**CHAPTER 1: Driver Authorization Requirements**

**OVERVIEW:**

This chapter contains regulations regarding driver authorization requirements. This is to be explained to new candidates as well as currently authorized school bus drivers.

**THIS CHAPTER INCLUDES:**

* Lesson plan
* Evaluation
* Reference material
* Handouts and transparencies
* Check list for trainer
* Reference material

**CHPATER ELEMENTS:**

* Requirements for becoming a school bus driver
* WAC 392-144

**EQUIPMENT LIST:**

* Overhead projector
* Screen
* Handouts
* Transparencies

**CHAPTER CHECKLIST:**

As a trainer, you are responsible to:

* Make sure school bus drivers can tell you the authorization requirements for a school bus driver
* Provide each school bus driver candidate with a copy of WAC 392-144

**TITLE OF LESSON: AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Objectives of Lesson:** At the end of this lesson, the school bus driver will be able to:

* List the three documents required to legally drive a school bus.
* List the three provisions required on the class B C.D.L. Washington State Driver’s License that allows the person to legally drive a school bus.
* Explain why a person must submit to a background check to legally drive a school bus.
* Tell how many speeding tickets he/she must NOT incur in order to drive school bus that are 10 mph or over the speed limit within 5 years.
* Explain how many calendar days you have to report to your employer if any criminal charges are filed against you that do not meet the standards in WAC 392-144.

**Introduction:**

WAC 392-144 contains driver authorization requirements. It defines terms like school bus driver, student, trainer, authorization, in-service course, minimum qualifications, and grounds for denial, and many more features. The information here is legal and therefore not particularly exciting to hear, but very necessary for drivers and trainers alike to know and understand to properly perform their duties. These are tools, which will help drivers make prudent decisions in their daily tasks.

**Presentation**

1. WAC 392-144
2. Lecture on WAC 392-144
3. Pay attention to sections that directly affect school bus drivers.
4. Emphasize especially WAC 392-144-101,
5. This contains information that could eliminate unqualified drivers who seek to become school bus drivers in your district.
6. This is an issue of safety and the liability of the situation could come back to the trainer if this information is not taught to entry level and existing bus drivers.
7. A minimum authorization requirement list is included as a transparency or classroom hand out (T-1).
8. It should be used after the presentation is complete.

* It can serve as a partial summary or
* It can be used as a handout to keep the drive candidate “on track” during the training process.

Follow T-1 with T-2 so drivers know they need these documents

AND the current annual school bus driver in-service to remain qualified to drive.

**Summary**

WAC 392-144 stipulates the requirements necessary to become an authorized school bus driver and to remain an authorized driver.

It defines such terms as authorization, in-service, qualifications, reporting, requirements and other material drivers need to know in order to fulfill their obligations.

**Evaluation**

Review material with the driver candidates by asking questions regarding the procedures explained in this lesson

**Questions**

1. List the three documents required to legally drive a school bus
2. List the three provisions required on the class B C.D.L. Washington State Driver’s License that allow the person to legally drive a school bus
3. Tell how often the Medical exam must be renewed.
4. Explain why a person must submit to a background check to legally drive a school bus.
5. You may not drive school bus if your record shows how many speeding tickets that are 10 mph or over the speed limit within the past 5 years?
6. If any criminal charges are filed against you that do not meet the standards in WAC 392-144, how many days do you have to report to your employer?

**Answers**

1. First Aid Card, Physical Card, and a valid Commercial Driver’s

License.

1. Air Brake Restriction removed, Passenger Endorsement, and Air Brake Restriction removed, Passenger Endorsement, and S Endorsement.
2. It is renewed at least every two years.
3. This is done to eliminate any criminal person from driving school bus and putting pupils in danger.
4. Three speeding tickets in excess of 10 mph or over the speed limit.
5. You must report in writing within 20 calendar days

**Minimum Authorization Requirements**

1. **Five year driver’s abstract**. (Current within 60 days) Also needed is a permit for Commercial Driver’s License (CDL)
2. To acquire a permit to train, the candidate must go to the DOL

and pass the written knowledge test prior to training behind the wheel.

1. **Valid Washington State Driver’s License**, with:
2. Commercial Driving License (class A, B, or C)
3. Passenger Endorsement
4. Air Brake Restriction Removed (class A & B)
5. S Endorsement

Getting licensed requires written and driving tests:

1. Four Written Tests
2. General Knowledge
3. Passenger Endorsement
4. Knowledge of Air Brakes
5. S Endorsement

B. A Driving Test, which includes the following:

1. A pre-trip inspection

2. A basic controls (backing) test on a prescribed course

3. A behind the wheel road test on a prescribed course.

The trainer may assist the candidate in selecting a third party tester to administer the road test (all written tests are ad-ministered by the DOL at a local office)

1. **Department of Transportation or Department of Licensing medical examination, a drug test, and an alcohol test** (if required by your school district)
2. **Valid and Current First Aid Card**
3. **Criminal Background Check** (finger printing)
4. **Behind-the-wheel training** (a permit must be acquired at the DOL prior to training)
5. **Classroom Training**
6. **Re-authorization** requires:
   1. The driver to attend an annual in-service presentation that is mandated by the State

B. An annual driving abstract

C. A physical agility exercise

**DRIVER AUTHORIZATION DOCUMENTATION AND INSTRUCTION**

Note: Without documents 1-5 and class 6 being current, one CAN NOT LEGALLY DRIVE A SCHOOL BUS in the state of Washington.

1. CURRENT DRIVER’S LICENSE with:

A. CLASS B, C, or, A

B. PASSENGER ENDORSEMENT

C. AIR BRAKE RESTRICTION REMOVED (A & B only)

D. SCHOOL BUS ENDORSEMENT

2. CURRENT & VALID FIRST AID CARD

3. CURRENT D.O.T/DOL MEDICAL CARD

4. PHYSICAL AGILITY EXERCISE

5. ANNUAL DRIVER’S ABSTRACT

6. COMPLETE THE CURRENT YEAR’S IN-SERVICE

CLASS