



Ma'ayanot Transportation FAQ

What is the timetable for families to learn about bus arrangements for next year?

The general time frame for bus arrangements is as follows:

March/April - Collect bids from bus companies based on students registered from each community

May - Deadline to register students for bus with a \$250 deposit

June - Distribute Transportation fees

Aug 1 - Routes are released to families

What is the annual price for each bus?

Fees vary each year based on estimated ridership. Fees for the 2025-2026 school year are as follows:

Hillside/Elizabeth\$5,830

Fair Lawn.....\$3,775

Highland Park\$5,040

Manhattan.....\$6,750

Passaic.....\$4,425

West Orange..... \$4,800

Riverdale/Westchester....\$6,480

Rockland County..... \$3,400

Do any districts provide buses?

If there are enough students that submit a B6T form to their district by March, the district may choose to provide a bus instead of payment in lieu of transportation. There have been no such accommodation in recent years.

Is there bus transportation from Teaneck?

Unfortunately, no. Due to the central location of Ma'ayanot in the town of Teaneck, there are no students who live farther than 2 ½ miles from the school. Therefore, there is no bus transportation or payment in lieu. Teaneck families generally arrange carpools for daily transportation.

How do I reserve a spot on the bus for my daughter?

Complete the [Transportation Registration Form](#) and pay a \$250 deposit to hold your spot.

If I indicated on my registration form that we want transportation, does that reserve a seat?

No. An indication of interest on the Registration Form provides us necessary information to determine our bus routes and pricing for the upcoming year. You must still register your daughter by completing the [Transportation Registration Form](#) and paying a \$250 deposit. We are unable to guarantee a seat on a bus after the deadline has passed.

Is the bus deposit of \$250 in addition to the annual transportation fee?

No. The \$250 is credited towards your transportation cost.

How are transportation payments processed?

All transportation fees will be processed through the FACTS system on the same day of the month that you selected for your tuition payment. For those families not on FACTS, payment in full for the year is due by August 15th.

What if I am a transfer student and miss the Registration deadline?

Please reach out to gradd@maayanot.org as soon as possible to inquire if there is still room on the bus. Then complete the [Transportation Registration Form](#) with your \$250 deposit.

Can we use the bus for only one direction?

Unfortunately, not. Riders must commit for the full year, both morning and evening.

Can I request a refund?

Unfortunately, because the cost of the bus is determined by the number of students we project to be on the bus at the beginning of the year, we cannot offer a refund.

What if my daughter starts driving mid-year and no longer uses the bus?

When we calculate the bus costs at the beginning of the year, all riders/parents are committing to the bus for the full year. This applies to seniors as well, even though many of them have a reduced schedule at the end of the term. Even though this sometimes seems "unfair" to those senior families, it is those same families who benefited when their daughters were in 9th, 10th and 11th grades and the current seniors on the routes during those years had to continue to pay for the bus through June.

Is there a minimum number of riders to have a bus?

Yes. Buses must have a minimum of 6 riders registered to run an independent route. For communities with 3-5 students, a central pick up may be created to combine with another bus route, if geographically feasible. If less than 6 riders register for a bus and the route is canceled, your deposit will be returned.

Ma'ayanot works with individual families in outlying communities to help find accommodation but cannot guarantee solutions. Students can register for a neighboring route and meet the bus at an existing stop.

How are the routes determined?

Routes are created by the bus company in the summer and are sent to families in August.

What size vehicle will be used for each route?

Vehicle sizes are determined by the bus company. Since our bus rides are long and we want our students to be comfortable, we generally advocate for no more than 14 passengers assigned to a 24-passenger vehicle and request a full size 54 passenger bus for routes of 15+ students. In the case of smaller routes, we will use 15 passenger vans.

What time do the buses arrive at school in the morning and leave at dismissal?

The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. All buses are scheduled to arrive by 7:50 am. Often bus companies will schedule their vehicles to start another route after dropping off at Ma'ayanot. Our contract states that buses cannot drop students at Ma'ayanot earlier than 7:45 am.

The regular school day ends at 5:00pm Mon-Wed, 5:15 on Thurs and 1:00 on Friday. Buses typically leave approximately 10 minutes after dismissal.

What if my daughter will not be taking the bus that day, or will not be taking the bus home?

Students should join their bus WhatsApp chat and communicate with their bus mates if she will not be on the bus for the day or afternoon. Students who do not come out onto the bus within 2 minutes or arrive at the afternoon bus more than 10 minutes past dismissal will be assumed not to need the bus that day.

Do you offer a late bus?

Yes. Late bus funding is specifically allocated in the school budget to provide our out-of-town students with the ability to participate in extracurricular activities including sports, dance and drama that meet after school. Late buses will be provided for a minimum of two riders. The service is provided by a local car service with commercial insurance coverage. In general, the late bus runs once a week per community and students should confer with each other to determine which day each week to schedule the late bus. If there are programming or additional activities scheduled during a specific week, additional buses can be arranged and approved by the executive director.

To request a late bus, the students complete the form at www.maayanot.org/latebus on the morning the bus is needed, or the night before. After the bus is reserved, the students on the form are notified by 4pm. If a bus request needs to be changed or canceled, the student should speak directly with the office staff. Once students order a late bus, they are obligated to take it. No shows will be charged the cost of the service.

Are students allowed to bring home guests?

In general, only students who are registered for the bus may ride. However, there may be occasion for a registered rider to bring a guest home with her, which may be accommodated on a case-by-case basis. These guests can only be current Ma'ayanot students. Parents or siblings of students are not permitted to ride the school bus.

- Host students must ask permission in advance and ensure there is an available seat.
- Parents of the guest must send a note to info@maayanot.org 24 hours prior to allow time for the school to notify the bus company as required by their insurance.

Is there bus transportation on December 25th or any other legal holiday that Ma'ayanot is in session?

Bus service on December 25th depends on the bus company. Parents and students will be notified ahead of the holiday of which routes will have service. If there is no service, parents are requested to arrange private carpools for students to attend school that day. Most other holidays, such as Martin Luther King Day or Columbus Day, the bus company will provide transportation.

Who do I contact with transportation-related questions or for more information?

If you have any transportation-related questions or concerns, please contact Debbie Grad at gradd@maayanot.org.

