

4-2-82

1 Department of Public Safety

2

3 Adopted Rules of the Department of Public Safety Governing
4 Qualifications of School Bus Drivers

5

6 Rules As Adopted

7 11 MCAR S 1.0080 General requirement. Satisfactory completion
8 of a school bus driver's examination shall be required of every
9 person required by Minn. Stat. S 171.321 to have a school bus
10 endorsement to operate a motor vehicle used in the
11 transportation of children to or from public, private or
12 parochial schools and school related activities, and owned by a
13 government agency, a private or parochial school corporation or
14 agency, or a private person, firm, association or corporation.

15 11 MCAR S 1.0081 Tests. The test or examination required for an
16 initial school bus driver's endorsement on a Minnesota driver's
17 license shall include a written test and a road test.

18 A. Written test. The written test shall be based on the
19 provisions of the "Highway Traffic Regulations Act" and driver
20 license laws and rules relating to school bus operation
21 prescribed by the State Board of Education, and a general
22 knowledge of the operation of school buses, including knowledge
23 of the equipment, devices, and laws peculiar to school buses.
24 The written test shall be satisfactorily completed if a score of
25 70 is obtained. In determining whether a score of 70 has been
26 obtained, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall weigh weight
27 each portion of the test with regard to the criticalness of the
28 specific factor being tested in relation to overall driving
29 safety.

30 B. Road test.

31 1. The road test shall be given in a school bus. There
32 are two separate classes of endorsement: one for a school bus
33 with a capacity of 16 passengers or fewer, the other for a
34 school bus with a capacity of over 16 passengers. An
35 endorsement issued to an applicant taking the test in the

1 smaller bus will be restricted to a bus of that size. An
2 endorsement issued to an applicant taking the test in the larger
3 bus will be unrestricted.

4 2. The road test shall be satisfactorily completed if a
5 score of 70 is obtained. In determining whether a score of 70
6 has been obtained, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall
7 weight each portion of the test with regard to the criticalness
8 of the specific factor being tested in relation to overall
9 driving safety.

10 11 MCAR S 1.0082 Physical examination.

11 A. Physician's certificate. An applicant for a school bus
12 driver's endorsement shall be in good physical and mental
13 health, be able-bodied and free from communicable disease. As
14 evidence of his physical fitness and mental alertness, the
15 applicant shall submit to a physical examination by a reputable
16 physician designated by the local school authorities; and the
17 physician's certificate of physical fitness and mental alertness
18 shall accompany the application for school bus driver's
19 endorsement when presented to the Department of Public Safety.

20 B. Disqualification. Any school bus driver applicant, whose
21 physical examination discloses communicable diseases or mental
22 or physical conditions of intermittent or continuing nature that
23 might reasonably affect his ability to operate a school bus,
24 shall be denied a school bus driver's endorsement. One or more
25 of the following deficiencies will disqualify the applicant for
26 a school bus driver's endorsement:

27 1. Eyesight. Visual acuity less than 20/40 (Snellen) in
28 either eye without lenses or by correction with lenses; total
29 form field of vision in the horizontal meridian less than 140
30 degrees in either eye (drivers requiring correction by lenses
31 shall wear properly prescribed lenses at all times when driving).

32 2. Hearing. Hearing less than 30 db (10/20) in the
33 better ear, with or without a hearing aid.

34 3. Inebriates or users of narcotics or drugs which may
35 impair driving ability.

36 4. Coronary disease. Any indication of coronary or heart

1 ailment likely to interfere with safe driving.

2 Electrocardiogram is required when other findings indicate
3 desirability.

4 5. Blood pressure over 160/90.

5 6. Lungs. Failure to have a satisfactory Mantoux or
6 chest x-ray as required by Minnesota Health Department rules 7
7 MCAR SS 1.327-1.328.

8 7. Any communicable disease as listed in Minnesota Health
9 Department rules 7 MCAR S 1.316 and 7 MCAR S 1.326.

10 8. Loss of foot, leg, hand or arm, or other structural
11 defect or limitation of movement likely to interfere with safe
12 driving.

13 9. Any mental, nervous, organic, or functional disease
14 likely to interfere with safe driving.

15 10. Diabetes unless controlled by diet or oral medication
16 only.

17 11. Epilepsy or other episodic (Paroxysmal) periods of
18 unconsciousness.

19 12. Use of any medication which the examining physician
20 determines is likely to interfere with safe driving.

21 13. Applicant not of good general health.

22 C. Form of physician's certificate. The certificate to be
23 used by the physician for reporting the physical condition of
24 the applicant shall be one prescribed by the Department of
25 Public Safety and may be obtained from that office or any driver
26 examining station.

27 D. Periodic reexamination. Each school bus driver is
28 required to take and pass a physical examination every two years
29 prior to his birthday in order to retain his school bus driver
30 endorsement. The Department of Public Safety will send physical
31 examination certificates to school bus drivers. A school bus
32 driver shall return the certificate, completed by the examining
33 physician, along with a \$2 processing fee, on or before his
34 birthday to the Department of Public Safety. Failure to pass
35 and return the physical examination shall result in cancellation
36 of the school bus driver endorsement from the Minnesota driver

1 license.

2 E. Additional examinations. A physical examination may be
3 required oftener upon demand of any school district from or to
4 which such school bus driver shall be transporting school
5 children. Such extra examination shall be paid for by the
6 district demanding it.

7 11 MCAR S 1.0083 Driver background check. Before issuing a
8 school bus driver's endorsement the Department of Public Safety
9 shall determine whether the applicant has been convicted of a
10 crime involving moral turpitude and shall also conduct a
11 background check on the applicant's driving record.

12 11 MCAR S 1.0084 Requirements, renewal of driver license and
13 school bus endorsement.

14 A. Requirements. Every four years a school bus driver
15 applying for the renewal of his driver license and school bus
16 endorsement shall pass a written examination containing only
17 such material as the Commissioner of Public Safety deems
18 necessary to determine if the licensee is entitled to retain the
19 endorsement previously issued..

20 B. Noncompliance. Failure to comply with any of the
21 requirements of this rule shall result in the cancellation or
22 denial of the school bus driver's endorsement.