

## **Business/Non-Instructional Operations**

### **Transportation of Students**

#### **Drivers**

The Executive Director or designee shall approve all bus drivers and drivers of school transportation vehicles (STVs) annually and/or upon initial employment, following verification that each driver is in all respects qualified to operate a school bus or STV. Only drivers approved in advance in writing may operate vehicles for CREC

Each driver shall have a physical examination as required by law, shall hold all appropriate licenses, shall pass all required record checks, and shall be subject to alcohol and drug testing before being deemed eligible to transport students. Documentation of eligibility shall be filed with the Executive Director or designee prior to the first day of school, or within 30 days of employment.

Any school bus driver or STV driver who tests positive for drugs or alcohol shall be barred permanently from operating a CREC owned vehicle. The Executive Director, or designee, may remove a driver from their assignment by notification to the Transportation Manager that a particular driver's eligibility has been revoked pursuant to this policy.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

14-1(i) Motor vehicles: definitions.

14-44 License endorsement for operators of commercial motor vehicles used for passenger transportation, school buses, student transportation vehicles,

14-212 Definitions

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

14-276 to 14-279 re: School bus operators et. al.

Declaratory Ruling, Nov. 16, 2007 - Robert M. Ward, Commissioner, DMV

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

Policy Adopted: November 20, 2013  
Revised: April 20, 2022

CAPITOL REGION EDUCATION COUNCIL  
Hartford, Connecticut

## **Business/Non-Instructional Operations**

### **Transportation of Students**

#### **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.

**Activity Vehicle:** A student transportation vehicle that is used to transport students in connection with school-sponsored events and activities, but is not used to transport students to and from home.

**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.

#### **Drivers**

The Executive Director or designee shall approve all bus drivers and drivers of student transportation vehicles (STVs) annually and/or upon initial employment following verification that each driver is in all respects qualified to operate a school bus. Only drivers approved in advance in writing may operate vehicles for CREC.

All drivers shall have a physical examination as required by law, shall hold all appropriate licenses, and shall have a state and national criminal history check 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 Executive Director or designee prior to the first day of school, or within 30 days of employment.

An operator's license bearing one or more of the following endorsements must be held by all bus drivers and drivers of student transportation vehicles:

**“S” endorsement:** required before operating a school bus: may also operate any vehicle that requires a “V,” “A” or “F” endorsement. Before operating a school bus, a commercial driver's license with a P endorsement is also required.

**“V” endorsement:** required before operating a student transportation vehicle transporting students to and from school, including vehicles transporting special education students, or any

vehicle that requires an “A” or “F” endorsement. A certificate of safety training (R360) is also required. (Available through school bus companies) NOTE: No motor vehicle with a seating capacity of more than ten passengers other than a school bus conforming to the provision of Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 14-275 may be used for the transportation of such students to and from school.

**“A” endorsement:** required before operating a student transportation vehicle (or other vehicle that requires an "F" endorsement) used in connection with school-sponsored events and activities, but not used to transport students to and from school.

**“F” endorsement:** required before operating a taxi, livery vehicle, service bus, motor bus or motor coach.

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 endorsements must be 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 or alcohol shall be permanently barred from operating a CREC owned vehicle.

CREC and/or the CREC’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 Executive Director, or designee, may remove a driver from their assignment by notification to the Transportation Manager that a particular driver’s eligibility has been revoked pursuant to this regulation.

Regulation Issued: September 18, 2013  
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Hartford, Connecticut