



April 19, 2021

Ref #: 246419

VIA EMAIL

Dear: Independent School Authorities

Re: School Bus Purchasing

The Ministry of Education (EDUC) and Association of School Transportation Services of BC (ASTSBC) conducted a Request For Standing Offer (RFSO) for school buses. Vendors were invited to submit standing offer prices for various types of buses. Effective April 19, 2021 the RFSO and other supporting documents are available on the [ASTSBC website](#) at the “*Bus Standing Offer*” link.

Note this is not a bulk purchase of school buses, as the ASTSBC has only secured standing offer prices for school buses from April 19, 2021 to June 15, 2021. The prices are “Free on Board” for each purchaser’s receiving location and includes delivery, packaging, crating and unloading costs anywhere in BC.

Independent schools planning to purchase buses are to contact vendors directly and enter into contracts to purchase from the vendor of their choice using the “Draw Down Form” mechanism described in the RFSO. Independent schools intending to purchase electric school buses are recommended to first contact ASTSBC for potential supplementary funding opportunities, before contacting bus vendors.

The ASTSBC will invoice independent schools, just as they will invoice band-operated schools and public boards of education, for two percent (2%) of their bus purchase price to defray costs of administering this initiative. Independent schools that are in arrears of their administration fee payment from purchases under previous RFSOs will be ineligible for this standing offer procurement.

If you have any general questions, please contact me at Michael.Nyikes@gov.bc.ca . If you have specific questions, you can email the ASTSBC’s RFSO Committee at rfs@astsbc.org.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Nyikes, Director
Capital Management Branch

cc: Capital Management Branch
Franck Marasco, Manager, Association of Student Transportation Services of BC