



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

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TO: Distribution

**FROM: Derek Graham, Section Chief
Transportation Services**

The following policies were adopted by the State Board of Education on April 1, 2010. They are effective as indicated below. The policies will also be sent forward to the APA Rulemaking process.

TCS-H-009

Policies governing LEA rules and regulations related to charter transportation for school-related events and activities

1. LEAs shall adopt safety standards for contracted transportation services to assure the safety of students being transported to or from school-related activities.
2. LEAs shall maintain a list (Approved List) of companies or individuals that meet its safety standards for transportation services for school-related activities.
3. LEAs shall contract for transportation services for school-related activities only with companies or individuals on the Approved List
4. When adopting safety standards pursuant to this rule, LEAs shall consider the Recommended Guidelines and Procedures developed by the School Charter Transportation Safety Committee
5. The LEA's safety standards shall include the following procedures:
 - a. Procedures for development of the Approved List of transportation providers;
 - b. Procedures for ensuring that a contract for any trip is made only with companies on the Approved List;
 - c. Procedures to assure that the number of vehicles and drivers for the trip is sufficient to assure the safety of the students being transported;
 - d. Procedures to provide safety and evacuation training to all students prior to any trip; and
 - e. Any other procedures that the LEA deems reasonable to assure the safety of students being transported to or from school related activities.
6. If an LEA adopts safety standards that conflict with or are less stringent than the Recommended Guidelines and Procedures developed by the School Charter Transportation Safety Committee, the LEA's standards shall note those differences and state the reasons the LEA is adopting the different standard.
7. LEAs may enter into interlocal cooperation agreements under Chapter 160A, Article 20, to develop the required safety standards or lists of companies or individuals approved to provide transportation services or to contract for transportation services for school related activities.

Effective Date: September 1, 2010



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Policy # TCS-H-010

Policies governing activity bus drivers

1. Definitions:
 - a. "CDL Activity Bus" means a school activity bus (G.S. 20-4.01) built to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver.
 - b. "School bus driver's certificate" means a certificate issued by a duly designated representative of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and the Director of Transportation, or a designee of the Director in charge of school buses in the county which shows that he or she has been examined and has been certified fit and competent to drive a school bus over the highways and public vehicular areas of the State. (G.S. 20-218)
2. LEAs shall require individuals who transport students to or from a school-related activity in a CDL Activity Bus to hold a valid Commercial Drivers License with a Passenger (P) and School Bus (S) endorsement (CDL-P/S) as required by the Division of Motor Vehicles.
3. Beginning July 1, 2010, LEAs shall require individuals being initially licensed with a CDL-P/S, who transport students to or from a school-related activity in a CDL Activity Bus, to also hold a school bus driver's certificate.
4. Beginning July 1, 2015, LEAs shall not permit any individual to transport students in a CDL Activity Bus unless he or she holds both a CDL-P/S license and valid school bus driver's certificate.

Policy # TCS-H-011

Policies governing School Bus and Activity Bus Inspections

LEAs shall require each 30-day inspection required under G.S. 115C-248 to be conducted by an individual who has completed the training and certification requirements administered by the Department of Public Instruction.

Effective August 1, 2011