

CATHOLIC UMBRELLA POOL II 10 to 15 Passenger Van Use Policy

Effective July 1, 2003, the Catholic Umbrella Pool II has adopted the following policies governing the use of 10 to 15 passenger vans (whether owned, leased, or borrowed).

- The use of non-owned (borrowed) or short-term leased 10 to 15 passenger vans to transport children or adults is prohibited beginning July 1, 2003.
- **The use of 10 to 15 passenger vans to transport children or adults is totally prohibited beginning July 1, 2004.** Beginning July 1, 2004, 10 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 10 to 15 passenger vans to transport children or adults until July 1, 2004 (unless prohibited by state law). However, 10 to 15 passenger vans cannot be purchased or leased after July 1, 2003 for the intent of transporting children or adults.
- 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.
- 10-15 passenger vans should be replaced with either a school bus or a Multifunction School Activity Bus (MFSAB). An MFSAB is a vehicle which complies with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) applicable to school buses for crash survivability and mirrors, but does not meet the FMVSS which applies to crash prevention (warning lamps, stop arms, etc.). If used for the transportation of children, these vehicles **must** meet FMVSS 111; FMVSS 220; FMVSS 221; and FMVSS 222. (see below). Catholic Umbrella Pool II recommends that these guidelines also be followed when selecting vehicles for adult transportation.

When selecting a replacement vehicle for the 10 to 15 passenger vans, the following Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards **must** be included in the vehicle when used for the transportation of children:

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.

Catholic Umbrella Pool II also recommends that these standards be included in vehicles used for the transportation of adults.