SUBCHAPTER 6B - STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

SECTION .0100 - STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

16 NCAC 06B .0101 SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240(c);*
Eff. July 1, 1986;
Amended Eff. December 1, 1991;
Repealed Eff. June 1, 1996.

16 NCAC 06B .0102 SCHOOL BUS PASSENGERS

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240(c);*
Eff. July 1, 1986;
Amended Eff. November 1, 1991;
Expired Eff. June 1, 2022 pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A.

16 NCAC 06B .0103 LOCAL POLICIES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

(a) Each local board of education shall adopt policies to assure the safe, orderly, and efficient operation of the public school transportation system under its jurisdiction and shall direct the local school administrative unit to adopt rules and regulations to implement those policies. These policies, rules, and regulations shall address, at minimum, the following:

(1) the use of school buses under G.S. 115C-242(5);
(2) a uniform system of discipline on school buses;
(3) a uniform procedure for the recruitment and selection of school bus drivers;
(4) procedures for relieving a bus driver of driving duties;
(5) passenger safety rules;
(6) responsibilities of school bus monitors; and
(7) duties of local school administrative unit personnel for the administration of the school transportation program.

(b) The local school administrative unit shall post to its website a copy of all policies, rules, and regulations adopted in accordance with this Rule.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-12(17); 115C-240;*
Eff. July 1, 1986;
Readoption Eff. September 1, 2025.

16 NCAC 06B .0104 BUS ROUTES

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240(a);*
Eff. July 1, 1986;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1992;
Expired Eff. June 1, 2022 pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A.

16 NCAC 06B .0105 SCHOOL BUS MAINTENANCE
16 NCAC 06B .0106 SCHOOL BUS INSPECTIONS

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240(a);*
Eff. July 1, 1986;
Repealed Eff. June 1, 1996.

16 NCAC 06B .0107 EVALUATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Local school administrative units shall permit the Department of Public Instruction to evaluate their public school transportation programs, including the LSAU's supervisory and safety practices, and shall comply with DPI requests for access to vehicles, equipment, workspace, and information regarding those programs.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-127(17); 115C-240;*
Eff. July 1, 1986;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1994;
Readoption Eff. September 1, 2025.

16 NCAC 06B .0108 PURCHASING FLEXIBILITY EXEMPTION

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-522.1(e);*
Temporary Adoption Eff. December 15, 1998;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Repealed Eff. April 1, 2005.

16 NCAC 06B .0109 CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240(a); 115C-250; 115C-253; N.C. Constitution, Article IX, Sec.5;*
Interim Rule status conferred Eff. June 27, 2018, pursuant to S.L. 2018-114, sec. 27.(b);
Emergency Adoption Eff. August 20, 2019;
Emergency Adoption Expired Eff. December 6, 2019.

16 NCAC 06B .0110 ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL BUS ROUTES

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240; N.C. Constitution, Article IX, Sec. 5;*
Interim Rule status conferred Eff. June 27, 2018, pursuant to S.L. 2018-114, sec. 27.(b);
Emergency Adoption Eff. August 20, 2019;
Emergency Adoption Expired Eff. December 6, 2019.

16 NCAC 06B .0111 SCHOOL BUS PASSENGERS

(a) Local education agencies (LEAs) shall provide instruction in school bus safety to all students during the first five days of each new school year and at least once during each semester thereafter. LEAs shall document the date on which training was provided to each student. This instruction shall include:

(1) basic skills in and knowledge of safe behaviors in and around school buses and bus stops, including how to safely walk to school bus stops, wait at bus stops, load and unload from buses, ride in buses, cross streets at a bus stop, and recognize and obey the following North Carolina crossing signals:
    (A) bus driver's extended arm with palm up to signal to students crossing a street to wait; and
    (B) bus driver's arm extended with "thumbs up" followed by pointing with the index finger in the direction students are waiting to walk to indicate it is safe to cross the street in that direction; and
(2) instruction in the location and operation of emergency exits for the vehicle on which they are riding for any specific trip.

(b) LEAs shall adhere to and enforce the following rules when operating school buses, activity buses, commercial buses, or other contracted vehicles.

(1) LEAs shall not allow the number of passengers being transported to exceed the official rated capacity for the specific vehicle being used.
(2) LEAs shall ensure that all passengers are seated within the seating compartment, when any bus or other vehicle is in motion.
(3) LEAs shall ensure that no passenger is standing or sitting in the aisle or stepwell when any bus or other vehicle is in motion.

(c) LEAs shall require school bus drivers to utilize the North Carolina crossing signals described in Parts (a)(1)(A) and (B) of this Rule to communicate to students when it is safe to cross the street to board the bus and when it is safe to cross the street after exiting the bus.

(d) LEAs shall provide safety instruction to students riding in activity buses or commercial buses, including instruction and demonstration of emergency exit operation for the specific vehicle in which they are riding.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-12; 115C-240;*
Emergency Adoption Eff. August 20, 2019;
Eff. October 1, 2020.

16 NCAC 06B. 0112 PURCHASE OF SCHOOL BUSES AND EQUIPMENT

Local education agencies shall purchase school buses from the statewide term contracts approved by the Secretary of Administration under G.S. 143-49 and shall purchase school bus brake pads, brake shoes, and brake hardware that have the same specifications as the original equipment.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-12; 115C-249; 115C-249.1; 115C-522;*
Eff. December 1, 2020.

16 NCAC 06B .0113 ACTIVITY BUS DRIVERS

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240; 115C-245(a); N.C. Constitution, Article IX, Sec. 5;*
Interim Rule status conferred Eff. June 27, 2018, pursuant to S.L. 2018-114, sec. 27.(b);
Emergency Adoption Eff. August 20, 2019;
Emergency Adoption Expired Eff. November 19, 2020.

16 NCAC 06B .0114 SCHOOL BUS AND ACTIVITY BUS INSPECTIONS

History Note: *Authority G.S. 115C-240; 115C-248; N.C. Constitution, Article IX, Sec. 5;*
Interim Rule status conferred Eff. June 27, 2018, pursuant to S.L. 2018-114, sec. 27.(b);
Emergency Adoption Eff. August 20, 2019;
Emergency Adoption Expired Eff. March 18, 2021.