



# ILLINOIS SCHOOL VEHICLE USAGE GUIDE

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The transportation and safety of the more than 2 million Illinois school-age children is of primary importance. This guide is to be used by Local Education Agencies to describe the types of vehicles that are allowed to be used to transport school-age pupils and the proper driver licensure needed within the State of Illinois.



## ABBREVIATIONS & DEFINITIONS

**CBE:** Community Based Education

**CDL:** 16 or More Passengers, Including the Driver

**IEP:** Individual Education Plan

**MFSAB:** Multifunction School Activity Bus

**MPPV:** Multi Purpose Passenger Vehicle

**SCHOOL BUS DRIVER PERMIT:** Required for any individual planning to transport school children grade 12 or below for a public, private or religious school, including nursery schools, if you will drive: a yellow school bus or any other approved vehicle, owned or operated by a school or religious institution used for this purpose over a regularly scheduled route. (issued by the Illinois Secretary of State)



## ROUTE / TRIP TYPES

**CURRICULUM RELATED FIELD TRIP:** Directly related to a regular curriculum and If attendance at the event is a requirement for a class, and the student receives class credit (museum, CBE, parade...)

**EXTRA CURRICULAR / CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY TRIP:** Voluntary attendance (sports practices, clubs meetings, rehearsals, band/choir practices) immediately after the school day

**REGULAR ROUTE:** Regularly scheduled basis between home and school, school to school (vocational, career center, trade school or an alternative school)

**SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITY TRIP:** Does not require pupil participation for class credit (sports games)



## VEHICLE TYPES

**FIRST DIVISION VEHICLE:** No More than 10 Passengers, Including the Driver (cars, mini-van 10 passengers or less including driver, medical carriers or medi-car, suburban and taxi cabs)

**MFSAB:** School Bus manufactured for the purpose of transporting 11 or more persons, including the driver whose purposes do not include transporting students to and from home or school bus stops; prohibited to be school bus yellow, identification, stop arm, and special lighting equipment.

**SCHOOL BUS:** Every motor vehicle owned or operated by or for any of the following entities for transportation of persons regularly enrolled as pupils in grades 12 or below in connection with any activity of such entity:

- Any public or private primary or secondary school;
- Any primary or secondary school operated by a religious institution; or
- Any public, private or religious nursery school

Does not include:

- Bus operated by public utility, municipal corporation when not traveling a specific school bus route, but is on regular fare paying passenger route;
- First Division vehicle;
- MFSAB

**SECOND DIVISION VEHICLE:** More than 10 Passengers, those designed or used for living quarters and those which are designed for pulling or carrying property, freight or cargo; including those First Division vehicles remodeled for use as a Second Division vehicle and a First Division vehicle used and registered as a school bus (yellow school bus)



## GUIDE FOR VEHICLES USED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CONTRACTORS TO TRANSPORT ILLINOIS STUDENTS



### School Bus

- Yellow School Bus
- Curriculum Related & Non-curriculum Related Trips
- CDL with School Bus Driver Permit



### Passenger Car

- Taxi Cab, District-Owned Car
- Curriculum Related Trips
- School Bus Driver Permit without a CDL



### Passenger Car

- Taxi Cab, District-Owned Car
- Non-curriculum Related Trips
- Valid Driver's License
- NO CDL or School Bus Driver Permit



## GUIDE FOR VEHICLES USED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CONTRACTORS TO TRANSPORT ILLINOIS STUDENTS



Van

- MPPV
- Passenger Vehicle or Multi-passengers Vehicle
- 10 or Fewer, Including Driver
- Curriculum Related Trips
- School Bus Driver Permit without a CDL



Van

- MPPV
- Passenger Vehicle or Multi-passengers Vehicle
- 10 or Fewer, Including Driver
- Non-curriculum Related Trips
- Valid Driver's License
- NO CDL or School Bus Driver Permit



Passenger Cargo Vans

- Bus, other than School Bus not MFSAB
- 11-15 Passengers
- **Pupil Transportation NOT ALLOWED**



## GUIDE FOR VEHICLES USED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CONTRACTORS TO TRANSPORT ILLINOIS STUDENTS



MFSAB

- “White” School Bus
- 11-15 Passengers
- Non-curriculum Related Trips Only
- Valid Driver’s License
- NO CDL or School Bus Driver Permit



MFSAB

- “White” School Bus
- 16 + Passengers
- Non-curriculum Related Trips Only
- CDL with Passenger Endorsement



MFSAB

- “White” School Bus
- 11-15 or 16 + Passengers
- Curriculum Related Events Grades 9-12 **ONLY (Home to School & School to Home PROHIBITED)**
- 11-15 Passengers School Bus Driver Permit without a CDL
- 16 + Passengers CDL with School Bus Driver Permit



GUIDE FOR VEHICLES  
USED BY SCHOOL  
DISTRICTS  
AND CONTRACTORS TO  
TRANSPORT ILLINOIS  
STUDENTS

The MFSAB can be used for curriculum related events for grades 9-12 with a School Bus Driver Permit.

- CDL required if 16 + Passengers)

The MFSAB can be used for a student in any grade K – 12 with an IEP with a staff-to-student ratio of 1 to 5 **ONLY BY THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:** Acacia Academy, Alexander Leigh, Marklund, Helping Hands Center, Connection Organization, Soaring Eagle Academy, or New Horizon Academy. **(Home to school & school to home is PROHIBITED.)**

- School Bus Permit Required 11-15 passengers and the addition of a CDL for 16 + passengers