

RESOLUTION 2026-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE ESCAMBIA CHILDREN'S TRUST AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO AMEND ESCAMBIA CHILDREN'S TRUST POLICY MANUAL PART TWO, FUNDING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, AMENDING SUBSECTION 1.4, FUNDING THE PURCHASE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the ECT Board finds that the Escambia Children's Trust Policy Manual requires amendment from time to time to accurately reflect the policy of the Trust; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the policy manual serves a compelling public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Escambia Children's Trust, that:

Section 1: Recitals. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. Amendment. Escambia Children's Trust Policy Manual Part Two, Funding Community Organizations, Section I, Policies pertaining to Funding Community Organizations, creating Subsection 1.4, Funding the Purchase of Motor Vehicles is hereby amended as follows (words underlined are additions and words ~~stricken~~ are deletions):

1.4 Funding the Purchase of Motor Vehicles

a. Purpose. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the use of public funds from the Escambia Children's Trust (ECT) to purchase motor vehicles that will be used to benefit children. This policy aims to ensure that such vehicles are used responsibly, maintained properly, and adhere to certain requirements such as insurance coverage, licensed drivers, display of the ECT logo, and a reversionary interest to the Trust. Furthermore, this policy prohibits the private sale of vehicles purchased with public funds for ~~the entire lifespan of the vehicle~~ five years after purchase or program funding is ended, whichever occurs first.

b. Scope. This policy applies to all motor vehicle purchases funded by the ECT for the purpose of benefiting children within the jurisdiction served by the ECT.

c. Definitions.

1. Escambia Children's Trust (ECT): The governmental entity responsible for managing and allocating funds for the benefit of children in the jurisdiction it serves.

2. Reversionary Interest: A legal provision that grants the ECT the right to reclaim ownership of the vehicle funded by public funds if the vehicle is not used in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this policy.

d. Policy Statement. The ECT may allocate public funds to purchase motor vehicles, subject to the following conditions:

1. Benefit to Children: The vehicle must be used to directly benefit children, such as by providing transportation for educational, healthcare, recreational, or social services aimed at enhancing their overall welfare.

2. Proper Insurance: The Provider shall ensure that all vehicles purchased with public funds are adequately insured, covering liability, comprehensive, and collision risks, as required by applicable laws and regulations and as required by the grant award contract with ECT.

3. Licensed Drivers: All vehicles purchased with public funds shall be driven only by licensed drivers who possess a valid driver's license and meet the minimum requirements for operating the vehicle.

4. Display of ECT Logo: Each vehicle purchased with public funds shall prominently display the official ECT logo or any other identifying mark designated by the ECT. This requirement ensures public recognition of the ECT's involvement in the vehicle's acquisition and use.

5. Reversionary Interest: The ECT shall maintain reversionary rights and be documented as a lien holder on all vehicles purchased with public funds. This provision grants the ECT the right to reclaim ownership of the vehicle if it is not used in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this policy or is no longer used for the benefit of children.

6. Prohibition on Private Sale: Vehicles purchased with public funds shall not be sold privately or transferred to individuals or entities outside the ECT **within five years of purchase**. The ECT shall retain oversight of the vehicles for **five years after purchase or program funding is ended, whichever occurs first**.

7. No Personal Use: Vehicles purchased with public funds shall be used solely for the benefit of children as outlined in this policy. Under no circumstances shall such vehicles be used for personal, private, or non-program-related purposes by any provider, employee, volunteer, or third party.

8. Limitation of Liability: The Escambia Children's Trust shall not be held liable for any claims, damages, losses, injuries, or liabilities arising out of or related to the ownership, operation, maintenance, or use of vehicles purchased with public funds. All responsibility for proper operation, compliance with applicable laws, and assumption of risks shall rest exclusively with the provider or entity operating the vehicle.

e. Responsibilities.

1. ECT Board of Directors: The ECT Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the implementation and adherence to this policy, including approving motor vehicle purchases that meet the criteria outlined herein.

2. ECT Administration: The ECT administration shall be responsible for administering the policy, managing vehicle purchases and maintenance, ensuring compliance with insurance requirements, driver qualifications, display of the ECT logo, and monitoring adherence to the reversionary interest provision.

f. Review and Amendments. This policy shall be reviewed periodically by the ECT Board of Directors to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. Amendments may be made as necessary, following appropriate consultation and approval processes.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Policy is for any reason found void, invalid, unlawful, or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, independent, and severable provision such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Policy.

Section 4. Inclusion in the Policy Manual. It is the intention of the Escambia Children's Trust that the provisions of this Policy shall become and be made a part of the Escambia Children's Trust Policy Manual; and that the sections of this Policy may be renumbered or re-lettered in order to accomplish such intentions.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Policy shall become effective upon the date approval is granted by the Escambia Children's Trust.

DONE AND ENACTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

ESCAMBIA CHILDREN'S TRUST

By:

Rex Northup, M.D.
Board Chair

ATTEST: _____

Lindsey Cannon
Executive Director