

Subscribing Districts:

The Superintendent of Schools, or designee, shall approve all bus drivers and drivers of school transportation vehicles (STVs) that carry ten or fewer students annually and/or upon initial employment following certification by the bus contractor that each driver is in all respects qualified to drive a school bus. Only drivers approved in advance in writing may operate vehicles for the District. The Student Transportation Services Contractor shall provide notice to the Superintendent in writing at least 24 hours prior to effecting any change of driver on any route.

Each driver shall have an annual physical examination, including a TB test, shall hold all appropriate licenses, and shall have a State Police clearance before being deemed eligible to transport students. Drivers shall also be subject to an alcohol and drug testing program. Documentation in support of compliance shall be filed with the Superintendent or their designee prior to the first day of school within 30 days of employment.

A motor vehicle operator's license endorsement is not required to be held by a parent or other volunteer who transports one or more students in connection with a school-sponsored event or activity. Incidental, unplanned, and/or emergency operation of a motor vehicle by a paid teacher, coach, or other school employee or agent to transport students does not require the operator to hold an operator's license endorsement. (The vehicle does not meet the statutory definition of an "activity vehicle.") An operator's license bearing one or more appropriate endorsement held by any person who does not fall under the definition of "carrier" but who transports students in a service bus.

Any school bus driver or STV driver who tests positive for drugs shall be prohibited for a two year period from employment as a driver after the first positive test and shall be permanently barred after a second such test.

All drivers prior to employment of contracted bus services shall be subject to state and national criminal history checks. The School District and/or the School District's contractor shall review at least twice monthly information provided by the DMV Commissioner regarding the withdrawal, suspension or revocation of the licenses of drivers.

The Superintendent or designee shall require that the bus contractor provide and require each regular driver participate annually in a locally developed first aid seminar of at least three hours duration. Whenever practical, substitute bus drivers shall also be required to participate in the first aid experience.

If necessary, the Superintendent or designee may remove a driver from their assignment by notification to the Student Transportation Services Contractor that a particular driver's eligibility has been revoked pursuant to this policy.

Definitions:

Student Transportation Vehicle: Any motor vehicle, other than a registered school bus, used by a carrier for the transportation of students to or from school, school programs or school sponsored events.

Carrier: Any local or Regional School District, any educational institution providing elementary or secondary education, or any person, firm, or corporation under contract to such District or institution engaged in the business of transporting students, or; any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of transporting primarily persons under the age of twenty-one for compensation

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

14-1(i) Motor vehicles: definitions.

14-212 (8) Definitions- "Student transportation vehicle."(as amended by PA 10-110)

14-212 (2) Definitions- "Carrier."

14-261b Drug and alcohol testing of drivers of certain vehicles, mechanics and forklift operators.

14-276 to 14-279 re: school bus operators etc. all

PA 07-224 An Act Concerning Operator's Licenses Bearing a School Bus Endorsement. Declaratory Ruling, Nov. 16, 2007 - Robert M. Ward, Commissioner, DMV

2717 Alcohol and controlled substances testing (Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991)

Approved: May 12, 2026

NORTH CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
North Canaan, Connecticut

[illegible]

Signature

Date

NOTE: Please submit the original to the school Principal. The principal will forward a copy to the Superintendent of Schools