

SUMMARY OF SCHOOL BUS DRIVER QUALIFICATIONS IN OAC

updated 9/05/2008
ODE PTO

PREVIOUS RULES (OAC 3301-83-06(B))	CURRENT RULES (OAC 3301-83-06(B)) <i>EFFECTIVE DATE: 23 May 2008</i>	GUIDANCE/INTERPRETATION
(1) Being of legal age with a minimum of two years driving experience	(1) Being of legal age with a minimum of two years driving experience	
(2) Being physically qualified (rule 3301-83-07 of the Administrative Code)	(2) Being physically qualified (rule 3301-83-07 of the Administrative Code)	
(3) An annual driver record check with no more than eight points and/or no six point convictions within the last twenty-four months as verified by an abstract driver record obtained through the bureau of motor vehicles	<p>(3) Completion of semi-annual driver record checks through the Ohio Department of Education for which records shall be maintained by the employer for a minimum of six years. School bus drivers with any of the following shall be disqualified from operating a school bus:</p> <p>(3)(a) More than six points during the past two years;</p> <p>(3)(b) A conviction of driving while under the influence of alcohol and/or a controlled substance during the past six years;</p> <p>(3)(c) Two (or more) serious traffic violations, as defined in divisions (D)(D)(1) through (D)(D)(7) of section 4506 of the Revised Code during the past two years; or</p> <p>(3)(d) Any railroad crossing violation during the past year.</p> <p>(3)(e) For qualified bus drivers actively employed prior to August 1, 2007, convictions for offenses described in paragraph (B)(3)(b) of this rule prior to August 1, 2005, shall not be considered, and convictions for offenses described in paragraphs (B)(3)(c) or (B)(3)(d) of this rule prior to August 1, 2007, shall not be considered.</p> <p>(3)(f) Nothing in paragraph (B) of this rule shall limit and district or employer from adopting more stringent qualifications.</p>	<p><i>Driving record checks were previously obtained annually from the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles and provided to the employer by the driver. Driving record checks will now be conducted twice each year and obtained through the Ohio Department of Education's SFPS system.</i></p> <p><i>Formerly eight points, now six points. Formerly twenty-four months, now six years.</i></p> <p><i>This section is new.</i></p> <p><i>This section is new.</i></p> <p><i>This section is a grandfathering clause.</i></p> <p><i>This section is new.</i></p>
(4) Being licensed as a school bus operator	(4) Being licensed as a school bus operator	
(5) Holding school bus driver certification by a city or exempted village superintendent or by a county educational service center or county board of mental retardation and developmental disabilities, head start program administrator, or nonpublic administrator	(5) Holding school bus driver certification by a city or exempted village superintendent or by a county educational service center or county board of mental retardation and developmental disabilities, head start program administrator, or nonpublic administrator	

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(6)	Completing preservice and inservice training (rule 3301-83-10 of the Administrative Code)	(6)	Completing preservice and inservice training (rule 3301-83-10 of the Administrative Code)	
(7)	Physical capability of safely and appropriately lifting and managing preschool and special needs children when necessary	(7)	Physical capability of safely and appropriately lifting and managing preschool and special needs children when necessary	
(8)	Ability to cope with stressful situations	(8)	Ability to cope with stressful situations	
(9)	Possessing or upgrading skills through formal and/or inservice training	(9)	Possessing or upgrading skills through formal and/or inservice training	
(10)	A satisfactory report from the state bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall be required prior to the hiring of an individual as a school bus driver. A new report shall be required with driver certification (rule 3301-83-10 of the Administrative Code)	(10)	A satisfactory report from the state bureau of criminal identification and investigation that includes information from the the federal bureau of investigation shall be required prior to the hiring of an individual as a school bus driver. _A new report shall be required every six years with driver re-certification (rule 3301-83-10 of the Administrative Code). Records shall be maintained by the employer and/or school district for a minimum of six years.	<p><i>This section has been clarified to specify at what point an FBI check is required beyond the standard BCII check.</i></p> <p><i>BCII (state and federal) checks must be conducted with each re-certification.</i></p> <p><i>Driver records must be retained by the employer for a minimum of six years. This six year record retention period parallels a driver's recertification process.</i></p> <p><i>Satisfactory BCII and FBI reports are based upon ORC 3327.10, 3313.39 (B)(1), and 3313.31 (C).</i></p>
(11)	A negative pre-employment drug test	(11)	A negative pre-employment drug test	
		(12)	Participation in drug and alcohol testing as mandated by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) pursuant to 49 CFR 382. Individuals who refuse to participate in testing are disqualified from operating a school bus.	<i>This section is new.</i>

For questions regarding school bus driver qualifications, please call 614-466-4230 or e-mail schoolbus@ode.state.oh.us