

Preparation for CDL Testing

Pretrip, Maneuvers, and Road Test

Pretrip: Touch or point to item you are checking. You will not get credit for narration only.

Air Brake Check: (You will have to explain and demonstrate with each step)

Safe Start

- Bus should be in "N" Neutral
- Parking brake is applied

Air Brake Check

- Turn key to the ON position
- Look for ABS light to turn on and turn off. Confirm that this occurs
- Start bus
- Explain that you're looking to make sure that the tanks read between 100-125 PSI
- Confirm they do.
 - A. Key in "off" position, then "on" position
 - B. Place foot on the Service brake
 - C. Push in the Parking brake
 - a. Hold foot on the Service brake, checking for leakage rate of no more than 3 PSI in 1 minute. Confirm that you are not leaking more than 3 PSI in 1 minute.
 - b. Begin fanning brake pedal, demonstrating that the warning light and buzzer comes around 60 PSI.
 - c. Continue fanning brake pedal until valve pops out usually around 40 PSI.
(All vehicles are different)

Lights/Reflectors: Make sure to explain to the examiner you are checking cross arm and signs come out during light check. When pretripping for the Examiner, group all lights.

- Front: Left, Right, 4-way flashers, Low Beams, High Beams, Clearance, Student Warning Lights (Amber and Red)
- Side: Clearance, Stop Signs, Strobe
- Rear: Left, Right, 4-way flashers, Brake Lights, Tail Lights, Clearance, Student Warning Lights (Amber and Red)

Skills Test: Refer to the maneuver page attached.

Upon completion of each maneuver, place bus in Neutral, engage parking brake, and honk horn to signal that you're in final position to be scored

Road Test: 72 Minimal Traffic Checks

- "Speeding" is considered driving 1 mph over the posted speed limit. You will be marked accordingly
- Do not exceed ramp posted speed limit
- Stop behind stop signs and not over boundary lines of lane; whichever comes first
- Intersections: If you must wait to ensure that it is safe to proceed, stay behind the white line until you can completely clear the intersection
- DO NOT CHANGE LANES IN AN INTERSECTION
- Check cross traffic, side streets and businesses
- Keep wheel straight, even though you're turning left or right
- GAP; if the car ahead of you moves up, ONLY move the bus forward if you can move a whole bus length
- When making a left hand turn and BOTH lanes are turning left, you should be in the far right lane
- When making a left hand turn and only ONE lane turns left, turn into the left hand lane. When it is safe to do so, signal your intent to move into the right lane
- Inclines; if there is a slight incline and your bus rolls back while driving, you will be marked accordingly
- Watch following distance
- Come to a full stop; not a rolling stop
- Making a turn; examiners are looking for a wide or short gap at the sidewalk or curb
- Do not ride or pump the brake
- When steering, use both hands. Do not let it slide through your hands and do not "palm" the steering wheel
- Do not cross stop lines
- Stop at white lines when stopping at a stop sign or red light
- When stopped, make sure you can see the ground behind the rear wheels of the vehicle in front of you
- When pretripping for the examiner, group all your exterior lights together
- In curves watch tires not to cross lines (color inside the lines)
- While driving stay in your correct lane, between the mustard and mayo

****REVIEW the following handouts to prepare for your Road Test:**

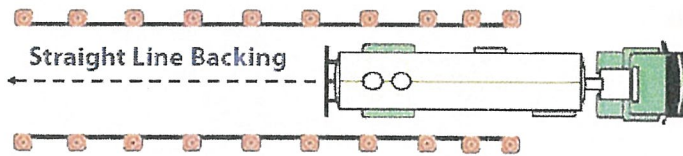
Student Discharge, Railroad Crossings, Road Side Stop and Start

CDL BASIC CONTROL SKILLS TEST INSTRUCTIONS

For the basic control skills test, you will demonstrate your ability to maneuver a commercial vehicle around other objects. You will receive points for pull-ups and crossing over or touching boundary lines or cones. You will be permitted to exit the vehicle to check behind it. When exiting the vehicle you must set your parking brake and place the vehicle in neutral. You must safely exit facing the vehicle and maintain three points of contact at all times. Failure to do so will result in an automatic failure of this test. You must complete the exercise as directed. If you see me raise my hand, please stop the vehicle and return your vehicle within the boundary lines. I will give you specific instructions for each exercise prior to performing them. Do you have any questions?

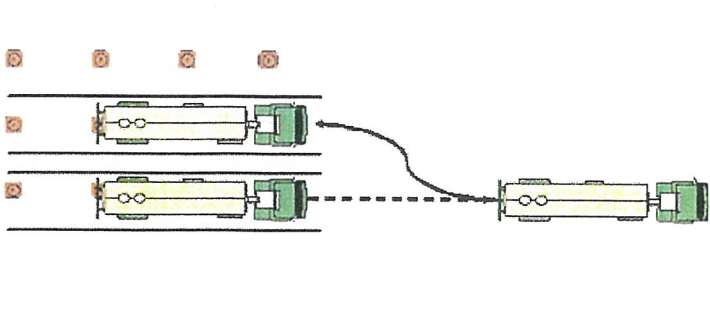
Straight-line Backing

I will have you pull forward past the alley. Stop when I raise my hand. Then, back straight through the alley until the front of your vehicle has cleared the last set of cones. You are allowed one free pull-up and may exit the vehicle only once to check behind the vehicle during this exercise. Please set your parking brake and sound your horn when you have completed the exercise. Do you have any questions?



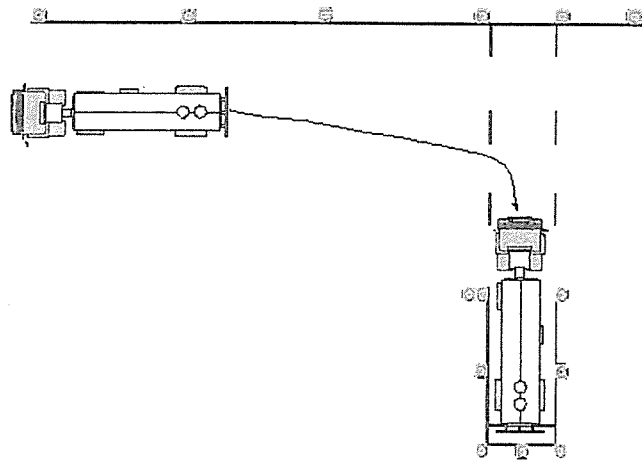
Offset Backing

You will drive forward (straight ahead) to the boundary line ahead. Stop your vehicle, then, back your vehicle to the opposite lane until the front of your vehicle has passed the first set of cones. You are allowed two free pull-ups and may exit the vehicle a maximum of two times to check behind the vehicle during this exercise. Please set your parking brake and sound your horn when you have completed the exercise. Do you have any questions?



Alley Dock

You will drive past the alley and position your vehicle parallel to the outer boundary. You will then back into the alley bringing the rear of your vehicle within three feet of the rear of the alley. Your vehicle must be straight within the alley when completed. You may not go beyond the outer boundary line located ahead. You are allowed two free pull-ups and may exit the vehicle a maximum of two times to check behind the vehicle during this exercise. Please set your parking brake and sound your horn when you have completed the exercise. Do you have any questions?

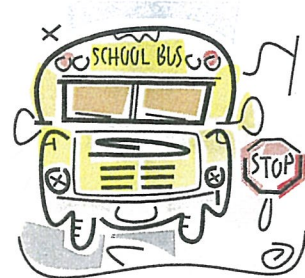


Calcasieu Parish School System
Transportation Division



"BE SAFE"

Student Discharge



Approaching Student Stop

- * Check all mirrors
- * Activate amber student warning lights
- * Check all mirrors again
- * Now activate red student warning lights

Stop

- * Placing bus in neutral with your foot on the brake
- * Set park brake
- * Open door

Student Discharge

- * Tell students to exit the bus and walk 10 ft away from the side of the bus.
- * Check all mirrors before allowing students off school bus
- * Open door
- * You are to count the students while they are exiting the bus.
- * Tell student to walk 10 ft from the front of the bus.

Student Crossing

- * Traffic check
- * Students are waiting for you to signal before crossing "Give Signal."
- * After students cross recount students to make sure all are accounted for.





Completion

- * Close the door and cancel signals
- * Before resuming route; check all mirrors; check traffic, continue route








Emergency Road Side Stop and Start






Approaching

-  Check all traffic and anticipate possible problems.
-  Make sure you are in the correct lane so that you can exit traffic safely.
-  Activate the correct signal indicator at least 100 feet to indicate you will be exiting traffic.
-  Slow down

Stop

-  Make sure the bus is parallel with the road.
-  Make sure not to block traffic or fire hydrant.
-  Come to a complete stop.
-  Turn off your turn indicator and engage the 4-way flashers (Hazard Lights).
-  Set parking brake and remove foot from service brake.

Resume

-  Check traffic and verify you can safely enter the flow of traffic.
-  Turn off 4-way flashers (Hazard Lights), and then engage your turn indicator to indicate you want to merge to the flow of traffic.
-  Release the parking brake
-  Check traffic again.
-  Accelerate while gradually entering the flow of traffic. DO NOT sharply turn the vehicle into the lane as you merge back into traffic.