

Driver Training and Responsibility

This policy shall apply to all bus drivers, including substitute and activity bus drivers.

Bus drivers shall observe all State statutes and administrative rules governing traffic safety and school bus operation. The District shall, at the beginning of each school year, provide each driver with a copy of the District's written rules for bus drivers and for student conduct on buses.

Each bus driver shall meet the qualifications established by the State Department of Education, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Be over the age of 18 years of age;
2. Be of good moral character;
3. Not be addicted to the use of intoxicants or narcotics;
4. Possess a valid and appropriate commercial driver's license and other endorsements required by law, and, if applicable, a waiver for insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus issued by the State Department of Education; and
5. Be medically qualified under the physical examination standards of the federal motor carrier safety regulations; provided, however, that individuals with insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, who are otherwise medically qualified under the physical examination standards of the federal motor carrier safety regulations, may request a waiver for this condition from the State Department of Education as provided in Idaho Code § 33-1509.

Each bus driver shall also have completed a basic first aid course within the last three years.

Each bus driver is responsible for the safety of his or her passengers, particularly for those who cross a roadway before or after leaving the bus. No bus driver shall order or allow a student to disembark at other than his or her customary boarding or alighting place without a written authorization from the child's parent or guardian.

When a teacher, coach, or other certified staff member is assigned to accompany students on a bus, such person shall be primarily responsible for the behavior of the students in his or her charge. The bus driver shall have final authority and responsibility for the bus. The Superintendent shall establish written procedures for bus drivers.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-1508      Operation of School Buses  
I.C. § 33-1509      School Bus Drivers – Definition – Qualification – Duties  
I.C. § 49-105      Definition - Drivers Licenses  
IDAPA 08.02.02.170      School Bus Drivers and Vehicle Operation  
FMCSA 382.105

Other Reference: Standards for Idaho School Buses and Operations  
Idaho’s School Bus Drivers Training - Classroom Curriculum  
Idaho’s School Bus Drivers Training - Behind the Wheel Curriculum

Policy History:

Adopted on: May 15, 2017

Revised on: