

TRANSPORTATION (“Z” Permit)

It is the licensee’s responsibility to ensure that only drivers licensed for *the type of vehicle* operated are transporting children. To further ensure that your facility is complying with all applicable state laws and regulations pertinent to transportation, please read the following:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has authority over intrastate transportation. California intrastate transportation is transportation that begins and ends in California, and does not cross any state line in between. The types of carriers that require CPUC authority are: a passenger stage corporation, a charter-party carrier, and a private carrier.

All child care facilities that provide transportation services for children in care are considered charter-party carriers. Charter party carriers are required to obtain the appropriate certificates and permits to provide intrastate transportation. Child care facilities that provide transportation services are considered “specialized carriers” and must obtain a “Z” permit.

According to the Public Utilities Code Section 5384(a), specialized carriers are those who do not hold themselves out to serve the general public, but only provide service under contract with industrial and business firms, governmental agencies, and private schools, or who only transport agricultural workers to and from farms for compensation, or who only conduct transportation services which are incidental to another business.

A “Z” permit is applicable to vehicles of any seating capacity. Transportation may be from any point to any point within California, and is not transferable. It is important to note that it is unlawful for any carrier to operate without a valid authority which is punishable by a fine or imprisonment or both.

To learn more about the CPUC authority over intrastate transportation and how it is applicable to your facility, please visit their website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/puc/>. To learn more about the licensing requirements for transporting children read (California Code of Regulations Title 22, Sections 101225 for Child Care Centers and 102417(h)-(l) for Family Child Care Homes).