



BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NINTH FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

LIZZETTE REYNOLDS
COMMISSIONER

Via Electronic Mail

September 18, 2025

Vickie Beard, Director of Schools
Giles County Schools
270 Richland Drive
Pulaski, TN 38478
vbeard@gcboe.us

Dear Director Beard:

I am in receipt of your request of a waiver of the maximum transit time requirements in Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-2105 as a result of a shortage of bus drivers. Your request for a waiver of the maximum transit time is granted for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year upon the condition that no student is in transit for longer than 110 minutes.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lizzette Reynolds
Commissioner



General Waiver Request

Local education agencies (LEAs) and public charter schools should review the Local Education Agency and Public Charter School Waiver Guidance posted on the [department's website](#) before submitting this request. The guidance outlines what can and cannot be waived, as well as the information required for commonly requested waivers.

To apply for a waiver, email the completed form to Education.Waivers@tn.gov. Following review by the commissioner, the requestor will be notified in writing if the waiver request is approved or denied. Unless otherwise stated, all waivers granted by the commissioner shall be granted for one-year terms.

If this is a waiver request for a public charter school, please attach documentation that confirms the public charter school first submitted this waiver to its LEA authorizer and the LEA authorized denied the request.

Giles County School System

Local Education Agency/Public Charter School

All schools/transportation department

School Name, if applicable

105 North 8th Street, Pulaski, TN 38478

School Address, if applicable

vbeard@gcboe.us

Director of Schools/Head of School Email Address

Vickie M. Beard

Director of Schools/Head of School Printed Name

Vickie M. Beard 9.12.25

Director of Schools/Head of School Signature & Date

1. Statute(s) or State Board of Education (SBE) rule(s) for which a waiver is being requested.
TCA 49-6-2015 Maximum time in transit
2. Expected duration of the condition necessitating this request. Please note that the department will not grant waivers beyond one year.
We expect this request for the time in transit waiver to last through the remainder of the academic year.
3. Explanation of how the statute(s) or SBE rule(s) inhibits or hinders the LEA's/public charter school's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission (attach additional pages if more space is needed).
Due to a continued shortage of bus drivers and sparseness of our district, we are unable to stay within the ninety minutes limit for our bus routes to and from school. We ask that this waiver be granted to allow us to extend to the maximum time limit to 110 minutes.