

First Alt Benefits

First Alt® provides alternative transportation solutions for students with special transportation needs, students experiencing homelessness, out-of-district students, and hard-to-reach students. First Alt utilizes a fleet of small capacity vehicles, including a mix of sedans, SUVs, minivans, and wheelchair vans, from existing local transportation companies that are expertly operated and maintained. This model provides school districts with flexibility in their transportation programs, reduces costs, and frees up resources for higher-capacity trips. Reliable First Alt drivers have the necessary training to ensure that each student's trip to school and back home is as smooth as possible.

With the introduction of First Alt, First Student is the leader in the industry, offering a complete K-12 transportation solution. This allows districts to work with one partner versus multiple, and sometimes competing, vendors.

Helping school districts with unmet transportation needs

- Many school districts struggle to find and manage vendors and drivers that provide alternative transportation options for students.
- School districts are often forced to hire taxis or ask staff members to drive school vans to serve students with special transportation needs, increasing risk and cost.

Ensuring no student is left behind

- First Alt caters to the school district's most vulnerable students, including those with special needs or those experiencing homelessness.
- First Alt transports out-of-district students, those in special programs, and students who require hard-to-serve trips.

Alleviating pressure on current school bus routes

- By taking on the transportation of students with special transportation needs, First Alt lessens the demand on standard buses, routes, and drivers.
- First Alt's use of smaller, more flexible vehicles can bring down a district's overall transportation costs.

An inclusive transportation model that mirrors each school district's inclusion model

- First Student's philosophy of transporting students in the least restrictive environment possible mirrors how school districts think about inclusion in the classroom.
- Students are transported in the right-sized vehicle for their current situation and moved to a larger, more efficient, and cost-effective vehicle when they are ready.

Efficiency supported by quality training, routing and operational discipline

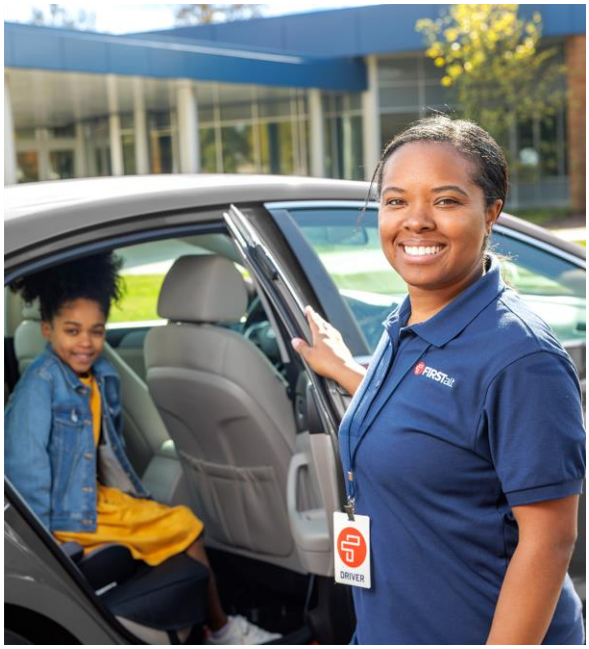
- Alternative transportation drivers consistently receive comprehensive training, giving school administrators peace of mind.
- First Alt utilizes the same routing teams as First Student, which run approximately 41,000 routes a day, ensuring efficient and cost-effective utilization of school buses and alternative transportation vehicles.
- First Alt's transportation partners meet First Student's operational standards, including rigorous pre-trip inspections and preventative maintenance practices..

The Impact of First Alt

Every student rider has different transportation needs and requires different accommodations. Whether it's providing a familiar toy to a student or engaging them in learning activities during the ride, the First Alt® team works with parents to create solutions for an enjoyable transportation experience. The First Alt model works because we're able to customize each child's ride to and from school, so they arrive ready to achieve their full potential.

Current Stats

Since launching in November 2022, First Alt now serves over 345 customers in 30 states. As of September 30, 2026, First Alt operates 6,700 trips per day.



Industry Leading Standards

Background Checks

- Initial and continuous background and motor vehicle registration checks.

Drug Testing

- Pre-service, random, post-accident and reasonable suspicion testing

Driver Training

- Enhanced special needs training comparable to their First Student school bus driver counterparts

Technology

- Real-time updates throughout the day for drivers as every trip is tracked for every student

Consistency

- Stability for students riding with the same driver everyday

Cooperative Partnership

- First Alt won the alternative transportation cooperative agreement with the Equalis Group, a cooperative purchasing organization that provides contracts competitively solicited by public agencies for a wide array of products and services. This agreement allows K-12 schools, across the U.S. that are Equalis Group members, to contract with First Alt easily and quickly through already-procured contracts without conducting their own requests for proposals or soliciting bids.