



SCHOOL BUS LICENSING

School Bus Defined

Reference Chapter 340.01(56)

A motor vehicle which carries 10 or more passengers in addition to the operator, or a motor vehicle painted in accordance with s. 347.44(1)-"With exception of trim, the body including the hood, fenders, cowl and roof shall be painted a uniform color, national school bus glossy yellow, according to national institute of standards and technology specifications; the trim if used shall be black and the words SCHOOL BUS in black letters at least 8 inches high shall appear on both the front and rear of the upper body of the bus, or on a sign attached thereto-- for the purpose of transporting:"

Pupils to or from a public school as defined in s. 115.01, or a private school as defined in s. 115.001(3r), or pupils to or from a technical college when required under s. 118.15.

Pupils to or from curricular or extracurricular activities.

Pupils to or from religious instruction on days when school is in session.

Children as defined under s. 115.76(2) with exceptional needs of a type specified under s. 115.76(3)(a)-(L), to or from an educational program approved by the department of public instruction.

A motor vehicle which is painted in accordance with s. 347.44(1) and used for the purpose of transporting disabled persons as defined in s. 85.21(2)(cm) or elderly persons as defined in s. 85.22(2)(b) in connection with any transportation assistance program for elderly or disabled persons.

A school bus does not include:

A motor vehicle owned or operated by a parent or guardian transporting only his or her own children regardless of whether a school has made a contract with or paid compensation to such parent or guardian for such transportation.

A motor vehicle operated as an alternative method of transportation under. 121.555.

A motor bus operated for curricular or extracurricular activities.

A motor vehicle operated in an urban mass transit system.

Presale Inspection Required On School Buses

Any person intending to purchase a motor vehicle to be used as a school bus shall, prior to the purchase, give the seller notice in writing of the intended use. Prior to the use of such vehicle as a school bus, the seller shall obtain a presale inspection of the vehicle by the department verifying compliance with the rules relating to design and construction prescribed by the department.

A copy of the presale inspection report shall be provided to the purchaser at the time of delivery of such vehicle, shall be liable to the purchaser for all repairs and improvements required by the department to bring the bus into compliance with the rules relating to design and construction for a period of 1 year after delivery.

The purchaser may agree to obtain the presale inspection provided that notice of the agreement is included in the offer to purchase and is agreed upon by the seller. This does not relieve the purchaser from the responsibility of ensuring the bus is inspected prior to its operation as a school bus. In any case the seller is still liable for any repairs and improvements necessary to comply with the rules relating to design and construction.

Failure to have a presale inspection completed prior to the use of a bus as a school bus shall result in a forfeiture of \$100 for the first offense and \$200 for the second and subsequent offenses.

School buses to be operated and registered as such require that the back section of the MV-1 (Attachment A) be completed by a department employee indicating compliance with rules relating to design and construction.

School Bus Registration Information

Reference Chapter 341.26(2)(d) and (dm)

Eligibility

A school bus (defined in s. 340.01(56)) owned or operated by a school district used for transporting pupils to or from points designated by the school, including curricular and extracurricular activities and non pupil transportation under s. 120.13(27).

A school bus (defined in s. 340.01(56)) which is not owned by and operated by a school district and which is used for transporting pupils to or from points designated by the school, including curricular and extracurricular activities.

Plate Expiration: December 31st
Plate Duration: 5 Years
Registration Fee: \$5.00
Number of Plates Issued: 2
Plate Remains With: Vehicle

Use Of School Bus For Non-School Activity

A person who uses any school bus, except a school bus registered under 341.26(2)(d) and 341.26(2)(dm) and used by the carrier for private carriage and not for hire or a school bus registered as provided in 341.26(7)(b), to transport persons who are not pupils shall obtain a permit from the department for such transportation. The department shall issue a permit which shall be valid for a period of not more than 72 hours upon application and payment of \$10 permit issuance fee.

A School Bus 72 Hour Permit- MVD2450 (Attachment B)

When engaged in passenger carrying operations other than provided in 341.26(7)(a) or 341.26(2)(d), a school bus shall be registered as a motor bus at a fee determined under 341.25(2).

72 Hour Permit Restrictions.

Issued to a private school bus contractor for display in a school bus used in charter work in Wisconsin on an emergency or short term basis as set forth in 341.26(7).

The permit is a 3 part form issued in numerical sequence.

- Part 1 carried in the bus
- Part 2 is retained as a copy for the carrier
- Part 3 is returned to DOT immediately upon certification

The permit is valid for 72 hours at a cost of \$10.00.

A proper insurance filing is needed prior to the issuance of such permit.