

13:20-49D.14 Support equipment and accessories

(a) Portable student support equipment or special accessory items (crutches, walkers, oxygen bottles, ventilators) shall be securely fastened at a mounting location able to withstand a pulling force of five times the weight of the item, or shall be retained in an enclosed, latched compartment.

1. The bus shall contain a belt cutter for use in emergencies, including evacuations. The belt cutter shall be designed to prevent injuries during use and secured in a safe location.

13:20-49D.15 Wheelchair and other mobile seating device requirements

(a) A wheelchair or other mobile seating device shall be equipped with an occupant restraint belt and hand brake which is furnished and maintained by the owner.

(b) An electric powered wheelchair shall be equipped with gel-cel (non-liquid electrolyte) battery. Batteries with liquid electrolyte are not permitted in the passenger compartment of the bus.

SUBCHAPTER 49E. AUTOBUSES APPROVED FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PRIOR TO MAY 21, 1993

13:20-49E.1 Scope of exceptions and exemptions

The exceptions and exemptions set forth in this subchapter shall apply to autobuses approved for school use by the New Jersey Department of Transportation prior to May 21, 1993.

Amended by R.1992 d.397, effective November 2, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2109(a), 24 N.J.R. 4069(a).

Added reference to Department of Transportation and effective date.

Amended by R.2005 d.24, effective January 18, 2005.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5483(a), 37 N.J.R. 321(a).

13:20-49E.2 Exceptions and exemptions

(a) The prohibition against advertisements of any kind on either the interior or exterior of the vehicle shall not apply.

(b) The seat requirements imposed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 and 49.3(w) shall not apply to longitudinal seats seating not more than four pupils.

(c) The entrance door and the emergency door with aisles leading to each shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirement for doors imposed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 and 49.3(d).

(d) The requirement imposed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 and 49.3(f) to have the words "Emergency Door"

applied to the inside and outside of the emergency door shall not apply.

(e) In lieu of the lettering, Type I school vehicles that are operated by a privately or publicly owned local transit system and used for regular common carrier transit route service as well as special school route service shall meet the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 and 49.3(h), except as follows:

1. Such vehicles shall, while transporting children to and from school, be equipped with signs, located conspicuously on the front and back of the vehicle:

- i. The sign on the front shall have the words "School Bus" printed in black letters not less than six inches high on a background of national school bus glossy yellow;

- ii. The sign on the rear shall be at least ten square feet in size and shall be painted national school bus glossy yellow and have the words "School Bus" printed in black letters not less than eight inches high.

(f) The requirements for the main aisle and the aisle to the emergency door imposed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 and 49.3(a) shall not apply.

(g) The requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 for bumpers shall not apply.

(h) The window requirements imposed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 and 49.3(y) shall not apply.

(i) The color requirements imposed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:20-49.1 and 49.2(e) shall not apply.

Amended by R.1974 d.90, effective April 11, 1974.

See: 6 N.J.R. 99(a), 6 N.J.R. 172(c).

Amended by R.1992 d.397, effective November 2, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2109(a), 24 N.J.R. 4069(a).

Deleted cross reference to obsolete rules and added cross reference to current rules in N.J.A.C. 6:21-5.

Amended by R.2005 d.24, effective January 18, 2005.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5483(a), 37 N.J.R. 321(a).

Rewrote the section. Amended N.J.A.C. references throughout.

13:20-49E.3 Certificate of inspection

(a) No autobus under the jurisdiction of the Motor Vehicle Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit shall be used for school pupil transportation services, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 and under contract with a local board of education for transportation to and from school unless such autobus is authorized on the certificate of inspection issued by the Motor Vehicle Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit.

(b) Owners or operators of buses approved by the Motor Vehicle Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit shall submit evidence of such approval to the county superintendent at such times as may be deemed necessary.

Amended by R.1992 d.397, effective November 2, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2109(a), 24 N.J.R. 4069(a).

Deleted obsolete reference to jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities and replaced with Department of Transportation.

Amended by R.2006 d.249, effective July 3, 2006.

See: 38 N.J.R. 386(b), 38 N.J.R. 2835(a).

Rewrote the section.

13:20-49E.4 Inspection by county superintendent

(a) The county superintendent may inspect any bus approved by the Motor Vehicle Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit for any item not covered by the approval of the Motor Vehicle Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit and from which they are not specifically exempted by these rules.

(b) Whenever, in the opinion of the county superintendent, a bus chassis or body is outworn or in a dilapidated condition, it shall not be used for pupil transportation.

Amended by R.1992 d.397, effective November 2, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2109(a), 24 N.J.R. 4069(a).

Deleted obsolete reference to jurisdiction of the Board of Public Utilities and replaced with Department of Transportation.

Amended by R.2006 d.249, effective July 3, 2006.

See: 38 N.J.R. 386(b), 38 N.J.R. 2835(a).

Rewrote (a).

SUBCHAPTERS 49F THROUGH 49H. (RESERVED)

SUBCHAPTER 50. STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED JANUARY 2006 AND THEREAFTER

13:20-50.1 Scope and purpose

(a) This subchapter shall be applicable to all motor vehicles registered in New Jersey originally designed by the manufacturer to carry 10 or more passengers, excluding the driver, operated by, or under contract with, a public or governmental agency, or religious or other charitable organization or corporation, or privately operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from school for secular or religious education, school-connected activity, day camp, summer day camp, nursery school, child care center, pre-

school center or other similar places of education. All such motor vehicles shall be registered as school buses in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:3-19.2 and shall comply with the rules set forth in this subchapter and in N.J.A.C. 13:20-50A, 50B and 50C, and all applicable Federal standards. A motor vehicle shall not be used for the purposes set forth in this subsection unless it has been registered as a school bus in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:3-19.2 and complies with the rules set forth in this subchapter and in N.J.A.C. 13:20-50A, 50B and 50C, and all applicable Federal standards.

(b) Each school bus shall be inspected twice each year by the Commission's School Bus Inspection Unit to ensure that such vehicle is in safe and proper operating condition. The time and location of the inspections shall be established by the Chief Administrator or his or her designee.

(c) The rules set forth in this subchapter and in N.J.A.C. 13:20-50A, 50B and 50C shall not apply to autobuses approved for school use and subject to inspection by the Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit unless otherwise provided.

(d) An autobus subject to inspection by the Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit that is used for the transportation of children to or from school shall display a certificate of inspection issued by the Commission indicating school use. An autobus is exempt from displaying a certificate for school use issued by the Commission when being used on a preset franchised route and schedule or chartered for school-connected activities.

(e) A parent or legal guardian under contract with a district board of education to transport only his or her own child or children shall not be required to possess a commercial driver license or to use a motor vehicle registered as a school bus.

(f) The rules set forth in this subchapter and in N.J.A.C. 13:20-50A, 50B and 50C shall apply to school buses with a January 2006 or later incomplete chassis manufacture date unless otherwise provided. School buses manufactured prior to January 2006 shall comply with the standards in effect when the school bus was manufactured or converted.

(g) All equipment and components required by this subchapter and by N.J.A.C. 13:20-50A, 50B and 50C shall be maintained in proper operating condition at all times.