



Virginia Department of Education

A Regulatory View of Virginia
Pupil Transportation





Totals 07/08

- ✚ Miles 198,656,640 per year
- ✚ 953,696 pupil passengers daily





Code of Virginia

✦ § 22.1-8. General supervision vested in Board.

- The general supervision of the public school system shall be vested in the Board of Education.

✦ § 22.1-16. Bylaws and regulations generally.

- The Board of Education may adopt bylaws for its own government and promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out its powers and duties and the provisions of this title.



Code of Virginia

✦ § 22.1-177. Regulations.

- The Board may make regulations relating to the **construction, design, operation, equipment, and color of public school buses** and shall have the authority to issue an order prohibiting the operation on public streets and highways of any public school bus which does not comply with such regulations. Any such order shall be enforced by the Department of State Police.



8 VAC 20-70-(Transportation)





Virginia Administrative Code

- ✦ Title 8 of Virginia's Constitution, directs the State Board of Education.
- ✦ The Department of Education gets its authority from the Board of Education.
- ✦ State Agency No. 20 – The Board of Education
- ✦ Title 8 Agency 20 Chapter 70- Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation





Part 1

Definitions

8VAC20-70-10 Definitions

- Types of School Buses
 - Color
 - **Non-conforming**
 - Specialties
 - Bus Types





Nonconforming Bus

- ✓ More than 10 passengers
- ✓ Does not meet 49 CFR 571 for school bus
- ✓ Not approved for transport





§46.2-100 Definitions

"Passenger car"

- Used primarily for the transportation of no more than **10 persons** including the driver





Part II

General Regulations

8VAC20-70-20. Transportation of children.

- The greatest care

8VAC20-70-30. Safe speeds.

- As stated in [§46.2-871](#)





Code of Virginia

✦ § 46.2-871 Maximum speed limit for school buses.

- The maximum speed limit for school buses shall be 45 miles per hour or the minimum speed allowable, whichever is greater, on any highway where the maximum speed limit is 55 miles per hour or less, and 60 miles per hour on all interstate highways and on other highways where the maximum speed limit is more than 55 miles per hour.





Part II

General Regulations

8VAC20-70-40. Seating.

- The seat cushion facing forward
- Within the seating compartment
- Not exceed the [manufacturer's capacity](#)





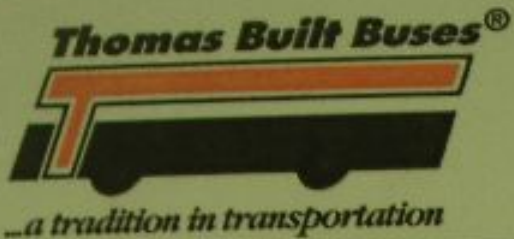
Part II

General Regulations

8VAC20-70-40. Seating.

- During the first 30 instructional days standing
- Be permitted for short distances in the aisle back of the driver's seat
- After that period only
 - in unforeseen emergencies as identified by the local school board





HIGH POINT, N.C.
WOODSTOCK, ONT.

MFD BY THOMAS BUILT BUSES, INC.

DATE: 06-95

INC VEH MFD BY: NAVISTAR

DATE: 04-95

GVWR: 027500

GAWR FRONT: 10000 WITH 10R22.5F TIRES
22.5X7.50 RIMS 095 PSI COLD SINGLE

GAWR INTERMEDIATE: WITH TIRES
RIMS PSI COLD

GAWR REAR: 17500 WITH 10R22.5F TIRES
22.5X7.50 RIMS 095 PSI COLD DUAL

THIS VEHICLE CONFORMS TO ALL APPLICABLE
FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS
IN EFFECT IN: 04-95 MAX CAP
SUB TO DESIGN
LIMITS: 066

V.I.N.: 1HVBBABP1SH227554

CHAS. ID. NO: 10106

VEH. TYPE: SCHOOL BUS

EQUIP. CAP.: 066

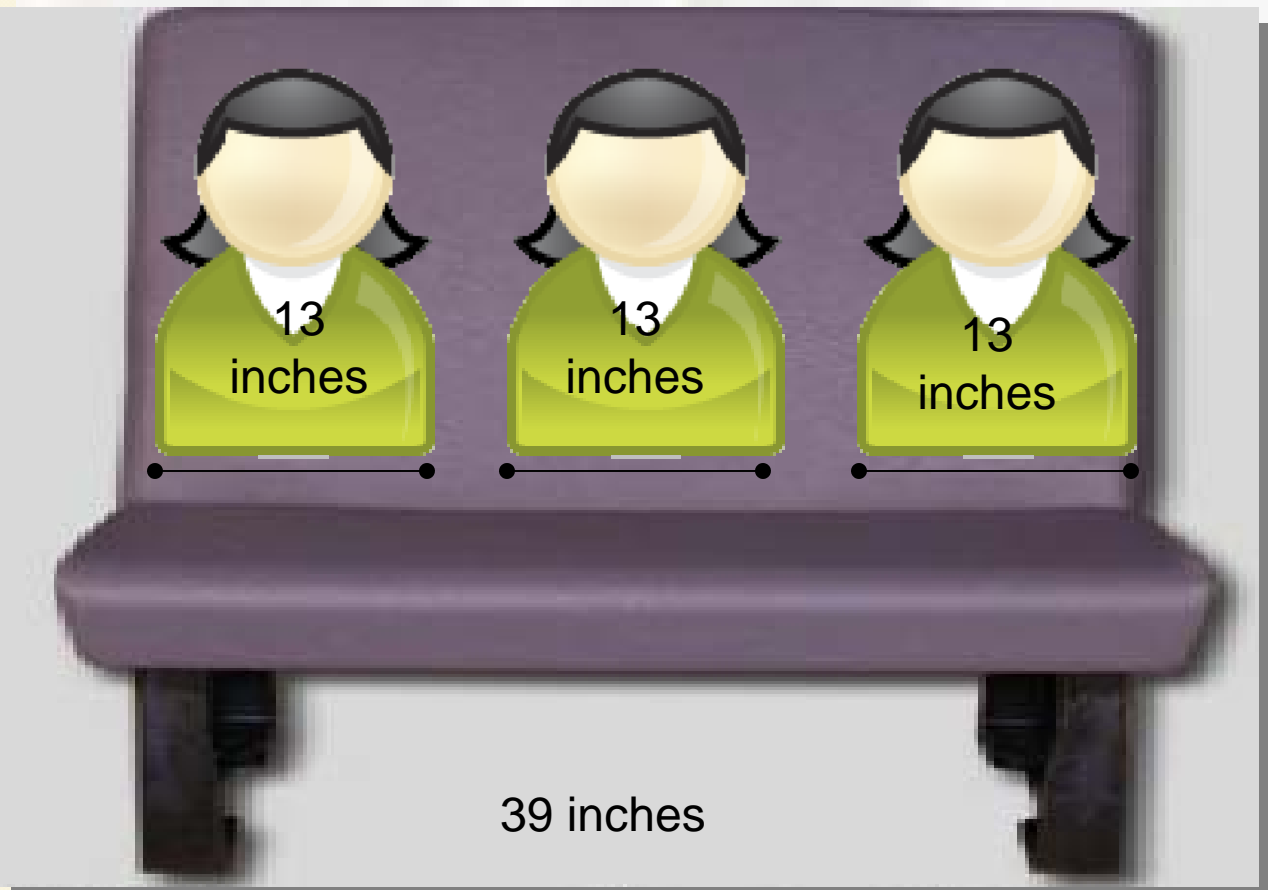
BODY ID.: 32342-9519043-C-1010S-MD



manufacturer's capacity rating



**39 inch seat /
13 inches per hip breadth = 3**





Part II

General Regulations

- ✚ 8VAC20-70-50. Written employment agreement.
- ✚ 8VAC20-70-60. Entrance door.
- ✚ 8VAC20-70-70. Traffic warning devices.
 - Stopped or about to stop
 - Stopped or about to stop for another such bus, when approaching from any direction





Part II

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-80. Loading or discharging pupils.

- Right hand side of the road
- Seen from both directions
- Approved designated stops
- 5 lanes or more, physical barrier-pickup or discharge on the side they live





Part II

General Regulations

✚ 8VAC20-70-90. Safety belts

- Operators shall wear

✚ 8VAC20-70-100. Passenger restraint belts

- According to state or federal law
 - See “Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses” @ <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/buses/Guide1999/prekfinal.htm>





Part II

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-110. Pupil rider safety instructions.

- Shall be included in school curriculum
- Pre-k grade levels-during the first week of school
- Emergency exit drills 2x per year. The first during first 30 instructional days
- Copy of bus rider rules shall be sent to parents





Part II

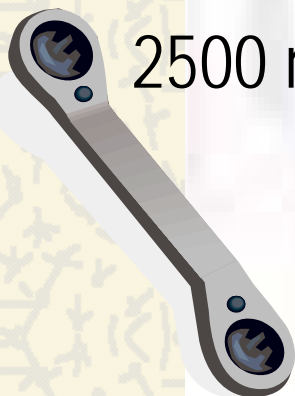
General Regulations

✚ 8VAC20-70-120. Insurance.

- Per §22.1-190

✚ 8VAC20-70-130 Maintenance inspection

- 30 Operating Days
- 2500 miles traveled





Part II

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-140. Crash/Incident Reporting

- Forms or format furnished by DOE
- At least once a month
- Death or serious injury requiring medical treatment=next day notification

- ❖ Crash property damage \$1000 or more or persons injured
- ❖ Incident , property damage \$999 or less and no injuries





VDOE Website/Crash database link

VDOE :: Pupil Transportation :: Data Collection - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/transportation/data_collection/index.shtml

Virginia.gov Online Services | Commonwealth Sites | Help | Governor

Search Virginia.gov

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Home » Pupil Transportation » Data Collection

Contact Us | Search VDOE

VDOE Home
Superintendent
Board of Education
About VDOE (Offices)
Data & Reports
Student Instruction
Pressroom
Career Center
Directories
Site Index

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION DATA COLLECTION

School divisions that provide transportation to students must complete the annual transportation report in order to receive transportation funding through Basic Aid. To facilitate the collection of this data for each fiscal year, the online Pupil Transportation Report provides forms to report the data needed to calculate funding for transportation. School divisions also must report information about crashes or incidents involving school buses, pupils and personnel who ride school or activity buses.

School divisions reporting data for both of these collections must use the Web-based data collection & reporting system (SSWS).

[SSWS login page](#) (password protected)

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION
News & Announcements
Regulations
School Buses
Training
Meetings & Events
Operations Assessments
Data Collection

Resources:
Forms
Links to outside resources

Information on this page is provided by the [Office of Support Services](#)
[Contact Us](#)
Phone: 804-225-2037

<https://p1.pe.virginia.gov/ssws/> Local Intranet

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/transportation/data_collection/index.shtml



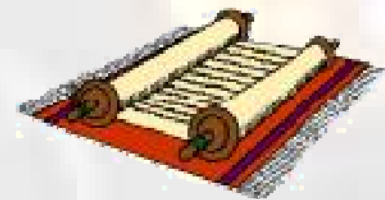


Part II

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-150. Route schedule.

- Morning start time
- P/U times
- School arrival time
- Copy on the bus
 - be careful of protected information-(FERPA)





Part II

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-160. Review of routes.

- Routes and school site vehicular pedestrian traffic control plan reviewed once a year
 - for safety hazards and fuel conservation

✦ 8VAC20-70-170. Railway crossings.

- Note proper use of non-sequential light





Part II

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-180. Driver reports.

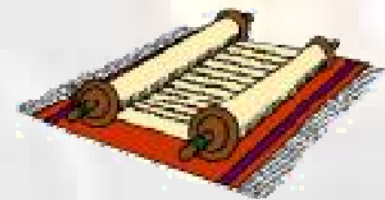
- Pupil and mileage count

✦ 8VAC20-70-190. Policies.

- Collection of fees

✦ 8VAC20-70-200. Identification and lights covering.

- ID lettering and traffic warning lights





Part II

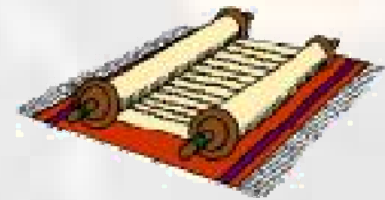
General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-210. Advertising material.

- The use of posters, stickers, or advertising material of any kind is prohibited in or on school buses unless permitted by law.

✦ 8VAC20-70-220. Passage restriction.

- No object shall be placed on any bus carrying passengers that will restrict the access to any exit.





Part II

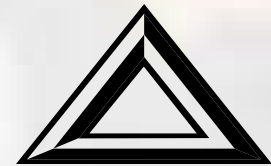
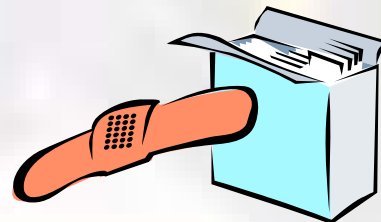
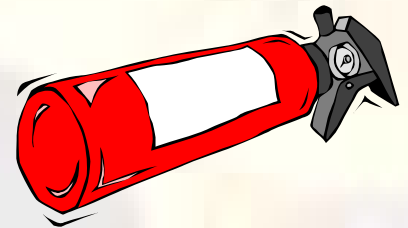
General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-230. Required materials.

- Reflective triangles, first aid kit, body fluid clean-up kit and fire extinguisher

✦ 8VAC20-70-235. Funding for pupil transportation.

- Per “Virginia Appropriations Act”





Part III

General Regulations

 8VAC20-70-280. Requirements for school bus drivers both for employment and **continued** employment.

- Physical Exam
- DMV record
- 2 Character statements
- DL
- 18 years or older
- Drug test





Part III

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-280. (Drug Testing)

6. Submit to testing for alcohol and controlled substances that is in compliance with the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-143, Title V) as amended and is in compliance with [49 CFR](#) Parts 40 and [382](#).





Tests required by 49CFR Part 382

- ☛ §382.301 Pre-employment testing
- ☛ §382.303 Post-accident testing
- ☛ §382.305 Random testing
- ☛ §382.307 Reasonable suspicion testing
- ☛ §382.309 Return-to-duty testing
- ☛ §382.311 Follow-up testing





§382.303 Post-accident testing.

Type of accident involved	Citation issued to the CMV driver	Test must be performed by employer
i. Human fatality	YES	YES
	NO	YES
ii. Bodily injury with immediate medical treatment away from the scene	YES	YES
	NO	NO
iii. Disabling damage to any motor vehicle requiring tow away	YES	YES



§382.603 Training for supervisors.

- ✦ Each employer shall ensure supervisors:
 - Receive at least 60 minutes of training on alcohol misuse
 - Receive at least an additional 60 minutes of training on controlled substances use.



§382.603 Training for supervisors.

- ✦ Used to determine if reasonable suspicion
- ✦ Includes recognition of:
 - Physical
 - Behavioral
 - Speech
 - Performance
- ✦ Indicators of alcohol misuse and use of controlled substances.





Part III

General Regulations

✚ 8VAC20-70-290. First aid course.

- May be required by local school board

✚ 8VAC20-70-300. Required documents.

- The documents required pursuant to [8VAC20-70-280](#) shall be furnished annually prior to the anniversary date of the employment to operate a school bus.





Part III

General Regulations

8VAC20-70-310. Filing.

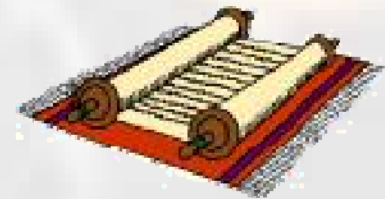
- Documents file as part of the record

8VAC20-70-320. Forms for applicants.

- From the Dept. of Education as applicable and practical

8VAC20-70-330. Health certificate.

- Driver shall submit a sign certificate of TB testing
- School boards may require annually or as appropriate





Part III

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-340. Highway driving.

- Reasonable experience operating motor vehicles
- Passed school bus exam



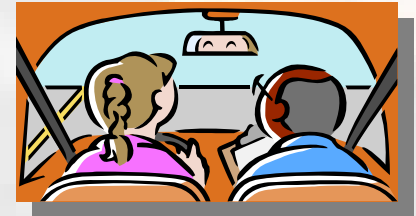


Part III

General Regulations

✦ 8VAC20-70-350. Training.

- School or activity bus
- 24 classroom
- 24 behind the wheel
- At least 10 of the 24 behind the wheel with pupils on board
- Operation of type D and special need





Part III

General Regulations

8VAC20-70-360. In-service training.

- 2 hours before school opens
- 2 hours during the second half of the school year
- Devoted to improving
 - skills
 - attitudes
 - safety
- For school and activity bus drivers





Part III

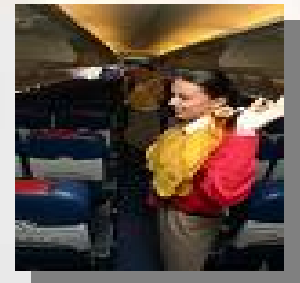
General Regulations

🚗 8VAC20-70-400. Evaluation.

- drivers shall be evaluated by the transportation director or designee at least once a year

🚗 8VAC20-70-410. Emergency equipment.

- driver of activity or extracurricular shall advise the passengers on the location of emergency equipment and exits prior to the beginning of any such trip





Part III

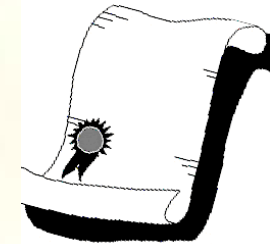
General Regulations

8VAC20-70-420. Instructor course certificate.

- All local trainers shall hold a certificate of training with recertification required in 5 years.

8VAC20-70-430. Driver data.

- Driver names, license numbers to DMV annually as required by § 46.2-340



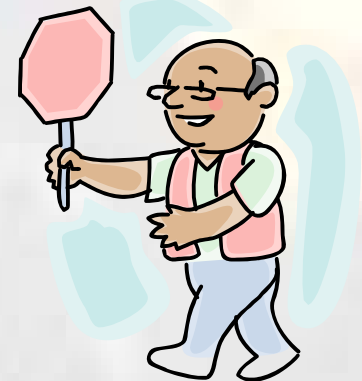
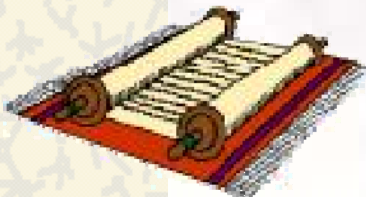


Part III

General Regulations

8VAC20-70-440. Responsibility for compliance.

- Rest with dealers and manufacturers
- Vehicles that do not meet specification will be disapproved for school transportation until full compliance.



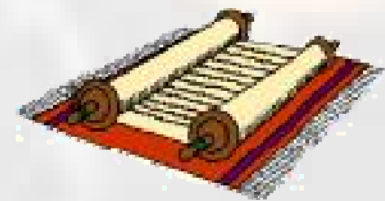


Part III

General Regulations

8VAC20-70-450. Minimum standards.

- Minimum standards are applicable to all school buses and school activity vehicles, new or used, procured by purchase, lease or operational contract from another person or entity.

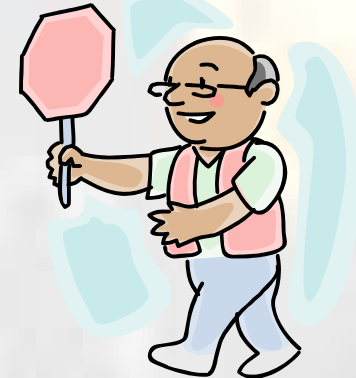


Part IV

General Requirements for School Buses in Virginia

8VAC20-70-460. Specifications.

- Buses and school activity vehicles must conform to the specifications relative to construction and design effective on the date of procurement.
- Any variation from the specifications without prior approval is prohibited.





Part IV

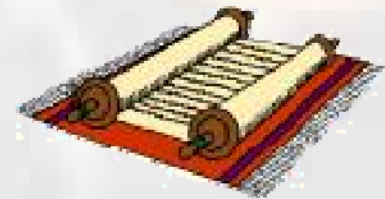
General Requirements for School Buses in Virginia

8VAC20-70-470. Adjustments.

- The Superintendent of Public Instruction is authorized to make such adjustments.
- Authority for conducting investigations and field tests

8VAC20-70-480. Bus identification.

- Publicly owned or contracted





Part IV

General Requirements for School Buses in Virginia

✚ 8VAC20-70-490. Purchase.

- Responsibility for purchases that meet specifications rest with local school boards

✚ 8VAC20-70-500. Sale of surplus school buses.

- Removal of items
- Written notice

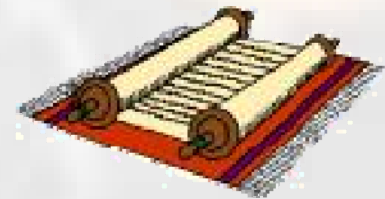


Part IV

General Requirements for School Buses in Virginia

8VAC20-70-510. Vehicles powered by alternative fuels.

- Board of Education shall promotes use
- Subject to inspections of VDOE
- Fuel systems must comply with FMVSS 301



Part V

Activity Vehicles

- ✦ 8VAC20-70-525. Regulations and standards.
 - All the regulations and standards for a school bus except
 - safe speed not excess of 55
 - no standees
 - school bus identification and warning lights removed
 - not painted NSBY
 - different and increased seat spacing





VDOE Website/Regulation link

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the VDOE website. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/transportation/regulations/index.shtml>. The page title is "VDOE :: Pupil Transportation :: Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation". The main content area features a "Regulations" section with the following text: "Under the powers delegated to it by the General Assembly and by federal laws and regulations, the Virginia Board of Education promulgates and adopts regulations concerning educational programs in areas that include pupil transportation in public schools (Chapter 70 of the State Board of Education Regulations). Links to the regulations will take you to the Virginia General Assembly legislative information system Web site." Below this text is a "USER TIP" box that provides instructions on how to view the text of a regulation and how to request a copy. The right-hand sidebar contains a "PUPIL TRANSPORTATION" menu with links to "News & Announcements", "Regulations", "School Buses", "Training", "Meetings & Events", "Operations Assessments", and "Data Collection". It also includes a "Resources" section with links to "Forms" and "Links to outside resources".

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/transportation/regulations/index.shtml>



Important Web Sites

📍 <http://leg1.state.va.us>

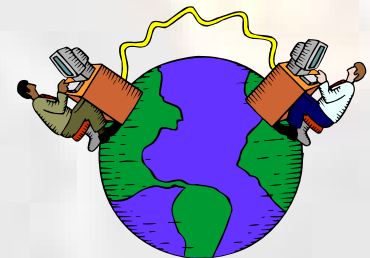
- Code of Virginia
- Virginia Administrative Code

📍 <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/>

- Code of Federal Regulations

📍 <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/>

- National Highway Transportation



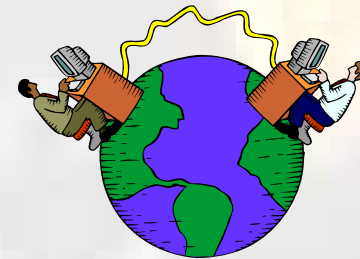


Important Web Sites

✚ <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/>

– Local agent:

- Michael Fox
 - Safety Investigator
 - (804)771-8590





Additional Resources

- ✦ Attend regional meeting
- ✦ National School Transportation Specification and Procedures
- ✦ Various industry journals and publications





Questions

