

702 KAR 5:080 - Bus drivers' qualifications, responsibilities, and training

(Section 1). Licensing. Requires a school bus driver to have a valid CDL. This is not a new requirement but rather a reorganization of the regulation to improve readability and flow.

(Section 2). Medical Fitness Requirements for School Bus Drivers. Align fitness requirements with federal CDL regulations and forms; permit drivers with controlled diabetes to drive a school bus with a valid federal medical certificate.

(Section 3). Criminal Records, Driver History and Drug Testing.

(Section 4). Training Requirements. Drivers = minimum 21 hour initial course + 3 follow-up reviews + 8 hour continuing annual update. Driver Trainers = successful completion of 33 hour classroom and driving curriculum + 6 hours of annual continuing education. Specifics set forth in the Driver Instructor Training Manual incorporated by reference.

(Section 5). First Aid and CPR. Newly requires CPR training for all bus drivers. Currently, bus drivers receive basic first aid training as part of their driver training course. The CPR training is new and may be only required in the initial course with no annual continuing requirement.

(Section 6). Emergency Operation. Sets forth emergency procedures for drivers. Requires local districts to have policies and for drivers to follow said protocols. Previously Section 15.

(Section 7). Transport of Items. Requires local boards to establish policies related to items on a school bus, provides for a prohibited list, and allows districts to establish their own policies on food, drink and school projects. Previously Section 14.

(Section 8). Student Assignment. Driver to only transport pupils assigned to the bus or with written permission by appropriate school leadership. Previously Sections 12 and 13.

(Section 9). Student Seating. Sets forth driver's responsibility for seating students. Added title of Section.

(Section 10). Loading and Unloading. Added title. Previously Section 23 and 27 with new language.

(Section 11). Fueling. Added title. Previously section 11.

(Section 12). Conduct. Requires local boards of education to adopt policies related to conduct on school buses. Sets out that ejection is a last resort. Added title. Previously Section 18.

(Section 13). Railroad. No change to content. Added title. Previously Section 19.

(Section 14). Driver Inspection. Requirements for pre and post trip inspections. Including requirement to check bus post trip to ensure no children remain on the bus. Previously Section 14. Added title.

(Section 15). Road Conditions. Added title.

(Section 16). Driver Seat Belt. Require usage. Added title. Previously Section 22.

(Section 17). Tobacco. Prohibits usage. Added title. Previously Section 24.

(Section 18). Incorporated by Reference. Driver Instructor Training Manual, Kentucky School Bus Drivers Curriculum, October 2019. Updated Manual.