

CHAPTER 7414
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DRIVER AND VEHICLE SERVICES DIVISION
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER QUALIFICATIONS

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7414.0200 BASIC REQUIREMENT.

Satisfactory completion of a school bus driver's examination shall be required of every person required by Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321 to have a school bus endorsement to operate a motor vehicle used in the transportation of children to or from public, private, or parochial schools and school-related activities, and owned by a government agency, a private or parochial school corporation or agency, or a private person, firm, association, or corporation.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

7414.0300 TESTS.

Subpart 1. **Initial driver's endorsement.** The test or examination required for an initial school bus driver's endorsement on a Minnesota driver's license shall include a written test and a road test.

Subp. 2. **Written test.** The written test shall be based on the provisions of the Highway Traffic Regulation Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 169 and driver license laws and rules relating to school bus operation prescribed by the State Board of Education, and a general knowledge of the operation of school buses, including knowledge of the equipment, devices, and laws peculiar to school buses. The written test shall be satisfactorily completed if a score of 70 is obtained. In determining whether a score of 70 has been obtained, the commissioner of public safety shall weight each portion of the test with regard to the criticalness of the specific factor being tested in relation to overall driving safety.

Subp. 3. **Road test.** The road test shall be given in a school bus. There are two separate classes of endorsement: one for a school bus with a capacity of 16 passengers or fewer, the other for a school bus with a capacity of over 16 passengers. An endorsement issued to an applicant taking the test in the smaller bus will be restricted to a bus of that size. An endorsement issued to an applicant taking the test in the larger bus will be unrestricted.

The road test shall be satisfactorily completed if a score of 70 is obtained. In determining whether a score of 70 has been obtained, the commissioner of public safety shall weight each portion of the test with regard to the criticalness of the specific factor being tested in relation to overall driving safety.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

7414.0400 DRIVER BACKGROUND CHECK.

Before issuing a school bus driver's endorsement the Department of Public Safety shall determine whether the applicant has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude and shall also conduct a background check on the applicant's driving record.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

7414.1100 PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE.

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

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

7414.1200 DISQUALIFICATION.

Any school bus driver applicant whose physical examination discloses communicable diseases, or mental or physical conditions of intermittent or continuing nature that might reasonably affect his ability to operate a school bus, shall be denied a school bus driver's endorsement. One or more of the deficiencies specified in items A to M will disqualify the applicant for a school bus driver's endorsement:

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

B. hearing less than 30 db (10/20) in the better ear, with or without a hearing aid;

C. inebriates or users of narcotics or drugs that may impair driving ability;

D. any indication of coronary or heart ailment likely to interfere with safe driving, electrocardiogram is required when other findings indicate desirability;

E. blood pressure over 160/90;

F. failure to have a satisfactory Mantoux or chest x-ray as required by Minnesota Department of Health, parts 4605.3400 and 4605.3500;

G. any communicable disease as listed in Minnesota Department of Health, parts 4605.0200 to 4605.0600, 4605.1700 to 4605.3300, and 4605.3600 to 4605.5100;

H. loss of foot, leg, hand or arm, or other structural defect or limitation of movement likely to interfere with safe driving;

I. any mental, nervous, organic, or functional disease likely to interfere with safe driving;

J. diabetes unless controlled by diet or oral medication only;

K. epilepsy or other episodic (Paroxysmal) periods of unconsciousness;

L. use of any medication that the examining physician determines is likely to interfere with safe driving; or

M. applicant not of good general health.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

7414.1300 FORM OF PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE.

The certificate to be used by the physician for reporting the physical condition of the applicant shall be one prescribed by the Department of Public Safety and may be obtained from that office or any driver examining station.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

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7414.1400 PERIODIC REEXAMINATION.

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

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

7414.1500 ADDITIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

A physical examination may be required more often upon demand of any school district from or to which such school bus driver shall be transporting school children. Such extra examination shall be paid for by the district demanding it.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*

RENEWAL OF SCHOOL BUS ENDORSEMENT

7414.2100 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS.

Subpart 1. **Written examination.** Every four years a school bus driver applying for the renewal of his driver license and school bus endorsement shall pass a written examination containing only such material as the commissioner of public safety deems necessary to determine if the licensee is entitled to retain the endorsement previously issued.

Subp. 2. **Noncompliance.** Failure to comply with any of the requirements of this part shall result in the cancellation or denial of the school bus driver's endorsement.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.321 subd 2*