

CATHOLIC UMBRELLA POOL II 11 to 15 Passenger Van, Bus and Shuttle Use Policy

Effective July 1, 2003, Catholic Umbrella Pool II adopted the following policies governing the use of 11 to 15 passenger vans (whether owned, leased, or borrowed).

- The use of non-owned (borrowed) or short-term leased 11 to 15 passenger vans to transport children or adults is prohibited beginning July 1, 2003.
- **The use of 11 to 15 passenger vans to transport children or adults is totally prohibited beginning July 1, 2004.** Beginning July 1, 2004, 11 to 15 passenger vans may be used for cargo hauling **only if** all but the two front seats are removed.
- Although **not recommended**, to allow for a transition to other types of vehicles, organizations may continue to use owned or long-term leased 11 to 15 passenger vans to transport children or adults until July 1, 2004 (unless prohibited by state law). However, 11 to 15 passenger vans cannot be purchased or leased after July 1, 2003 for the intent of transporting children or adults.
- 11-15 passenger vans can be replaced with either a school bus or a Multifunction School Activity Bus (MFSAB). A MFSAB is a vehicle which complies with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) applicable to school buses for crash survivability and mirrors.
- If a MFSAB is used for the transportation of children, these vehicles **must** meet FMVSS 111; FMVSS 220; FMVSS 221; and FMVSS 222 (see below). If purchasing a MFSAB to transport children, it is important to confirm with the seller that the vehicle meets all four FMVSS. There are vehicles that visually appear to be conforming, but are not.
- When acquiring a bus or shuttle to transport adults, the four FMVSS should also be followed. However, CUP II may approve adult transportation for a nonconforming bus or shuttle that meets at least two of the FMVSS's in limited circumstances. Requests for exceptions should be submitted to Catholic Mutual.
- Although MFSAB's are preferred, mini-vans may continue to be used to transport children or adults. A mini-van is defined as a passenger vehicle **designed** to transport no more than **8** total occupants.

Below are the four FMVSS referred to in the above policy. Additional information on how to determine if a bus or shuttle meets FMVSS standards can be obtained from Catholic Mutual's Risk Management Department at (800) 228-6108.

FMVSS 111 – Fulfills the safety requirement for the rear-view and cross-view visibility.

FMVSS 220 – Establishes requirements for the school bus body structure in rollover accidents.

FMVSS 221 – Regulates the strength of body panel joints in school buses.

FMVSS 222 – Establishes occupant protection requirements for school bus passenger seating and barriers.