2014-2015
School Bus Driver
Safety Competition

2014-2015 ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. The Texas Association for Pupil Transportation (TAPT) hosts a state School Bus Driver Safety Competition welcoming both private and public sector contestants. In order to be eligible for State Competition, contestants must have competed at the respective regional level.

2. The Texas School Bus Driver Safety Competition will have the following categories of competition:
   * School Bus Conventional type vehicle 65 passenger or larger
   * School Bus Transit type vehicle 65 passenger or larger

3. Each region is allowed up to three (3) contestants in each school bus category totaling a maximum of six (6) contestants. A pre-registered alternate may compete only in the event the registered contestant is unable to do so. The alternate must compete in the same category as the absent driver. A contestant is only eligible to enter one category of competition and must register in the category in which he/she won at the region level.

4. In order to qualify for competition a contestant must:
   a. Must be involved in the daily transportation of students.
   b. Hold a valid Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) with a “P” and “S” endorsements.
   c. Hold a valid State of Texas Certification Card (by competition date)
   d. Hold a valid Texas School Bus Driver Physical.
   e. Must not have had an accident or incident in which total damage exceeded $200 (then only “one” incident like this allowed for the current school year; the location doesn’t matter) nor have had a preventable school bus accident (as defined by the National Safety Council Safe Driver Award Program) since 19 August 2014.
   f. No contestant will be eligible unless he/she meets ALL the above criteria.
REGULATIONS:

1. Contestants will be required to remain in the driver preparation area until called for competition. Drivers are not allowed on the course or adjacent to any of the events.

2. It is understood that elementary students are on the bus from the time the driver leaves the starting line and the driver must conduct him/herself accordingly.

3. In all events the doors must remained closed unless the rules of an event require the door to be opened.

4. Contestants will drive in the order of the contestant number provided at registration for the school bus class of competition that they entered. If a contestant is not available at the time they are scheduled to drive they may be disqualified. The driver must report to the start line when their number is announced.

5. Each contestant will be allowed a maximum of six (6) minutes to familiarize him/herself with the instrumentation and controls of the school bus to be driven in competition. The driver may request assistance, from a competition official, in the adjustment of mirrors and seats within the manufactured specifications.

6. The contestant may be timed at selected events. The contestants’ accumulated time for the timed events will be used to determine ranking in the case of a tie in the final total score.

   No changes will occur on the course set-up once competition starts. However, the Competition Chairman may determine to disqualify any event during competition and apply the point value equally to all contestants.

7. Contestants may notify the competition Head Judge at the final event in the course, if they feel that an interference or problem affected their competition. Any concern must be reported immediately before exiting the competition vehicle. Once the contestant has exited the competition vehicle, no grievance or concern will be accepted. If interference or a problem is confirmed and the score of the individual competitor is affected, a determination will be made as to whether to allow a re-run of that event. If a re-run is granted, an official of the competition will escort the competitor directly to the event involved. If a re-run is allowed, the score of the re-run will become the official score and not the previous score that was recorded before the re-run. The determination by the competition Chairman will be final relative to the concern. Once the scores have been finalized and winners announced no grievance or changes in the score will occur.

8. No scores will be provided prior to the Awards Ceremony. Copies of individual score sheets will be provided to the contestant’s employer’s Transportation Department within a few days following event.
DISQUALIFICATIONS:

Any of the following may result in disqualification of a contestant:

1. Any misconduct on the part of a participant or spectator such as the following:
   - Unprofessional behavior
   - Speeding and/or unsafe driving on the course
   - Use of drugs
   - Use of any alcohol during or immediately prior to the competition.

2. Any contestant who knowingly accepts signals from anyone may be automatically disqualified. For this reason, all spectators will be required to stay a minimum of 50 feet from the perimeter of each event. A spectator area will be provided.

3. Failure to maintain proper driving position, (i.e. firmly in the driver’s seat, hands on the wheel, etc.)

4. A contestant is not allowed to place his/her head out the window. Make modifications to the driver’s seat in any way, other than the manufacturer’s standards, that could help the driver, will disqualify the driver and may disqualify any other driver prior to the discovery. Drivers may use a driving cushion. No attachments to the brake or gas pedal will be permitted.

5. Any bus used in competition shall have a mirror system that complies with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS 111). Mirrors shall be adjusted to provide the driver vision that would normally be required for the safe operation of the vehicle, getting the maximum field of vision and see at least 200 feet to the rear of the bus. The driver shall not lower their head below the highest point of the steering wheel to adjust the mirrors. Mirrors can only be adjusted within the recommended mirror box standards and not adjusted to just see the ground. During vehicle preparation before competition, drivers may use markers on the ground to adjust the mirrors, such as small cones, rulers, etc.

6. Failure to wear the seat belt properly will disqualify the driver. Placement of the shoulder harness behind the back is not permitted.

7. No smoking, eating or drinking beverages will be allowed during the driving competition.

8. Drivers who fail to operate vehicle with headlights on during competition will be disqualified in the event(s) that the violation occurs.

9. No communication devices of any type will be allowed on the bus during competition or to be operated while driving on the course. (AM, FM, Disk Player, 2-way, CB, cell phones, Bluetooth’s, Blackberries, etc.)

10. Drivers are required to produce a valid School Bus Driver’s License, Certification Card and Physical Card in which they normally operate at the time of registration.

11. Entry into the scoring area by a contestant or driving coach is not permitted.
The Competition Chairman will make the final determination on any disqualification.

COMPETITION EVENTS

Each of the following sections includes the title of the event, a description of the event, layout instructions and the scoring procedures, including score sheets. The better understanding the contestants have of the information, the more successful they are likely to be during the competition. The sequence of events in this publication is not necessarily the sequence of events in the Competition; nor will all the events necessarily be included.

SUMMARY OF POSSIBLE POINTS PER EVENT

EVENT POINTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Knowledge Written Test</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Inspection Written Test</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offset Alley Event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroad Grade Crossing Right Turn Event</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straight Line Event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diminishing Clearance Event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back up Stall Event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left Turn Event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parallel Parking Event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Student Loading Event</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curb Line Event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop Line Event</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surprise Event (optional)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 775
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE TEST / VEHICLE INSPECTION TEST

Total Possible Score 200 points

PURPOSE OF TEST

A school bus driver must be familiar with many laws and regulations, which he/she must faithfully observe. Experts in the school transportation industry have established these laws and regulations over many years. Contestants for the International Competition are encouraged to study their state/province rules, regulations and state laws for school bus drivers. Since many state/province laws and regulations vary, the following documents should be studied for best practices, established by national publications. The driver needs to be knowledgeable in the requirements by law in the daily inspection of the school bus, before transporting students. The test will evaluate the contestants’ knowledge of laws regarding pre-trip inspection, as well as the knowledge of vehicle components and knowledge of “why” we check certain items.

Publications to study for the International Competition written test are as follows:

1. **American Red Cross Community First Aid & Safety**  
   Contact: You’re local American Red Cross Office

2. **Commercial Driver License Manual**  
   Available from your state Motor Vehicle Administration

3. **Texas 20 Hour Full Certification Handbook**

INSTRUCTIONS

This test will be composed of a combination of 50 true or false and/or multiple-choice questions. These statements will be based on the publications mentioned above and on common sense. Examples on the following page are of the general type that will be used.

**Scoring**

A total time limit of 30 minutes has been established for the General Knowledge Test/Vehicle Inspection Test. Each test question answered incorrectly or not completed will result in a charge of four demerits for the written test.

Examples of Test Questions:

True / False
1. Smoking is permitted on a school bus when all students are off the bus.
   
1. A stop sign means:
   
   a. Slow down to at least 10 mph
   b. Slow down to at least 5 mph
   c. Proceed cautiously if there is no traffic within 100 yards.
   d. Come to a complete stop.
OFFSET ALLEY EVENT
Maximum Score: 50 Points

PURPOSE OF EVENT: This event is designed to evaluate a driver’s ability to handle the bus under actual, and simulated, driving conditions. An offset alley is set up to determine the contestant’s ability to drive his / her bus through the offset lanes with a minimum of hesitation and without touching the barriers or flag tips.

This is a timed event. The contestant will be allowed two (2) minutes to complete the event. Time starts when the front bumper enters the first set of barricades and ends when the rear bumper exits the last set of barricades.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL BUSES OVER 29 FEET: Two or three sets of parallel barriers, 10 feet long, are set up with flag tips 10 feet apart. The right barrier flag tips of the first set are placed in a direct line with the left barrier flag tips of the second set (the offset barriers), or visa-versa. The distance between any two sets of barriers (from the end of the first set to the beginning of the second set) will be the length of the bus plus three feet for buses over 29 feet long.

The direction of the offset (left or right) will be determined by the Competition Director.

SCORING:

The following demerits will be charged for touching of a flag tip:

1st instance 7 demerits
2nd instance 21 demerits
3rd instance 42 demerits
4th instance 50 demerits

For each time of stopping the forward motion of the bus, eight (8) demerits will be charged (not to exceed 16 demerits):

1st instance 8 demerits
2nd instance 16 demerits
3rd instance 50 demerits
4th instance 50 demerits

Failure to:

Wear a seat belt 50 demerits
Keep door closed during event 50 demerits
Drive with headlights on 50 demerits
Complete event in required time limit 50 demerits
OFFSET ALLEY TEST

Contestant #:________________________________ Event Judge:________________________________________

Maximum Score: 50 points
Demerits: ________
Score Earned: ________

DEMERITS

Each instance of stopping forward motion of the bus (8) Max. Of (16 demerits) ________

For each flag tip touched (1=7) (2=21) (3=42) (4=50) Max. Of (50 demerits) ________

Backing during the event (50 demerits) ________

Vehicle touches a barrier (excluding base) (50 demerits) ________

FAILURE TO: DEMERITS

Complete event in the 2 minute time limit (50 demerits) ________

Drive with the headlights on (50 demerits) ________

Wear seat belt properly (50 demerits) ________

Keep door closed during event (50 demerits) ________

Complete The Event (50 demerits) ________

Actual Time_______ Min.______________ Sec.

Indicate which flag tip or barrier has been touched
LAYOUT & DIRECTIONS: RXR GRADE CROSSING - RIGHT TURN EVENT

Maximum Score: 75 points

PURPOSE OF EVENT:
Making a right turn at a railroad crossing represents one of the greatest hazards insofar as mass casualties or fatalities are concerned. This test evaluates the driver’s common sense, degree of care and knowledge of the laws, rules and regulations when required to maneuver a school bus across railroad tracks at an intersection. The test also evaluates the driver’s ability to make a right turn and determine the clearance of the tracks with the vehicle.

INSTRUCTIONS:
A simulated railroad crossing is laid out as follows:
• A two lane roadway crossing one set of railroad tracks located approximately 50 feet from an intersection.
• Railroad grade crossing signs will be properly positioned to the right side of the roadway in which the driver will make the approach to the intersection.
• The driver will approach the railroad grade crossing giving the correct direction signal and stop as required by law.
• Upon checking the tracks on both directions, the driver will activate the correct turn signal and proceed. The driver shall continue to steer the bus in a straight line until ready to execute the right turn. The point at which the turn begins is determined by the driver’s ability to judge a predetermined relationship with the corner (turning point). The turn must be executed without touching the curb line. This is a timed event: The contestant will be allowed 15 seconds to complete the right turn... The time will start when the right rear tire enters or passes the front edge of the entry scoring template and will stop when the right rear tire leaves or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template. The turning radius will be determined on the day of competition.

Scoring
Drivers are judged from the time they approach the crossing until they complete the right hand turn. They will be checked on use of directional signals and mirrors, stopping the bus, opening the door and window, checking the tracks in both directions, driving across the railroad tracks, etc. Recommended procedures outlined in “Operation Lifesaver” publications will be used for the basis of scoring:

APPROACH THE RXR GRADE CROSSING AND RIGHT TURN:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAILURE TO:</th>
<th>DEMERITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete the event</td>
<td>75 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive with headlights on or not wearing seat belt</td>
<td>75 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properly use turn signals during the event</td>
<td>25 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop between 15 and 50 feet from the nearest rail</td>
<td>75 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop, open door or window (if applicable) at RXR grade crossing</td>
<td>75 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check the tracks in both directions and ensure that it is safe to cross</td>
<td>75 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check left outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks</td>
<td>10 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check right outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks</td>
<td>10 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check inside rearview mirror before crossing the tracks</td>
<td>10 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close entrance door</td>
<td>25 demerits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear back of bus by at least 15 feet from the nearest rail after crossing the tracks</td>
<td>75 demerits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RIGHT TURN:

THIS WILL BE A TIMED EVENT. The contestant shall be allowed 15 seconds to complete the right turn. The time will start when the right rear dual enters or passes the front edge of the entry score template and will end when the right rear tire enters or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

Scoring

Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring purposes, the outer edge of the tire’s tread will be used. The right rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn. Measuring from the curbside of each template, the following demerits shall be charged depending on the travel path of the scoring tire:

- The tire enters and exits the scoring template in the yellow (zero) 0 demerits
- the tire enters and/or exits the scoring template in the black (ten) 10 demerits
- the tire enters and/or exits the scoring template in the red (twenty) 20 demerits
- the tire misses the front edge of the scoring template (twenty five) 25 demerits

The highest value of demerits will be given based on the tires travel through the templates

Red 9” to 12” 20 demerits
Black 6” to 9” 10 demerits
Yellow 0” to 6” 0 demerits

The tire “does not” pass through the entire template 25 demerits

Improper use of 8 light “School Bus Flashers” 25 demerits
Backs up during event 75 demerits
RXR GRADE CROSSING – RIGHT TURN TEST

Contestant # ___________________________  Event Judge ______________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Score:</th>
<th>75 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demerits:</td>
<td>_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Score earned:</td>
<td>_________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DEMERITS

APPROACH THE RXR GRADE CROSSING:

FAILURE TO: DEMERITS

Complete the event (75 demerits) _____________

Drive with headlights or not wearing seat belt (75 demerits) _____________

Properly use turn signals during the event (25 demerits) _____________

Stop between 15 and 50 feet from the nearest rail (75 demerits) _____________

Stop, open door or window (if applicable) at RXR grade crossing (75 demerits) _____________

Check the tracks in both directions and ensure that it is safe to cross (75 demerits) _____________

Check left outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks (10 demerits) _____________

Check right outside mirror(s) before crossing the tracks (10 demerits) _____________

Check inside rearview mirror before crossing the tracks (10 demerits) _____________

Close entrance door (25 demerits) _____________

Clear back of bus by at least 15 feet from the nearest rail after crossing the tracks (75 demerits) _____________
ENTERING TURN:
THIS WILL BE A TIMED EVENT. The contestant shall be allowed 15 seconds to complete the turn. The time will start when the right rear dual enters or passes the front edge of the entry score template and will end when the right rear tire enters or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring purposes, the outer edge of the tire’s tread will be used. The right rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn.

**Direction of Travel Tire travel through entire scoring template**

(Off of Template) (25 demerits) ____________
Red 9” to 12” (20 demerits) ____________
Black 6” to 9” (10 demerits) ____________
Yellow 0” to 6” (00 demerits) ____________

RECOVERING FROM TURN:
For scoring purposes, the outer edge of the tire’s tread will be used. The right rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn.

**Direction of Travel Tire travel through entire scoring template**

(Off of Template) (25 demerits) ____________
Red 9” to 12” (20 demerits) ____________
Black 6” to 9” (10 demerits) ____________
Yellow 0” to 6” (00 demerits) ____________
Improper use of 8 light “School Bus Flashers” (25 demerits) ____________
Backs up during event (75 demerits) ____________
Stopping while in turn (50 demerits) ____________
(More than 15 seconds) (50 demerits) ____________
Shifting gears manually while crossing tracks (75 demerits) ____________
Bus stops on tracks (75 demerits) ____________

**ACTUAL TIME:** / ____________________________ Min. Sec. ____________________________
STRAIGHT LINE EVENT
Maximum Score: 50 points

PURPOSE OF EVENT:
To determine the driver’s ability to maneuver the right wheels of school bus over a straight path of a given width.

INSTRUCTIONS:
The right wheels of the bus must travel the indicated path without striking or moving the markers with any wheel. The bus must be operated in a continuous forward motion. The distance between the markers is the width of the rear duals plus three (3) inches. Measure all right side dual widths. The distance between each set of Tennis Balls is 25 ft. with 4 sets of balls.

Scoring:
For each instance of jerky or uneven movement of bus
(Maximum of 20 demerits.) 2 demerits ______________

For each instance of stopping forward motion of bus
(Maximum of 20 demerits.) 4 demerits ______________

Each instance where wheel touches or knocks a tennis ball off
(Maximum of 50 points.) 5 demerits ______________

Drives either side of pair of tennis ball markers
(Maximum of 50 points) 10 demerits ______________

Failure to complete the event 50 demerits ______________

Failure to wear seat belt 50 demerits ______________

Failure to have door closed during event 50 demerits ______________

Backing up during event 50 demerits ______________

Failure to drive with headlights on 50 demerits ______________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Demerits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Each instance of jerky or uneven movement of bus</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (maximum of 20 demerits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each instance of stopping forward motion</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) (4) (4) (4) (maximum of 20 demerits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each instance where wheel touches or knocks tennis ball off</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drives to either side of pair of tennis ball markers</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (maximum of 50 demerits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete the event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wear seat belt</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep door closed during event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To drive with headlights on</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back up during the event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DIMINISHING CLEARANCE EVENT

Maximum Score: 50 points

PURPOSE OF TEST:
The contestant is required to drive the bus in a straight line with diminishing clearances while driving in a smooth and continuous manner.

INSTRUCTIONS:
For the purpose of conducting this test, five pairs of parallel standards are set up. Each pair of standards, however, is parallel to the next. The distance between each pair of standards is 25 feet. The width of each pair varies as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pair of Standards</th>
<th>Width of Bus plus Inches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First pair of standards</td>
<td>Width of bus plus 10 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second pair of standards</td>
<td>Width of bus plus 8 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third pair of standards</td>
<td>Width of bus plus 6 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth pair of standards</td>
<td>Width of bus plus 4 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth pair of standards</td>
<td>Width of bus plus 2 inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The measurement is from flag tip to flag tip. The alley is set up to allow for the course to diminish equally on both sides.

Scoring
Contestants will be scored on the following:

- Each instance of jerky or uneven movement (Maximum of 10 demerits) 2 demerits
- Each instance of stopping forward movement of bus (Maximum of 20 demerits) 4 demerits
- Each instance of bus touching flag tips (Maximum of 50 demerits) 10 demerits
- Striking standard with bus 50 demerits
- Failure to complete the event 50 demerits
- Failure to wear seat belt 50 demerits
- Backing up during the event 50 demerits
- Keep door closed during event 50 demerits
- Failure to drive with headlights on 50 demerits
DIMINISHING CLEARANCE TEST

Contestant #____________________________________________________Event Judge____________________________________________________

Maximum Score: 50 points
Demerits: _________
Score Earned: _________

DEMERTIS

each instance of jerky or uneven movement of bus
(2) (2) (2) (2) (2) maximum of 10 demerits (2 demerits) _________

each instance of stopping forward motion of bus
(4) (4) (4) (4) (4) maximum of 20 demerits (4 demerits) _________

each instance of bus touching flag tip
(10) (10) (10) (10) (10) maximum of 50 demerits (10 demerits) _________

Bus strikes flag standard (50 demerits) _________

Backing up bus during event (50 demerits) _________

Failure to:

Complete the event (50 demerits) _________

Wear Seat Belt (50 demerits) _________

Keep door closed during event (50 demerits) _________

Drive with headlights on (50 demerits) _________
BACK UP STALL EVENT

Maximum score: 50 points

PURPOSE OF THE TEST:
This test is designed to evaluate the driver’s ability to back the bus into a stall. A stall the width of the
bus plus two (2) feet is provided into which the driver must back their bus into without touching the
upright standards and without crossing over the stall limit marker lines. Depth perception is tested by
penalizing the driver for backing up too close to the rear barrier, or parking the bus too far from the rear
barrier, or not having the bus centered in the stall.

INSTRUCTIONS:
Two parallel yellow ropes on the ground the width of the bus plus two (2) feet identify each stall. Each
front corner of the stall will be marked by upright standards that will not interfere with the backing
of the bus. In order to limit the driver’s maneuvering room, a front wheel limitation line will be placed on
the ground perpendicular to the stall parallel marker lines. The distance from the front stall standards to
the wheel limitation line will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transit</th>
<th>Length of bus plus 1’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conventional</td>
<td>Length of bus plus 4’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This will be a timed event. The approach to the back-up stall will be made from the right side only. A
three (3) minute time limit starts when the front bumper passes the first upright standard. The bus must
be parked in the stall, with the parking brake set, and the horn sounded, within the three-minute time
limit. Each contestant will be permitted one back-up before demerits are charged for excessive backing.

Upon completion of this event, the bus should be parked as near to the center of the stall as possible.
Centering of the bus in the stall will be determined by the relationship of the center of the front and rear
bumpers the center of the stall, but with only the farthest distance off center (front or back) being used
to compute demerits.

There will be a one-foot free zone four to five feet in front of the rear barriers in the center of the stall
and demerits will be charged if the bus is parked ahead or behind the free zone. After the bus is
measured, the contestant will exit the stall between the upright standards.

Scoring

The following are demerits for this event:
Tire tread touches the wheel limitation line 50 demerits
Bus touches the front upright standards 50 demerits
Tire touches stall sidelines 50 demerits
Touching the rear barrier 50 demerits
Failure to park the bus, set parking brake
and sound the horn within the 3-minute time limit. 50 demerits
Failure to pull out between the front upright standards 50 demerits
Failure to keep door closed 50 demerits
Failure to wear seat belt 50 demerits
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Demerits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failure to drive with headlights on</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to complete event</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per instance of forward motion after the first back-up (not to exceed 42 demerits)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus parked more than 1 inch off of the center line, front or rear (greatest only)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus parked forward of 1’ free zone and each 6” or fraction thereof, (not to exceed 50 demerits)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus parked behind 1’ free zone and each 6” or fraction thereof (not to exceed 50 demerits)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BACK UPSTALL TEST

Contestant # ___________________________ Event Judge __________________________________

Maximum Score: 50 points
Demerits: _________
Score Earned: _________

Tire tread touches the wheel limitation line (50 demerits) _________
Bus touches the front upright standards (50 demerits) _________
Tire touches the stall sideline (50 demerits) _________
Bus extends into or over rear barrier (50 demerits) _________
Failure to pull out between the front upright standards (50 demerits) _________
Failure to park bus set the parking brake and sound horn within Three (3) minute time limit (Time starts when front bumper Passes upright standard) (50 demerits) _________
Each instance of forward motion after the first back up (0) (6) (12) (18) (24) (30) (36) (42) maximum of 42 demerits (06 demerits) _________
Bus parked more than 1 inch off of center line each inch Or fraction thereof (greatest only) (2) (4) (6) (8) (10) (12) (14) maximum of 14 demerits (02 demerits) _________
Forward of the one-foot free zone-5 demerits for each 6” or Fraction thereof (5) (10) (15) (20) (25) (30) (35) (40) (45) (50) Maximum of 50 demerits (05 demerits) _________
Bus parked behind one-foot free zone-10 demerits for Each 6” or fraction thereof (10) (20) (30) (40) (50) (10 demerits) _________
Failure to:
Complete the event (50 demerits) _________
Wear seat belt (50 demerits) _________
Keep door closed during event (50 demerits) _________
Drive with headlights on (50 demerits) _________

ACTUAL TIME: / Min. Sec.
LEFT TURN EVENT

MAXIMUM SCORE 50 POINTS

PURPOSE OF EVENT: This event is designed to determine the driver’s ability to properly prepare for, and execute, a left turn.

INSTRUCTIONS: A sign indicating “Left Turn” will be placed approximately 150 feet from the beginning of the turn. A lane will be provided in which the driver will make the approach to the corner. The lane is marked on the left with a curb line 50 feet long. The driver will approach the corner giving the correct directional signal at least 100 feet from the turn, as required by law. Each contestant shall continue to steer the bus in a straight line until ready to execute the turn. The point at which the turn begins is determined by the driver’s ability to judge a predetermined relationship with the corner (turning point). When this point is reached, the bus should be steered the left. When properly executed, this method of turning left will cause the bus to safety complete the left turn. The bus may not be stopped during this event.

This is a timed event. The contestant will be allowed 15 seconds to complete the event. The time will start when the left rear tire enters or passes the front edge of the entry scoring template, and will end when the left rear tire leaves or passes the rear edge of the recovery scoring template.

The turning radius will be determined on the day of competition.

SCORING: Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring purposes, the outer edge of the left outside tire tread will be used. The left rear outside tire must pass through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn. The highest value of demerits will be given based on the tires travel through the entire template. Should the tire enter or leave off the inner or outer side of the template at any time it is to be considered off the template. There is a maximum of 25 demerits per scoring template.

Measuring from the curbside of each template, the following demerits shall be charged depending on the travel path of the scored tire through the entire template.

Yellow 0” to 6” (00 demerits)
Black 6” to 9” (10 demerits)
Red 9” to 12” (20 demerits)
(Off of Template) (25 demerits)
Additional demerits as follows:

- Failure to properly activate the left directional signal: 10 demerits
- Failure to cancel the left directional signal: 10 demerits
- Each instance of stopping the bus: 5 demerits
- If any tire touches the curb line at any time: 50 demerits
- For backing the bus: 50 demerits
- Failure to complete turn within 15 seconds: 50 demerits
- Failure to keep door closed during the event: 50 demerits
LEFT TURN TEST

Contestant #________________________________________ Event Judge: _________________________________________

ENTERING AND RECOVERING FROM TURN:

THIS WILL BE A TIMED EVENT. The contestant shall be allowed 15 seconds.
The time will start when the left rear outside tire enters or passes the front edge of the entry score
template and will end when the left rear outside tire leaves or passes the rear edge of the recovery
scoring template.

Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and recovers from the turn. For scoring
purposes, the outer edge of the left outside tire tread will be used. The left rear outside tire must pass
through the entire scoring template at the beginning and completion of the turn.

Direction of Travel Tire travel through entire scoring template

Yellow 0” to 6”                              (00 demerits)_______
Black 6” to 9”                                (10 demerits) ______
Red 9” to 12”                                 (20 demerits) ______
(Off of Template)                            (25 demerits) ______

Direction of Travel Tire travel through entire scoring template

Yellow 0” to 6”                              (00 demerits)_______
Black 6” to 9”                                (10 demerits) ______
Red 9” to 12”                                 (20 demerits) ______
(Off of Template)                            (25 demerits) ______

For each instance of stopping
(5) (5) (5) (5) (5) (not to exceed)            (25 demerits)_______
Back of the bus                               (50 demerits) ______
Any tire tread touches the curb line           (50 demerits) ______

Failure to:
Activate left directional turn signal         (10 demerits) ______
Cancel left directional turn signal           (10 demerits) ______
Drive with the headlights on                  (50 demerits) ______
Wear seat belt                               (50 demerits) ______
Keep door closed during the event             (50 demerits) ______
Complete event within time limit              (50 demerits) ______

ACTUAL TIME: / ___________________________ Min. __________ Sec. __________
PARALLEL PARKING EVENT

PURPOSE OF TEST:
This event is designed to evaluate the contestant’s ability to park the bus parallel to a curb without touching barriers placed at both ends of the parking area, without touching the curb and within 18 inches of the curb. It is also designed to judge the contestant’s ability to drive the bus out of the parking area without touching the barriers or the curb.

INSTRUCTIONS:
A section of rope will represent the curb, unless a natural curb is available. Two barriers will be set at right angles to the curb line, extending out eight feet from the curb. The distance between the two barriers will be:
1. For all transits, the length of the bus plus six feet.
2. For all conventional buses, the length of the bus plus seven feet.

Two (2) measurement (on the flat part of the bus body behind the service door & on the flat part of the bus body at the rear most portion of the bus) will be made to determine how close the bus is parked to the curb line. The greater of the two measurements will be used to determine the number of demerits to be charged. This is a timed event. The contestant is allowed three (3) minutes from the time the front bumper of the bus first passes the rear barrier of approach. The contestant must have the bus parked, set parking brake, and sound the horn within the three (3) minute limit.

Backing in: The contestant will be permitted to back up twice before demerits are charged.
Pulling out: The contestant will be permitted to back up twice before demerits are charged.

Scoring: Scoring will be based on the method in which the driver enters and exits a stall.

Failure to park the bus, set parking brake and sound the horn
Within the three (3) minute time limit 50 demerits

Bus touching front or rear barrier at anytime 50 demerits
Failure to wear seat belt 50 demerits
Keep the door closed during event 50 demerits
Failure to drive with headlights on 50 demerits
Failure to complete event 50 demerits

Score for Backing In:
Failure to use right turn signal before entering 50 demerits
First instance of touching curb with tire 50 demerits
For each instance of backing more than twice (not to exceed 25 demerits) 5 demerits
**Scoring for Zones parallel to curb:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Range from curb</th>
<th>Demerits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone 1</td>
<td>0” to 3”</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone 2</td>
<td>3” to 6”</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone 3</td>
<td>6” to 9”</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone 4</td>
<td>9” to 12”</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone 5</td>
<td>12” to 15”</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone 6</td>
<td>15” to 18”</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over</td>
<td>Over 18”</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scoring for Pulling Out:**

- Failure to use left turn signal: 50 demerits
- Each instance for backing more than twice (not to exceed 25 demerits): 5 demerits
- First instance of touching the curb with tire: 50 demerits
- Failure to cancel directional signal: 10 demerits
PARALLEL PARKING TEST

Contestant # __________________________ Event Judge ___________________________

Maximum Score: 50 points
Demerits: __________
Score Earned: __________

Entering the Parking Zone

Check each instance of backing the bus and charge 5 demerits each instance over two backs.

(0) (0) (5) (10) (15) (20) (25) not to exceed 25 demerits (05 demerits) __________
Bus touches any barrier (50 demerits) __________
Tire touches the curb line (50 demerits) __________

Parking Zone Scoring Parallel to Curb:

Zone 1  Bus parked 0”-3” (00 demerits) __________
Zone 2  Bus parked 3”-6” (03 demerits) __________
Zone 3  Bus parked 6”-9” (06 demerits) __________
Zone 4  Bus parked 9”-12” (09 demerits) __________
Zone 5  Bus parked 12”-15” (12 demerits) __________
Zone 6  Bus parked 15”-18” (15 demerits) __________
Bus parked (over 18” from curb) (50 demerits) __________

Exiting the Parking Zone:

Check each instance of backing up the bus and charge 5 demerits for each instance over two backs.

(0) (0) (5) (10) (15) (20) (25) not to exceed 25 demerits (05 demerits) __________
Bus touches any barrier (50 demerits) __________
Tire touches the curb line (50 demerits) __________

Failure to:

Park the bus, set the parking brake and sound horn within the 3-minute limit (50 demerits) __________
Drive with the headlights on (50 demerits) __________
Wear seat belt (50 demerits) __________
Keep door closed during event (50 demerits) __________
Activate directional signal (entering/exiting) (50 demerits) __________
Cancel directional signal (10 demerits) __________

ACTUAL TIME: / ___________________________ Min. __________ Sec. __________
**ELEMENTARY STUDENT LOADING EVENT**

Maximum Score: 75 points

**PURPOSE OF TEST:**
Loading of elementary students can be one of the most life threatening maneuvers a school bus driver performs. This test is designed to evaluate the driver’s alertness to the loading of elementary passengers and to determine their ability to remember and perform several other important functions incidental to such loading. Such items include proper use of directional signals, yellow warning lights, mirrors, red crossover lights and the stop arm.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**
A rope to represent the edge of roadway or curb will mark the loading area. For loading passengers the contestant will pull into the loading area. The contestant will utilize the yellow warning lights (100 feet) prior to entering the loading zone. The contestant will then use the red crossover lights and stop arm when stopped to load students.

During the maneuver the contestant will be judged for mirror use before and after the stop, proper use of lights, smooth stopping, lane position while stopped, transmission in neutral with parking brake set before door is opened. The contestant must stop at least 10 feet back from the student, but not more than 15 feet, and out at least 6 feet away from student.

**Scoring:**
Failure to wear seat belt 75 demerits
Failure to complete event 75 demerits
Backing up the bus during event 75 demerits
Failure to place bus in neutral/park and set parking brake before door is opened 75 demerits
Failure to activate yellow lights 75 demerits
Failure to activate red crossover lights 75 demerits
Failure to deactivate red crossover lights 75 demerits
Failure to drive with headlights on 75 demerits
Failure to properly use turn signals on entry and exit 75 demerits
Failure to perform proper mirror checks (5 points for each mirror) 25 demerits
Failure to keep door closed in motion 25 demerits
Failure to perform mirror check after stop and before moving 25 demerits
Bus stopped closer than 10 feet from student (back from student) 10 demerits
Bus parked more than 15 feet from student(back from student) 10 demerits
Bus stopped closer than 6 feet away from student(back from student) 10 demerits
## ELEMENTARY STUDENT LOADING TEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contestant #</th>
<th>Event Judge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum Score: **75 points**

Demerits:_________

Score earned:_________

### DEMERITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Failure Description</th>
<th>Demerits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failure to perform proper mirror checks (5-point mirror checks)</td>
<td>(25 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to properly use turn signals on entry and exit</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If loading zone</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to activate yellow warning lights</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to wear seat belt</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to complete events</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backing up the bus during event</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to drive with headlights on</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep the door closed while in motion</td>
<td>(25 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerky or sudden stops</td>
<td>(10 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus stopped closer than 10 feet from student (back from student)</td>
<td>(10 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus stopped more than 15 ft. from student (back from student)</td>
<td>(10 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to stop at least 6 ft. away from student (back from student)</td>
<td>(10 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to set parking brake and place vehicle in neutral/park Before door is opened</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to activate red crossover lights and stop arm</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to deactivate red crossover lights and stop arm</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If not automatically cancelled by closing door</td>
<td>(75 demerits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to perform proper mirror check (5 count mirror check)</td>
<td>(50 demerits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Layout a 50 ft. curb line rope “A”. This will represent the right side of the roadway.

2. Place the Student Sign “B” near the end of and behind the curb line or edge of roadway.

3. Mark where the Student Sign is to be located with crayons or chalk.

4. Make a small crayon or chalk mark “C” 10 ft. from the Student Sign, this will represent the closest the bus can stop from the student.

5. Make a small crayon or chalk mark “D” 15 ft. from the Student Sign which indicates the bus is further than 15 ft. away from the student.
CUB LINE PARK EVENT

Maximum score: 50 points

PURPOSE OF TEST:
To test the skills of the driver to make a loading or unloading maneuver that requires pulling into a curb parking zone that has a limited distance.

INSTRUCTIONS:
The event will be set up to simulate a limited curb length between other parked vehicles. The loading area will be marked by two 8 ft. barriers which will be spaced three (3) times the length of the bus. The contestant must pull into the curb and pull out without backing up. This is a timed event. The contestant will have two (2) minutes from the time the front bumper of bus passes the rear barrier until the bus is properly parked and the horn is sounded.

The contestant will be judged on use of right turn signal when pulling in and the left turn signal when pulling out. Proper use of mirrors will also be judged. The 5-point mirror check should be made. The contestant will be scored if the tire hits the curb line. A measurement will be made at the loading area to determine how close the bus is parked to the curb line. The contestant must place bus in neutral, apply park brake and sound horn.

Scoring: The contestant will be scored on the following items:

- Failure to wear seat belt: 50 demerits
- Failure to complete event: 50 demerits
- Failure to keep door closed during event: 50 demerits
- Failure to drive with headlights on: 50 demerits
- Failure to place bus in neutral, apply park brake and sound horn within 2 minutes: 50 demerits
- Hits either back or front barrier: 50 demerits
- Hitting the curb with tire: 50 demerits
- Furthest bus measurement from curb:
  - 0” to 12”: 0 demerits
  - 12” to 18”: 20 demerits
  - 18” and over: 50 demerits
- Backing up in event: 50 demerits
- Failure to use right turn signal: 10 demerits
- Failure to cancel right turn signal: 10 demerits
- Failure to left turn signal: 10 demerits
- Failure to cancel left turn signal: 10 demerits
CURB LINE PARK TEST
Contestant #_____________________________ Event Judge_________________________________
Maximum Score: 50 points
Demerits: __________ Score Earned: __________

DEMERITS

Hits either back or front barrier (50 demerits) __________

Hitting the curb with tire (50 demerits) __________

Furthest measurement from curb (50 demerits)
   0” to 12” (00 demerits) __________
   12” to 18” (20 demerits) __________
   18” and over (50 demerits) __________

Failure to use right turn signal before entry (10 demerits) __________

Failure to perform 5-point mirror check before entry (25 demerits) __________

Failure to cancel right turn signal (10 demerits) __________

Failure to properly park the bus, apply park brake
   And sound horn within 2 min. time limit. (50 demerits) __________

Failure to use left turn signal when leaving (10 demerits) __________

Failure to perform 5-point mirror check on leaving (25 demerits) __________

Failure to cancel left turn signal after event (10 demerits) __________

Backing up during event (50 demerits) __________

**Failure to:**

Wear seat belt (50 demerits) __________

To complete event (50 demerits) __________

Drive with headlights on (50 demerits) __________

Keep door closed during event (50 demerits) __________

ACTUAL TIME: /__________ Min.________ Sec.
STOP LINE EVENT
Maximum Score: 25 points

PURPOSE OF THE TEST:
This test determines the contestant’s depth perception, ability to use crossover mirrors and ability to bring the bus to a smooth complete stop.

INSTRUCTIONS:
A yellow 5/8 inch rope stop limit line six feet long is layout. The contestant should bring the bus to a complete stop as close to the stop limit line as possible. Only one stop will be allowed. The stop limit line may be in sequence with another event, such as the right turn or the railroad grade crossing. The contestant will sound the horn after the stop is made and the vehicle has been placed in neutral gear and the park brake set.

Scoring
Measurement for scoring the stop line will be taken from the front surface of the bumper to the edge of the line closest to the bus. Measurement will be taken any place on the bumper that is the closest to the line. The bus must stop two (2) inches or less from the stop limit line to avoid demerits being given.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Demerits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0” to 2”</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 2” to 4”</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 4” to 6”</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 6” to 8”</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 8” to 10”</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 10” to 12”</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 12” to 14”</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 14” to 16”</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>over 16”</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Demerits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stops with bumper beyond line</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to complete event</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backs up during event</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to wear seat belt</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to keep door closed</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to drive with headlights on</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to perform mirror check when entering event</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to perform mirror check when leaving event</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIRECTIONS:
1. Determine location of stop. Make sure that it does not line up with any ground reference that could be used as a marker.
2. Place a 6 ft. stop line rope on the location determined for the stop line.
3. Place a stop sign on a standard to the right of the line, but not in a location that can be used as a marker or ground reference.
## STOP LINE TEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contestant #</th>
<th>Event Judge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Maximum Score: | 25 points |
| Demerits: |  |
| Score earned: |  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEMERITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0”-2”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 2” to 4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 4” to 6”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 6” to 8”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 8” to 10”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 10” to 12”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 12” to 14”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 14” to 16”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 16”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stops with bumper beyond stop line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to complete event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backs up during event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to wear seat belt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to keep door closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to drive with headlights on</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SURPRISE EVENT
Maximum Score: 50 pts.

The Competition Committee may select a surprise event for the competition. The event would be announced at the Orientation Meeting. The event would be designed to test the ability of a driver to react to an unplanned event.

BUS MEASURING POINTS:

How to use the measuring device

Measuring from the center of the tire tread / Measuring from the body

For Events: Parallel Parking and Curb line Parking

School Bus Driver State Safety Competition