

Georgetown Christian Reformed Church

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Church volunteers or staff transporting a child or youth (less than 18 years of age), in a private vehicle to and from a church sponsored activity must have parental or guardian's permission to do so.

A Transportation Consent Form for off-premise church sponsored activities must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian for each child/youth at the time of registration.

1. A minimum of 2 screened* adult supervisors (preferably unrelated) or 1 screened adult plus at least 2 other minors should be in the vehicle at all times.
In the event that only 1 screened adult is transporting a single minor, the following provisions must take place:
 - A clear consent from the parents/guardians of the child or youth is received;
 - A clear communication with staff or designated volunteer leader when the adult leader leaves with the child or youth;
 - A clear communication notifying the staff or designated volunteer leader that the child/youth arrived safely and is no longer under their care or supervision.
2. Children/youth/vulnerable adults should be seated in the back seat whenever possible. For safety, children aged 12 and under may not sit in the front seat.
3. Drivers should be not less than 25 years of age (but in no event less than 21 years of age) and have at least five (5) years of driving experience. They must have a valid driver's license with the appropriate class of license for the vehicle and ensure that the vehicle is fully insured as required by provincial legislation.
4. Drivers should sign a **Safe Driving Statement**.
5. Drivers need to abide by provincial requirements for car seat use, seatbelts and airbag safety.
 - Youth are to wear seatbelts whenever the vehicle is in service. Drivers may not transport more youth than available seatbelts.
 - Car seats/booster seats must be available for younger children.

NOTES:

***Security clearances** that include vulnerable sector screening are to be done by staff, Council members and each volunteer of child/youth/vulnerable every five years.

A **minor** is a person under the age of 18.

Vulnerable persons include:

- Adults with physical, mental or emotional disabilities
- Seniors with assisted living or special needs
- Adults in our care receiving counselling and support services for mental health or other life crisis situations
- Refugees, including adults, during the sponsorship and settlement period

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