01.S1 Transportation Policy & Procedure Content Standards for State Agencies Standards](#),
- [BR.01.01.S2 State Driver Standards](#),
- [BR.01.01.S3 Safety Program Standards](#)

Appendices

- [BR.01.01.A1 Appendix 1: Understanding Insurance Coverage](#),
- [BR.01.01.A2 Appendix 2: State Transportation Laws](#)

Forms/Instructions

- [BR.01.01.F1 Authorized Driver Acknowledgement Statement](#),
- [BR.01.01.F2 Vans – Safe Driving Practices Acknowledgement Statement](#),
- [BR.01.01.F3 New and Used Passenger Vehicle Purchase Request](#),
- [BR.01.01.F4 Supervisor’s Risk Management and Safety Checklist for Drivers](#),
- [BR.01.01.F5 Vans – Valid License to Drive and Driving Experience Statement](#),
- [SF 137 – State of Washington Vehicle Accident Report](#),
- [DES Fleet Operations User Quick Reference Guide](#),
- [Proof of Liability Insurance Washington State Agency Vehicle Continual Coverage](#),
- [DES Fleet Operations Operator’s Manual](#),
- [Standard Tort Claim Form Packet](#),
- [DES Fleet Operation’s Reimbursement Request Form](#)

Additional information

- [Contract Automobile Request System \(CARS\)](#),
- [Fleet Operations Reservation System](#) provides state agencies the ability to make vehicle reservations online and pick up the vehicle at the Fones Road location,
- The automated key management system allows users to reserve state vehicles, and pick them up or drop them off at any hour of the day, seven days a week. The system automatically assigns and distributes vehicles based on availability, vehicle type requested, and the length of your trip. [Click here to learn more](#).

History

First effective date:

October 8, 2015 - This policy, formerly known as SAAM Chapter 12 Transportation, was under the authority of the Office of Financial Management prior to October 8, 2015. See OFM DIRECTIVE 15A-07.

Amended

July 23, 2021 – Scheduled periodic review completed. No significant administrative and content changes made.

- Minor content changes include:

- Listing all forms, guides, manual, and documents falling under the governance of this policy,
- Clarified DES's reservation of rights during a declared emergency. See Procedure BR.01.01.P1, Waiver Requirements,
- State agencies required to make addressing vehicle recalls a priority. See Standard BR.01.01.S1, No. 7,
- Added DES' Fleet Operations driver operator training to the recommended driver training listed in the Supervisor's risk management and safety checklist

August 6, 2018 – Hyperlinks added to related procedures, standards, forms, and appendices.

June 12, 2018 – Significant administrative and content changes made:

- Administrative changes made include:
 - Structure and format made accessible for the sight impaired,
 - Transitioned policy from the OFM policy structure to DES's policy structure,
 - Redundant requirements were removed,
 - Other statewide requirements were simplified,
 - The Governor's Plain Talk requirements applied,
- Content requirement changed include:
 - Agencies must now keep record of Driver Acknowledgement forms,
 - Agency fleets exempt from [RCW 43.19.600](#) are exempt from waiver requirements,
 - Clarifying that vehicle use waivers must be submitted annually,
 - Agencies prohibited from purchasing 15-passenger vans for passenger transport,
 - Agencies to establish policies for electric vehicle supply equipment (charging station) use,
 - Clarifies when and how Washington Self-Insurance Liability Program applies when an accident occurs with a driver operating a POV.

September 26, 2016 – Minor administrative update. DES no longer provides a NHTSA sticker.

Need a copy of a prior version of this policy? E-mail jack.zeigler@des.wa.gov