

4501-5-01

**General provisions.**

- (A) ~~The effective date of these rules shall be ninety days following the date of adoption by the department of public safety. All~~ Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (O)(2)(a) to (O)(2)(d) of this rule, all school buses for which bids are issued, bid in on or after the effective date of this rule, shall conform to the rules in this chapter. These rules also cancel all existing "Approved Equal" certification and all construction approvals or waivers.
- (B) ~~Permission to use a device or material as "Equivalent" to that called for in the rule must be requested in writing by the manufacturer or owner. Any item supplied as an equivalent must have prior approval, in writing, from the director of the Ohio department of public safety~~ School buses shall be manufactured and maintained as specified in rules 4501-5-02 to 4501-5-08 of the Administrative Code as applicable for the type of school bus. Any manufacturer, dealer or owner wishing to install any equipment or product other than those specified in rules 4501-5-02 to 4501-5-08 of the Administrative Code, including equipment or products the manufacturer, dealer or owner believes are equivalent or superior to equipment or products specified in those rules shall have prior approval, in writing, from the director. Requests for permission to install shall comply with rule 4501-5-09 of the Administrative Code.
- (C) A manufacturer's and/or dealer's failure to comply with any of the rules in this chapter and all national highway traffic safety administration recalls may result in the suspension of authorization for sale and/or use of the chassis and/or body in the state of ~~Ohio~~ Ohio until such discrepancy is corrected by the manufacturer or responsible representative and written approval is issued by the ~~Ohio~~ Ohio department of ~~public safety~~.
- (D) Each manufacturer shall file a statement of compliance within thirty days after the effective date of this rule. The statement shall certify that all products and components manufactured for use in school buses sold for use in Ohio, as defined in division (F) of section 4511.01 of the Revised Code, will meet ~~or exceed~~ all rules in this chapter.
- (E) Specifications shall be filed with the director ~~of the Ohio department of public safety~~ in duplicate by the school bus chassis and/or body manufacturer that will meet ~~or exceed~~ the standards in this chapter. Specifications being submitted by the manufacturers shall also include any sales brochures and pertinent literature. When new models are introduced, specifications shall be filed with the director ~~of the Ohio department of public safety~~.
- (F) Pre-delivery inspection shall be conducted by both body and chassis manufacturers to assure the bus being delivered is in satisfactory operating order (all components) and meets all applicable federal and Ohio standards. This predelivery inspection shall be according to the specific instructions of the purchaser and to the

purchaser's satisfaction.

- (G) The bus shall be delivered clean inside and out.
- (H) Body and chassis manufacturers shall provide a written document specifying warranty provisions and enumerating major parts and equipment covered under warranty. Bus body and chassis dealers shall be responsible for providing full warranty service.
- (I) The chassis manufacturer shall provide for ~~predelivery~~ service at the body plant location after the body is mounted and prior to delivery to the purchaser. At the time of delivery, the chassis dealer shall provide to the purchaser the following documents:
- (1) Line set tickets.
  - (2) Predelivery service check list.
  - (3) Predelivery check-out form by the chassis manufacturer or designated agent.
  - (4) Warranty book and statement of warranty.
- (J) Any changes in design or equipment by school bus owners after receipt of the school bus must have prior approval in writing from the director of the ~~Ohio~~ department of ~~public safety~~.
- (K) ~~New products and equipment shall be subject to the experimental and field test evaluation procedures, as defined in rule 4501-5-09 of the Administrative Code~~ School buses equipped with equipment or products that have been approved by the director pursuant to rule 4501-5-09 of the Administrative Code shall comply with the installation and operation requirements as approved. If equipment or products that have been approved by the director pursuant to rule 4501-5-09 of the Administrative Code are to be installed by other than the manufacturer or dealer at the original time of sale, permission shall be obtained in accordance with rule 4501-5-09 of the Administrative Code.
- (L) School bus definitions
- (1) A "Type A School Bus" is a conversion or body constructed upon a van-type compact or cutaway front-section vehicle with a left side driver's door, designed for carrying more than ten persons. This definition shall include two

classifications: ~~type A-I, with a gross vehicle weight rating over ten thousand pounds; and type A-II, with a gross vehicle weight rating ten thousand pounds or less.~~

(a) Type A-1, with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of ten thousand pounds or less.

(b) Type A-II, with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of ten thousand one pounds or more.

- (2) A "Type B School Bus" is a conversion or body constructed and installed upon a van or front-section vehicle chassis, or stripped chassis, with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand pounds, designed for carrying more than ten persons. Part of the engine is beneath and/or behind the windshield and beside the driver's seat. The entrance door is behind the front wheels.
- (3) A "Type C School Bus" is a body installed upon a flat back cowl chassis with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand pounds, designed for carrying more than ten persons, including the driver. All of the engine is in front of the windshield and the entrance door is behind the front wheels.
- (4) A "Type D School Bus" is a body installed upon a chassis, with the engine mounted in the front, midship, or rear, with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand pounds and designed for carrying more than ten persons, including the driver. The engine may be behind the windshield and beside the driver's seat, at the rear of the bus behind the rear wheels, or midship between the front and rear axles. The entrance door is ahead of the front wheels.
- (M) All body and chassis manufacturers shall provide a current up-to-date parts and service repair manual(s) for each body and chassis. This is not to be interpreted as an ~~owners~~ owner's manual. If the school bus owner is ordering more than one of the same body and chassis then only one parts and service manual would be required.
- (N) All chassis and body replacement parts shall be readily available for a minimum of fifteen years.
- (O) ~~The responsibility for compliance with these rules and/or national highway traffic safety administration recalls lies with the school bus owner. Failure to comply with these rules and/or national highway traffic safety administration recalls shall constitute cause for the withholding of state transportation funds for such time and to such extent as is necessary to ensure compliance. A manufacturer's and/or~~

~~dealer's failure to comply with any of the rules in this chapter and all national highway traffic safety administration recalls may result in the suspension of authorization for sale and/or use of the chassis and/or body in the state of Ohio until such discrepancy is corrected by manufacturer or the responsible representative and written approval is issued by the Ohio department of public safety. school bus owners shall maintain all school buses in such condition that they continue to meet or exceed Ohio school bus minimum construction standards in effect as such standards or specifications were subsequently repealed or reduced.~~

- (1) The responsibility for compliance with these rules and/or national highway traffic safety administration recalls lies with the school bus owner. A manufacturer's and/or dealer's failure to comply with any of the rules in this chapter and all national highway traffic safety administration recalls may result in the suspension of authorization for sale and/or use of the chassis and/or body in the state of Ohio until such discrepancy is corrected by the manufacturer or the responsible representative and written approval is issued by the department.
- (2) School bus owners shall maintain all school buses in such condition that they continue to meet Ohio school bus minimum construction standards as follows and federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS) in effect on the bid date, or if the bid date is unknown, on the manufacture date until such standards or specifications are subsequently repealed or reduced:
  - (a) For school buses with a bid date, or if bid date is unknown, with a manufacture date on or after September 1, 1998, but before the effective of this chapter, the Ohio Department of Public Safety Ohio School Bus Construction Standards, Effective September 1, 1998
  - (b) For school buses with a bid date, or if bid date is unknown, with a manufacture date on or after January 1, 1990 but before September 1, 1998, the Ohio Department of Education School Bus Minimum Construction Standards, Effective January 1, 1990
  - (c) For school buses with a bid date, or if bid date is unknown, with a manufacture date on or after July 1, 1988 but before January 1, 1990, the Ohio Department of Education School Bus Minimum Construction Standards, Effective July 1, 1988
  - (d) For school buses with a bid date, or if bid date is unknown, with a manufacture date on or after April 1, 1978 but before July 1, 1988, the Ohio Department of Education School Bus Minimum Construction Standards, Effective April 1, 1978.
- (3) A complete and accurate copy of the Ohio school bus construction standards as indicated above will be deposited in each of five depository libraries

designated by the state library board or may be obtained by contacting: The Ohio State Highway Patrol Office of Licensing and Commercial Standards, Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223.

(P) All school bus body and chassis manufacturers shall immediately notify the director ~~of the Ohio department of public safety~~ and the superintendent of public instruction of any safety-related product recalls.

(Q) Any composite materials used in school bus construction shall meet or exceed all applicable FMVSS in strength and durability.

(R) Material approved for incorporation by reference

The following are contact sites for the material incorporated by reference in Chapter 4501-5 of the Administrative Code: Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (O)(2)(a) to (O)(2)(d) of this rule, the versions of all federal regulations and other texts incorporated by reference throughout Chapter 4501-5 of the Administrative Code are those in effect on the effective date of this rule.

(1) Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS), Department of Transportation-National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (DOT-NHTSA), 400 7th Street SW, Washington DC 20590

Obtained via Government Printing Web Site: [www.access.gpo.gov/nara](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara)

(2) Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)

Obtained via: 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096

Telephone: (724) 776-4841, Web Site: [www.sae.org](http://www.sae.org)

(3) American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)

Obtained via: ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959

Telephone: (610) 832-9585, Web Site: [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org)

(4) Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR)

Obtained via: Government Printing Office, 400 7th Street SW, Washington DC 20590

Telephone: (202) 366-2519, Web Site: [www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)

(5) National School Transportation Specification and Procedures, Missouri Safety Center, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, Missouri 64093

Telephone: (660) 543-4830

(S) Definitions:

As used in this chapter of the Administrative Code:

(1) "Department" means the department of public safety.

(2) "Director" means the director of the department of public safety.

Effective:

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 03/07/2003

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Certification

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Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03  
Statutory Authority: R.C. 4511.76  
Rule Amplifies: R.C. 4511.76  
Prior Effective Dates: prior HS-5-01, 7/15/78,  
2/11/93, 2/18/93, 9/1/98