

(b) The school bus shall be equipped with an evacuation blanket that is fireproof or is made of flameproof material.

13:20-50C.16 Wheelchair or other mobile seating device requirements

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

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

(c) The area designed for a wheelchair or other mobile seating device position shall be 30 inches by 48 inches.

SUBCHAPTER 51. STANDARDS FOR TYPE S SCHOOL BUSES

13:20-51.1 Scope

(a) This subchapter shall apply to any Type S school bus including, but not limited to, vans and passenger automobiles, which is used for the transportation of children to or from school or school-connected activities.

(b) This subchapter shall also apply to all Type S school buses, including limousines, omnibuses, taxicabs, motor vehicles for which a handicapped placard or registration plates have been issued in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-206, and motor vehicles for which no fee registration plates have been issued in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:3-27 that are used for two or more modes of transportation, one of which is for the transportation of children to or from school or school-connected activities.

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

(d) A motor vehicle with a GVWR of less than 3,000 pounds shall not be used for the transportation of children to or from school or school-connected activities.

(e) A motor vehicle with a manufacturer's statement of origin that identifies the vehicle as a truck shall not be used for the transportation of children to or from school or school-connected activities.

(f) Any modification to a Type S school bus for the purpose of transporting children with special needs shall

comply with all applicable FMVSS and SAE standards governing the modifications.

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

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

In (c), substituted "Motor Vehicle Commission's" for "Division's" and "Chief Administrator" for "Director".

13:20-51.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Chief Administrator" means the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

"Driver" means the authorized licensed operator of a Type S school bus.

"FMVSS" means the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards as found in the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR Part 571). Copies of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards as found in the Code of Federal Regulations may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, (202) 783-3238.

"Gross vehicle weight rating" or "GVWR" means the value specified by the manufacturer as the maximum loaded weight of a single vehicle.

"Motor Vehicle Commission" or "Commission" means the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission established by section 4 of P.L. 2003, c. 13 (N.J.S.A. 39:2A-4).

"Operator" means the owner or person responsible for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of a Type S school bus.

"Passenger" means any person riding in a Type S school bus other than the driver.

"SAE" means the Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc. Copies of the Standards and Recommended Practices of the Society of Automotive Engineers may be purchased from the Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc., 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096, (724) 776-4841.

"Type S school bus" means a motor vehicle with a GVWR of 3,000 pounds or more, originally designed by the manufacturer with a maximum seating capacity of nine passengers or less 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, preschool center, or other similar places of education.

"UL" means the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc.

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

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

Added definitions "Chief Administrator" and "Motor Vehicle Commission"; and deleted definitions "Director" and "Division".

13:20-51.3 Capacity

(a) The maximum number of passengers who may be transported in each Type S school bus shall be determined by the seat measurement. Fifteen inches of seat length shall be provided for each passenger.

(b) There shall be no standees.

13:20-51.4 Chains or snow tires

The drive wheels of Type S school buses shall be equipped with tire chains, all-weather tires, or snow tires for safe operation in areas of snow and/or ice.

13:20-51.5 Emergency equipment

(a) Emergency equipment shall be provided consisting of at least the following:

1. A seat belt cutter;
2. A spare tire;
3. A jack;
4. A lug wrench; and
5. Three red reflectorized triangular warning devices.

13:20-51.6 Fire extinguisher

(a) A fully-charged dry chemical fire extinguisher with a pressure gauge approved by the UL with the minimum UL rating of B2, C2, ½ BC, or 10BC shall be provided. The fire extinguisher shall be mounted in a bracket in a convenient location in the driver's compartment and display an inspection tag.

(b) A Type S school bus shall not be equipped with a fire extinguisher system that uses the chemical Halon as the fire suppression agent.

13:20-51.7 First aid kit

(a) A removable first aid kit shall be provided. The first aid kit shall be a moistureproof and dustproof container without a lock, with the words "FIRST AID" printed on the cover. The contents shall be maintained as follows:

1. Six single unit sterile gauze pads, three inches by three inches;
2. Two gauze bandages, one inch by 10 yards;
3. One roll of adhesive tape, one inch by 2½ yards;
4. Twelve bandaid plastic strips;

5. One triangular bandage, approximately 40 inches by 54 inches, with a safety pin; and

6. One pair rounded-end scissors.

(b) If the first aid kit is stored in a storage compartment, the location of the kit shall be identified by the words "FIRST AID" or marked with the Red Cross symbol.

13:20-51.8 Floor covering

A securely attached nonskid material floor covering shall be provided.

13:20-51.9 Heater capacity

The heater shall be capable of bringing the interior temperature of the Type S school bus up to and maintaining a minimum temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

13:20-51.10 Lettering

(a) A Type S school bus shall display lettering that indicates the name of the operator and the name of the municipality in which the operator has his or her principal place of business, wording on the rear of a school vehicle to indicate that the vehicle stops at railroad crossings, wording on the rear of the school vehicle to indicate that the vehicle is carrying children, and on the rear of the school vehicle the International Symbol of Accessibility to indicate that the vehicle is capable of transporting a wheelchair. A Type S school bus shall not display any advertising or telephone numbers. Lettering shall not be permitted on the windows of a school vehicle.

(b) This section shall not apply to vehicles that are used for two or more modes of transportation, one of which is for the transportation of children to or from school or school-connected activities including limousines, omnibuses, and taxicabs.

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

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

Added designation (a); rewrote (a); and added (b).

13:20-51.11 Rear view mirrors

Approved rear view mirrors shall be mounted inside and outside of a Type S school bus. Outside mirrors shall be mounted on both sides of the Type S school bus.

13:20-51.12 Rear window

The rear window shall be non-ventilating.

13:20-51.13 Seats and backrests

(a) Securely fastened seats and backrests shall be provided. Seats shall be forward facing and shall be spring or foam rubber upholstered.

(b) A "jump-type" or folding seat shall not be permitted.

(c) Each seat exit shall be clear of obstructions.

(d) A vehicle shall not be used as a Type S school bus if the seat in front of the seat to be exited from must be folded in order for a passenger to exit the vehicle.

(e) A seat belt shall be provided for the driver and for each passenger.

(f) A child passenger restraint system or booster seat, as described in FMVSS No. 213 (49 CFR § 571.213), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, shall be provided for each passenger under the age of eight years and weighing less than 80 pounds.

13:20-51.14 Sun visor

An adjustable sun visor shall be provided.

13:20-51.15 Windshield wipers

A windshield wiper(s) shall be provided so as to provide clear vision for the driver.

SUBCHAPTER 52. INSURANCE

13:20-52.1 General provisions

(a) Each contractor and district board of education shall furnish liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage in the amount of \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence for all vehicles which are used for pupil transportation to and from school and school related activities.

(b) Insurance shall be obtained through a company authorized to insure in New Jersey and shall cover the district board of education as an additional named insured.

(c) Self-insured transportation contractors and district boards of education as provided in N.J.S.A. 48:4-12 and 13 shall file a certificate of self-insurance with the county superintendent of schools.

(d) Policies or certificates of insurance shall accompany all contracts or renewals when transportation contracts or renewals are submitted to the county superintendent of schools for approval.

(e) Policies or certificates of insurance shall be submitted to the county superintendent of schools for approval whenever policies are amended, revised or renewed.

(f) Transportation contractors and district boards of education shall comply with these regulations as of September 1, 1990.

SUBCHAPTER 53. STANDARDS FOR ALTERNATIVELY FUELED SCHOOL BUSES

13:20-53.1 Scope and purpose

(a) To ensure the safety of students, this subchapter shall apply to school buses originally designed by the manufacturer to carry 10 or more passengers used in the transportation of children to or from school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:1-1 and that operate in whole or in part on alternative fuels. Such school buses shall comply with N.J.A.C. 13:20-53A, 53B, or 53C, whichever is applicable, this subchapter including all applicable standards incorporated herein, and industry-recommended practices.

(b) This subchapter shall not apply to autobuses approved for school use and subject to inspection by the Motor Vehicle Commission's Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit unless otherwise provided.

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

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

Substituted "Motor Vehicle Commission's" for "Division's" in (b).

13:20-53.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter and in N.J.A.C. 13:20-53A, 53B, and 53C, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Alteration" means any change in the construction, design, or installation of a fuel supply container or system that affects the strength or safety of the fuel system.

"Alternative fuel" means any fuel other than gasoline or diesel, excluding battery or fuel cell power systems, but including CNG, LNG, and LPG.

"ASME Code" means section VIII and IX of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. Copies of the ASME Code may be obtained from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Three Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016, (800) THE-ASME.

"Chief Administrator" means the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

"CNG" means compressed natural gas.

"Cradle" means a supporting and/or protective structure that surrounds a fuel system container, enclosing it as necessary to provide physical security and integrity, and that may support its weight in whole or in part.

"Dual fuel" means the simultaneous use of gasoline or diesel and an alternative fuel, but not a mixture thereof.