

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
July 17, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Amendment to Rule 6A-3.0141, Employment of School Bus Operators

**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1001.02(1), Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This amendment will require certified CPR and first aid training for school bus operators as a portion of the required 40 hours preservice training and will allow CPR and first aid training hours to count towards the required annual eight hours of in-service training; allow a certified medical examiner to specify a waiver for an insulin-dependent school bus operator; and change the name of the driver history records access system.

---

**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6A-3.0141, F.A.C.

**Facilitator:** Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations

### **6A-3.0141 Employment of School Bus Operators.**

(1) School bus operators are defined as any persons employed or contracted to the school district to transport prekindergarten through grade 12 students in school buses as defined in section 1006.25, F.S.

(2) No change.

(3) Prior to transporting students on a school bus each operator shall meet the following requirements:

(a) Hold a valid commercial driver license with a passenger endorsement and a school bus endorsement.

(b) Successfully complete forty (40) hours of preservice training, which must include certified cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid training, and must consist ~~consisting~~ of at least twenty (20) hours of classroom instruction and eight (8) hours of behind-the-wheel training. The classroom instruction and behind-the-wheel training shall be based upon the Department's Basic School Bus Operator Curriculum, Revised 2006, which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule. This document may be obtained from the School Transportation Management Section, Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at a cost not to exceed actual production and distribution costs.

(c) Demonstrate the ability to prepare required written reports.

(d) Be physically capable of operating the vehicle as determined by physical examination, in accordance with 49 CFR 391.41 ~~49 C.F.R. s. 391.41(b)~~, as evidenced by the Medical Examiner's Certificate (Form MCSA-5876) and given by a certified medical examiner, registered with the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners, pursuant to 49 CFR 391.43 ~~49 C.F.R. s. 391.43~~ and as determined by a dexterity test administered by the school district. Form MCSA-5876 (effective March 2016) is incorporated by reference (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-06476>) and may be obtained from the School Transportation Management Section, Florida Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399. The school district shall report dexterity results on Form ESE 480, Dexterity Test for School Bus Driver (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-06477>) (effective March 2016), which is incorporated in this rule by reference. ~~The medical examiner may not specify any waiver or exemption from the medical examination requirements; however, a person with a medical variance, exemption, or waiver from the physical qualification standards in 49 C.F.R. s. 391.41(b), issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration who has complied with the medical examination requirements pursuant to 49 C.F.R. s. 391.41 and the dexterity requirements pursuant to Form ESE 480, Dexterity Test for School Bus Driver, is recognized as physically capable~~

~~of operating the vehicle.~~ Compliance with 49 ~~CFR~~ C.F.R. Part 391 is required under section 1012.45, F.S. Form ESE 480 may be obtained from the School Transportation Management Section, Florida Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

(e) Demonstrate physical and mental capabilities required to carry out all assigned responsibilities as a school bus operator.

(4) No change.

(5) Driver history records shall be requested in a manner prescribed by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles using the agency's Motor Vehicle Operator Tracking and Reporting System (MOTRS) ~~Automated School Bus Driver's License Record Check System through the Department's database~~. All school districts shall obtain and review records for school bus operators using MOTRS ~~the automated database system~~. For any operator licensed in another state, the district shall obtain and review the driver's history record from the appropriate state.

(6) No change.

(7) At least annually, the school district shall assure that the operator of a school bus meets the following requirements:

(a) The requirements of paragraph (3)(a) of this rule.

(b) Successfully complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of inservice training related to the operator's responsibilities for transporting students, which may include training hours from the required certified CPR and first aid training, pursuant to rule 6A-3.0121(2)(b)3., F.A.C.

(c) Successfully pass a dexterity test administered by the school district and maintain a valid Medical Examiners Certificate.

(8) through (10) No change.

*Rulemaking Authority 316.615(3), 1001.02(1), 1006.22, 1012.45 FS. Law Implemented 316.615, 1006.22, 1012.32(2)(a), 1012.45 FS. History—New 8-1-86, Amended 7-5-89, 11-15-94, 4-18-96, 6-24-03, 11-26-06, 4-25-07, 3-23-16, 11-29-16.*