

# SchoolPool



**transportation solutions  
made easier  
for districts, schools, and parents**

[www.iCommuteSD.com](http://www.iCommuteSD.com)



## Secure. Free. Easy. SchoolPool

The SchoolPool program helps parents find carpool, biking, and walking partners for trips to and from school by using a convenient online ridematching system. SchoolPool is sponsored by iCommute, a program of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). By facilitating carpooling, bicycling, and walking to school, SchoolPool reduces traffic congestion, pedestrian hazards, and parking demand in and around school zones.

SchoolPool also offers districts, schools, and parents transportation solutions at a time when funding for school bus programs may be limited and gasoline prices are on the rise. The program helps combat childhood obesity and can also help districts and schools achieve their “green” goals by improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

### Secure and Confidential

SchoolPool operates through iCommute’s secure online ridematching system. The system has been customized specifically for SchoolPool participants. Only parents and legal

guardians from the child’s school are allowed to participate. Personal information will remain confidential and will only be shared with other parents in the program if the user agrees to share that information.

### How does it work?

SchoolPool allows individual schools to establish secure, private ridematching networks online.

District transportation officials and school administrators work with iCommute staff to customize the SchoolPool program to fit their needs.

Individual schools designate one or more staff members (or parent association representatives) to serve as a point of contact for the program and coordinate the distribution of security passcodes that allow parents access to the school’s secure SchoolPool network.

Parents register online by entering the school’s passcode to access the network. Parents then follow the simple, step-by-step guidelines to find and contact a match with whom they’d like to partner. Then they’re ready to SchoolPool!



**“Thank you for making  
and for always being**

*Cindy Wallace, School Transportation Coord*



## SchoolPool Benefits

### For School Districts

- Provides additional, cost-effective transportation solutions
- Establishes a secure online ridesharing network at each participating school
- Helps districts implement “green” facility goals
- Promotes active lifestyles and reduces childhood obesity

### For Schools

- Reduces traffic congestion in school zones which can improve safety
- Helps students arrive on time
- Requires minimal administration (free, self-service tool for parents)

### For Parents

- Saves money and time for busy parents
- Provides a free and convenient online ridematching tool
- Allows parents to choose their ridesharing partners and trip arrangements
- Helps kids stay fit and healthy

### For Children

- Helps children arrive safely to school in small groups
- Allows children to make new friends
- Teaches children environmental responsibility
- Starts the day off with a fun, healthy activity

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## Program Features

### Measurement Tools

The administration function produces reports which can help you track the success of the program. Administrators can generate reports on the number of parents and students walking, biking, or participating in SchoolPool, quantifying the reduction of vehicle emissions as well as the cost savings.

### Education and Awareness

SchoolPool has developed promotional brochures, flyers, guides, and sample articles to distribute to parents and designated school staff members.

### Incentives

The designated point of contact at each school can use the online system to create optional incentive programs to increase participation. Special awards or prize drawings are a great way to sustain program interest. SANDAG also may give away regional incentives to those who participate in SchoolPool and log their trips.

### Environmentally Friendly

SchoolPool can help districts and schools meet their environmental sustainability goals for new and existing facilities. When parents and students SchoolPool, it reduces vehicle emissions and improves air quality.

## We'll Help You Get Started Today

SANDAG's iCommute staff members are on-call to assist districts, school administrators and parents in participating in the SANDAG SchoolPool program. For more information, visit SchoolPool at [www.iCommuteSD.com](http://www.iCommuteSD.com) or e-mail us at [schoolpool@sandag.org](mailto:schoolpool@sandag.org). For direct assistance, **call 511 and say "SchoolPool."**