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School Bus Safety

CDL Tutorial Training

Subjects in this section are part of the included CDL tutorial, covering the school bus portions of the Commercial Driver's License written exam.

Introduction to CDL Tutorial

This module introduces the school bus CDL tutorial and subjects covered by the tutorial.

Driving Safely

Answers common questions associated with driving a school bus safely and tests drivers on how to properly perform a vehicle inspection. It describes and tests drivers how to:

- Control their vehicle
- Shifting gears
- Seeing while driving
- Proper communication
- Controlling speed
- Managing space around the bus driving at night

Transporting Passengers

Answers common questions associated with transporting passengers; instructs and tests drivers on transporting passengers.

Air Brakes

Answers common questions associated with air brakes and instructs and tests drivers on:

- The parts of an air brake system
- Dual air brake
- Inspecting air brake systems proper application and use of air brakes

School Buses

Answers common questions regarding school buses and instructs and tests drivers on:

- Danger zones
- Proper use of mirrors
- Loading and unloading a school bus
- Emergency exit and evacuation
- Railroad highway crossing procedures
- Student management
- Anti-lock braking system
- Special safety considerations

Pre-Trip Inspection

Answers common questions associated with pre-trip inspections and instructs and tests drivers on performing a walk-around and external inspection.

Emergency Evacuation Training and Drill Procedures for Students

This course ensures proper compliance with many state mandates on emergency evacuation training.

- Procedures associated with the evacuation of a school bus in the event of an emergency.
- Equipment and procedures for conducting an emergency evacuation drill, including driver qualifications and recommended number of students for the drill.
- Summarizes proper post-evacuation activities.

Health and Safety

Material in this section addresses important health and safety issues and train drivers how to prevent, resolve, and respond to health and safety related events on the bus.

Blood Borne Pathogens (3 Part Series)

Covers pathogens and viruses originating from bodily fluids and stresses the importance of protecting oneself from these threats.

- Discusses methods where the driver may protect students from threats.
- Prevention methods including the use of physical or mechanical systems.
- Stresses the importance of engineering controls like Bio-Hazard and First Aid kits and how to utilize these tools.
- Describes the correct implementation and protection provided by the use of Barrier Protection.
- Teaches proper sanitation methods associated with Blood Borne Pathogens
- Benefits of Good Housekeeping on the bus.
- First Aid and First Aid Kit essentials.



First Aid on the Bus Vol. 1 (3 Part Series)

Introduces First Aid, including the term definition and discusses personal liability issues related to the administering of First Aid especially with regards to the Good Samaritan Law.

- Consent and Abandonment.
- Common items found in a First Aid Kit and the utility of the items.
- Protocol and procedure for handling medical emergencies.
- Proper attitude and aspect for a driver to maintain during an emergency.
- Explains the A, B, C, D method of assessing victims and determining type and seriousness of injuries.

First Aid on the Bus Vol. 2 (4 Part Series)

This series covers serious first aid issues encountered on the bus and methods for addressing each issue explaining common protocols associated with reporting an accident. It describes how to identify symptoms of each of the following issues including prevention techniques, handling procedures, and reporting protocols.

- How to stop bleeding.
- Splinting a fracture, head wounds, puncture wounds, and nosebleeds.
- Procedures for identifying and handling a student that is choking or is having a seizure.
- Fainting, anaphylaxis, and shock.
- Identifying and treating asthma, hyperventilation, and heat-related conditions.
- Dental injuries and heat stroke.
- Importance of maintaining composure in emergency situations.

Hand and Power Tool Safety

Hand and power tools cause thousands of injuries every year. Everyone uses hand and power tools at work and at home, but even the simple screwdriver causes over a hundred deaths each year. It's difficult to get excited about hand and power tools, but the injury rate tells us safety is extremely important when using this equipment.

This program covers many hand and power tools and all the safety rules associated with using these items, but the point being stressed right up front is safety must be exercised every time anyone uses hand and power tools. Safety awareness and behavior is of vital importance and this program covers some basics, emphasizing that employees must follow all safety rules established by your organization.

NEW! - Hand and Wrist Injuries (Part 1)

This program is designed to show physiology and what to do to prevent hand and wrist injury and how to react when accidents occur.

NEW! - Hand and Wrist Injuries (Part 2)

Part 2 takes a look at specific treatments for injuries and the structure of the hand and wrist. It helps identify and understand the types of hand and wrist injuries. All together there are 27 different bones in your hand and wrist. The bones are surrounded and tied together by muscles, ligaments, and tendons. Ligaments are strong, fibrous bands of tissue that serve to stabilize joints and prevent damage by limiting side movements of joints. Tendons permit flexibility.

DOT - Drug and Alcohol Training

This comprehensive, 9-part series covers the DOT guidelines and regulations for implementing a Drug/Alcohol Training Program, as well as proper procedures for substance abuse testing, specimen collection, etc.

DOT - Reasonable Suspicion

Training the supervisors of safety-sensitive employees is an integral part of every drug-free workplace program and a requirement by the DOT. The Reasonable Suspicion Referral for Drug and Alcohol Testing series consists of four DOT-produced videos:

- General requirements on reasonable suspicion referrals.
- Alcohol abuse in the workplace.
- Prohibited drugs in the workplace.
- Reasonable suspicion interview.

In addition, a copy of the DOT's Reasonable Suspicion Referral for Drug and Alcohol Testing workbook will provide supplemental information along with group training exercises, reproducible checklists and a review of the material with answer keys.



Vehicle Handling and Upkeep

This section covers proper inspection, operation, and driver maintenance of the school bus physical equipment.

Mirror Adjustment

This training module describes the importance of and laws associated with proper mirror adjustment detailing the various uses of each type of mirror on the school bus.

- Proper procedures for adjusting mirrors.
- Specific adjustments for each mirror individually.
- Reinforces the impact of proper mirror adjustment.
- Potential threats associated with improper mirror adjustment.
- Common blind spots associated with inadequate mirror coverage.

Idling

This module discusses the impact of idling on school bus fuel economy.

- Ways to reduce idle time.
- Impact of idle time reduction on fuel.
- Proper procedures for integrating reduced idle time into typical school bus driving.

Instruments and Brakes

This module explains the final steps necessary for testing the school bus before using the bus for transport, with specific focus on the pre-trip test of instruments and brakes.

- Proper warm-up time.
- How to read gauges and detect electrical problems.
- Prepare brakes, stressing proper brake and air-brake functions.
- Check for proper fuel levels

Pre-Trip Inspection

Outlines proper procedures required to inspect a school bus before driving focusing on the importance of safety when driving a school bus. It is a point-by-point guide on how to perform a pre-trip inspection of the physical school bus equipment including how to open the hood, check mirrors, hand rail and test the lights.

Post-Trip Inspection

Outlines proper procedures required to inspect a school bus emphasizing the importance of examining the bus after driving. It is a point by-point guide how to perform a post-trip inspection of the physical school bus equipment.

Driving Practices

This section deals with the driving practices of drivers actively involved in the operation of a school bus.

Distracted Driver: Cell Phones on the Bus

Emphasizes the dangers of driver distraction during the operation of a school bus and discusses recent studies on increased risk due to cell phone and hands-free cell phone usage by drivers.

- Probability and severity of accidents due to driver distraction caused by cell phones.
- Outlines some state laws associated with school bus driver cell phone usage.

Backing, Driving in High Wind, Tail Swing

This module covers proper procedures for driving in high wind, acceptable instances to back the school bus, procedures and dangers associated with backing the school bus and the definition, dangers and handling tail swing.

Railroad Crossing

Railroad Crossing stresses the importance of approaching railroad crossings with great caution, warning signs for railroads and coming trains and the three-part procedure for crossing railroad tracks.

Time and Space Management

Teaches the IPDE Formula (Identify, Predict, Decide, and Execute) associated with managing the time and space around the school bus and how this circle of safety can be used to handle the school bus environment. It introduces the zones of recognition and action, and how to use these to identify, predict, and avoid accidents.

NEW! - Smith System (Defensive Driving)

The Smith System often referred to as “The 5 Keys to Safe Driving,” reviews why it's important for ALL vehicle operators to make every effort to avoid accidents. Often times it's called defensive driving, but professional driving is a more accurate description because there is more to safe driving than just being defensive. This safety video reviews the basics of a driving system that's been proven to reduce accidents by 25% or more by improving the driving habits of professional vehicle operators.

Loading and Unloading (3 Part Series)

This training series stresses the importance of proper loading and unloading of students, the proper usage of lights during loading and unloading and the effect of lights on other motorists.

- Process for completing the 5-point mirror test.
- Need for proper review of mirrors for motorists on the road.
- Illustrates and reviews danger zones before loading and unloading students.

- Sequence of events required for loading and unloading students.
- Covers incident management and the proper procedures for handling special circumstances.

Emergency Training

The topics in this section cover training and drill procedures associated with performing emergency preparation drills and handling emergency situations potentially faced by school bus drivers.

Emergency Evacuation Training and Drill Procedure

This course ensures proper compliance with many state mandates on emergency evacuation training.

- Outlines the proper procedures associated with the evacuation of a school bus in the event of an emergency.
- Necessary equipment and procedures for conducting an emergency evacuation drill, including driver qualifications and recommended number of students for the drill.
- Summarizes proper post-evacuation activities.

Student Management

The material in this section cover common topics associated with proper management of students riding the school bus and incident resolution methods for school bus drivers.

Basic Student Management

Provides an overview how to manage students on the bus and discusses when it is appropriate and how to handle incidents on the bus.

- Deal with student offenders and altercations.
- Procedures for handling unsafe situations.
- Stresses the importance of not touching students in response to an incident.

Sexual Harassment

This six-part series covers what constitutes sexual harassment, as well as how to recognize potential perpetrators, the prevalence of sexual harassment and how to respond to a complaint.

What is Sexual Harassment?

Sexual harassment is defined in this introductory session as trainer Cranford Graves explains the different types of sexual harassment situations to help employees better recognize unacceptable behavior.

H1N1 (Swine Flu) Virus

Proper preventative and disinfection measures are critical when dealing with the Swine Flu Virus.

H1N1 Virus Prevention

In this presentation viewers learn effective preventative and disinfectant measures to take in dealing with the dangerous H1N1, or Swine Flu Virus.

Safe Lifting

Proper equipment and techniques are critical when lifting any object to prevent injury.

Safe Lifting - One of the most common injuries is also one of the easiest to prevent. Back injuries can happen when you forget to warm-up before lifting or lift improperly. Safe Lifting reviews the correct way to lift and handle objects, when you should get help and the need for PPE, personal protective equipment.



Wheelchair Securement – Q’Straint

Wheelchair Securement - There are a number of different wheelchair restraint systems on the market and districts need to follow manufacturer’s guidelines and instructions for proper installation and use of these wheelchair securement systems. Working with our partner, QStraint, this series of videos offers an important and informative guide for those who regularly transport students in wheelchairs.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality - Districts must establish and implement procedures for assuring the confidentiality of personally identifiable information contained in educational records. Implementation of these procedures is required under state and federal regulations.

Bullying

Bullying - "Bullying" addresses the need for a safer school environment by reviewing the different types of bullying behavior, including cyber-bullying.

- Characteristics of bullies and their targets.
- Difference between bullying and normal peer conflict.
- Ways to address bullying when it happens.



Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse

Cases of child abuse and neglect continue to grow because incidences often go unrecognized and unreported. School employees have an opportunity to regularly observe their students' physical condition, emotional state and behavior. You are obligated by the law to report anything that suggests or indicates a child's maltreatment.

Child Abuse & Neglect

This video reviews the types of abuse, signs and symptoms of abuse, and the important process of reporting child abuse, so that school employees will feel more confident about addressing this serious situation.

Diabetes

Diabetes - Student Management

This two-part video reviews the basics of diabetes, focusing on Type 1 and Type 2. The symptoms of hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia are explained and recommendations are made for addressing these potentially dangerous conditions.

Students may need assistance in effectively managing their blood glucose levels during school and school activities.

These videos explain what school personnel need to know about medical management plans for students with diabetes and guidelines for teachers, coaches and bus drivers in how to address their students' needs.

Emergency Triangles

Emergency Triangle Training

Produced and released by the Aldine ISD in Houston, TX, this video covers all aspects for the correct use of Emergency Triangles, from how to store the triangles to prevent damage, to their proper placement on the highway. A very informative and well-done module, this should be part of every driver's training.

Fire Extinguisher Safety

Fire Extinguisher Safety covers common causes of school bus fires, reminds drivers to do a thorough pre-trip maintenance check to prevent friction-related fires, and proper procedures for dealing with a fire on the bus, including correct use of the fire extinguisher itself.

Special Needs

Educational materials in this catalog are related to passengers that may need special attention or assistance for curb to curb delivery when being transported in school district supplied buses.

Introduction to Special Needs Transportation

Lyn Roberts, a retired school transportation director and trainer for special needs transportation, presents topics key to drivers and attendants of disabled students. In this introductory session, Ms. Roberts sets forth the agenda for this series which includes understanding the legal parts of special needs transportation, a review of terminology, definitions and behaviors associated with frequently encountered disabilities, discipline for those students, how to get students safely off the bus in an emergency evacuation, and how special needs disabilities and the way those children are served effects school routing and scheduling.

Legal Basis for Providing Special Transportation A and B

All students are guaranteed, by law, a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. Court cases have interpreted that law into the daily actions of special needs transportation providers. In these two videos Ms. Roberts looks at the federal legislation relating to special needs students and how that legislation impacts the services transporters must provide.

IEP - Individualized Education Program

Transportation is a critical component of a special needs student's IEP - Individualized Education Program. Drivers have rights and responsibilities relating to the IEP and must understand and follow the guidelines set forth in the document. This video also discusses rider eligibility, the need for contingency plans, placement and services.

Transportation Information Form

Communication on a regular basis is critical to the team approach of meeting the needs of special needs students. In this video, drivers are reminded of what information is needed, who is responsible and how it is important to the students.

Staff Development

The Special Education Department and the Transportation Department are responsible to provide adequate training for drivers and attendants of special needs students. Transporting disabled students increases a school district's liability, so annual training in driving skills, securement, crisis intervention, behavior management, and communication with parents helps drivers act in the best interest of the student.

Behaviors A and B

This two-part video looks at some of the more common conditions of special needs students and the typical behaviors associated with them. Understanding these conditions will help drivers and attendants to manage their behavior and provide better service

Disciplinary Procedures

Dealing with student management is a challenge for any school bus driver, but especially so for those transporting special needs students. This video offers a straight forward discussion of what drivers and attendants can and can't do. It is important for drivers to differentiate between the choice of behavior and behavior associated with the disability. Inappropriate behavior, if not related to the student's disability, can be dealt with like any other student's inappropriate behavior. As with all students, misbehavior and the following disciplinary procedures should always be documented.

Transportation Logistics

A checklist for successful transportation of special needs students, this video touches on restraint systems and methods of securement for a better riding experience.

Emergency Evacuation

Preparation is critical for the emergency evacuation of a special needs bus. Decisions must be made in advance about how to get the students off the bus, who will help whom, what equipment must be moved and where they will go. Many districts don't conduct drills for evacuation of special needs students but drivers must have a plan ready and discuss it with their riders.

Routing/Scheduling

In order to provide service for the special needs student that assures curb to curb delivery, schools must carefully plan routes and schedules. The need for additional specialized equipment may be a factor that affects timely transportation. Drivers have to provide the school information about the students' needs and routines to assist in this process.

