



Adding a School Bus Endorsement to a CDL Training Curriculum

This is a summary of the minimum Federal curriculum requirements for trainees seeking a School Bus (S) endorsement. Training providers must also comply with any applicable State requirements. School bus endorsement applicants must complete the curriculum outlined in this section, which applies to trainees who expect to operate a “school bus” as defined in § [383.5](#).

To learn more about each unit in the curriculum, see the Code of Federal Regulations ([49 CFR 380, Appendix D](#)).



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Motor
Carrier Safety
Administration**

Theory Instruction

There are no required minimum instruction hours for theory training, but the training provider must cover all the topics set forth in the curriculum.

Training providers must use assessments (in written or electronic format) to determine if trainees are proficient in all units of the theory curriculum. Students must earn a minimum overall score of 80 percent on the theory assessment(s).

D1.1	Danger Zones and Use of Mirrors
D1.2	Loading and Unloading
D1.3	Vehicle Orientation
D1.4	Post-Crash Procedures
D1.5	Emergency Exit and Evacuation
D1.6	Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings
D1.7	Student Management
D1.8	Special Safety Considerations
D1.9	Pre- and Post-Trip Inspections
D1.10	School Bus Security
D1.11	Route and Stop Reviews

Behind-the-Wheel (BTW) Range and Public Road

There are no required minimum instruction hours for BTW training, but the training provider must determine whether trainees are proficient in all elements of the BTW curriculum.

Instructors must document the total number of clock hours (one clock hour for each 60 minutes of instruction) each trainee takes to complete the BTW curriculum.

This unit must consist of exercises related to basic vehicle control skills and mastery of basic maneuvers.

The instructor must engage in active communication with the trainees during all active training sessions.

D2.1	Danger Zones and Use of Mirrors
D2.2	Loading and Unloading
D2.3	Emergency Exit and Evacuation
D2.4	Special Safety Considerations
D2.5	Pre- and Post-Trip Inspections
D2.6	Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings

Notes *The training must be conducted in a school bus of the same vehicle group as the applicant intends to drive.*

Activities in this unit will take place on a driving range or a public road as defined in § [380.605](#).