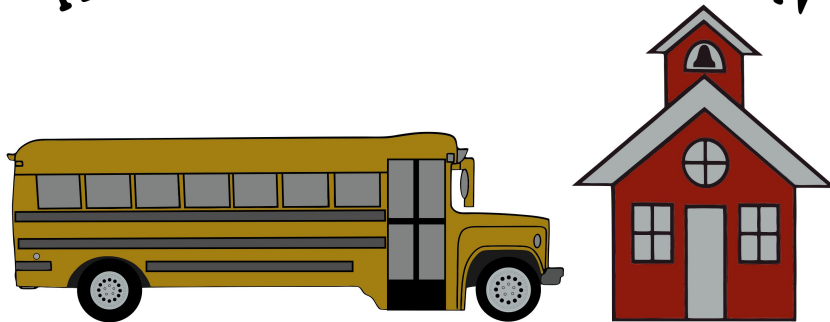


Safe Driver Competition

Study Guide

General Knowledge Test

**KANSAS STATE PUPIL
TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION**



ON THE ROAD TO EDUCATION

KSPTA Safe Driver Competition Study Guide for General Knowledge Test

Kansas school bus drivers must be thoroughly familiar with and observe a multitude of laws, rules, and regulations, as well as “best-practice” procedures in order to safely transport their young charges. The written general knowledge test is designed to challenge the driver’s knowledge for these things.

Study Material Compiled by Kansas State Department of Education
School Bus Safety Unit

Keith Dreiling, State Director
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ACTIVITY TRIP: Prior to each activity trip in an activity bus or school bus, the driver shall provide a brief explanation concerning emergency evacuation procedures and location of emergency exits for the bus being used. Be sure to include service door operation.

KAR 91-38-9

ACTIVITY TRIP PARKING: Kansas law prohibits a school bus or activity bus from blocking or parking in handicapped parking stalls to load or unload students as shown in the picture to the right. School buses may park in a designated handicapped parking area if the bus has a handicapped placard affixed to the bus and is actually loading or unloading a handicapped student.

KSA 8-1,129



AGE: Each driver of an activity bus shall be 21 years of age or older. Route drivers shall be at least 18 years of age.

KAR 91-38-7

ALCOHOL IN CDL HOLDER’S SYSTEM: Kansas law prohibits a driver from driving, operating or being in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle while having ANY alcohol in such driver’s system.

KSA 8-2,136

AMBER 8-WAY LIGHTS: School Bus Drivers shall activate amber 8-way lights at least 200 feet, but not more than 1,000 feet, before every stop prior to activating the red 8-way lights and stop arm.

KSA 8-1730

BACKING A SCHOOL BUS

Backing a school bus is strongly discouraged. You should back your bus only when you have no other safe way to move the vehicle. You should never back a school bus when students (or adults) are outside of the bus. Backing is dangerous and increases your risk of a collision. If you have no choice and you must back your bus, follow these procedures:

1. Post a lookout. The purpose of the lookout is to warn you about obstacles, approaching persons, and other vehicles. The lookout should not give directions on how to back the bus.
2. Signal for quiet on the bus.
3. Constantly check all mirrors and rear windows.
4. Back slowly and smoothly.
5. If no lookout is available:
6. Set the parking brake.
7. Turn off the motor and take the keys with you.
8. Walk to the rear of the bus to determine whether the way is clear.

If you must back-up at a student pick-up point, be sure to pick up students before backing and watch for late comers at all times. Be sure that all students are in the bus before backing. If you must back-up at a student drop-off point, be sure to unload students after backing.
CDL Manual 10.7.3

CBD PRODUCTS: It is illegal for any school bus driver to use marijuana regardless of state laws which permit recreational use or legal prescriptions. The labeling of many CBD (Cannabidiol) products may be misleading because the products could contain higher levels of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) than what the product label states. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not currently certify the levels of THC in CBD products, so there is no Federal oversight to ensure that the labels are accurate. The FDA has cautioned the public that: "Consumers should beware purchasing and using any [CBD] products." The FDA has stated: "It is currently illegal to market CBD by adding it to a food or labeling it as a dietary supplement." Also, the FDA has issued several warning letters to companies because their products contained more CBD than indicated on the product label.

CDL drug and alcohol testing does not authorize the use of Schedule I drugs, including marijuana, for any reason. Furthermore, CBD use is not a legitimate medical explanation for a laboratory-confirmed marijuana positive result. Therefore, CDL drug and alcohol testing officials will verify a drug test as positive, even if an employee claims they only used a CBD product.
DOT Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance

CDL (COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENSE)/DRIVERS LICENSE: A CDL (Commercial Driver's License) class A or B license is required for all vehicles with a gross weight over 26,001 pounds and/or rated to transport 16 or more passengers. A CDL class A, B, or C license is required for vehicles with a gross weight rating of less than 26,000 pounds and/or rated for passenger capacity of 16 or more. All CDL's must have a "P" passenger and "S" school bus endorsement. Drivers of school passenger vehicles and buses rated less than 26,000 pounds, or for fewer than 16 passengers must maintain an appropriate non-commercial driver's license.

K.A.R. 91-38-6

CDL/DRIVERS LICENSE CARRY ON PERSON & SHOW UPON DEMAND: Kansas law requires every driver to have their CDL/ driver's license in their immediate possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle. Kansas law requires every driver operating a motor vehicle to promptly deliver such person's driver's license upon demand of any officer of a court of competent jurisdiction, any peace officer or any examiner or officer of the division of vehicles when the license is in such person's immediate possession at the time of the demand.

KSA 8-244

CDL HOLDERS AND DIVERSIONS: Kansas law prohibits CDL holders from entering into any type of court diversion for traffic offenses which would prevent the offense from showing up on a driving record.

KSA 8-2,150

CLP (COMMERCIAL LEARNERS PERMIT): Federal law prohibits individuals with a CLP from training with students on board the bus or transporting students in a bus until they have their CDL.

49 CFR 383.25

COLLISIONS WITH ANIMALS: There may be times when an animal suddenly runs in front of your vehicle. Do not swerve into oncoming traffic or off the roadway to avoid hitting the animal. Big game animals, mostly deer, are large enough to cause damage to a motor vehicle. The size of the animal may cause you to take drastic action to prevent a collision. This may result in a more serious crash than if the vehicle collided with an animal. Regretfully, the safest alternative may be hitting the animal. Concentrate on regaining control of the vehicle before, during, and after the collision with the animal.

KS Driving Handbook

COMPARTMENTALIZATION: The reason school buses are not required to have seatbelts. The seats on a school bus are placed a specific distance apart and have high padded backs. In a collision the student would be propelled forward a very short distance into the padded seatback. Students sit high off the ground which adds to the safety as the impact location with smaller vehicles would occur beneath the seats.

KSDE School Bus Safety Unit

CONSTRUCTION SPEED ZONES: Kansas law requires you to obey construction speed zones even when workers are not present.

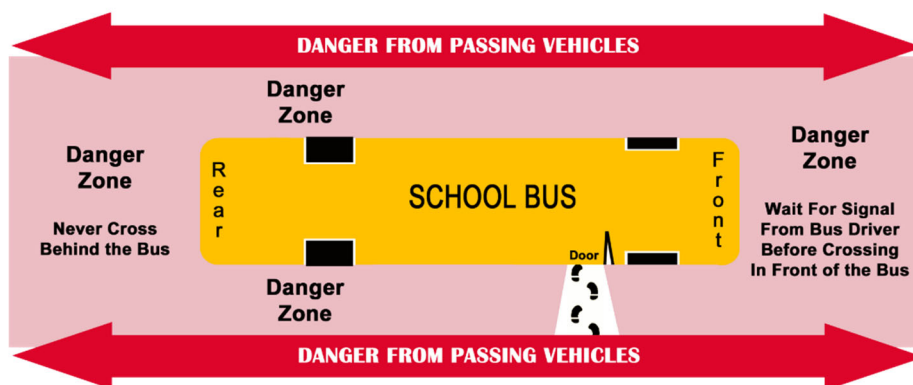
KSA 8-1559

CRIMINAL & DRIVING RECORD: A driver is disqualified from transporting students who discloses or whose driving record indicates that, within the past 10 years, the person has been convicted of any of the following major traffic violations: Hit-and-run driving; driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs; vehicular homicide; reckless driving; or any offense for which the driver's license was suspended or revoked pursuant to KSA 8-254 and 8-255, and amendments thereto. An individual who has been convicted of any crime involving a child is permanently disqualified from transporting students.

KAR 91-38-6

DANGER ZONES

The danger zone is the area on all sides of the bus where children are in the most danger of being hit, either by another vehicle or their own bus. The danger zones may extend as much as 30 feet from the front bumper with the first 10 feet being the most dangerous, 10 feet from the left and right sides of the bus and 10 feet behind the rear bumper of the school bus. In addition, the area to the left of the bus is always considered dangerous because of passing cars. School bus drivers should be aware of the danger zones when loading and unloading the school bus.

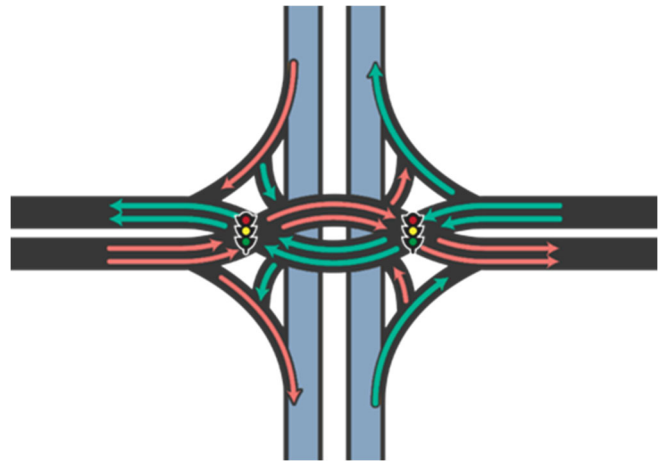


CDL Manual 10.1

DIMMING HEADLIGHTS: A driver is required to dim their headlights within 500 feet when approaching an oncoming vehicle from the front. Within 300 feet when approaching a vehicle from the rear.

KSA 8-1725

DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERCHANGE: Allows two directions of traffic to temporarily cross to the left side of the road. It moves high volumes of traffic through an intersection without increasing the number of lanes and traffic signals. This movement provides easier access to an interstate. When driving through a diverging diamond interchange, motorists proceed through a traffic signal at the entrance to the interchange and simply follow their lane to the opposite side of the roadway. Motorists accessing the interstate have two options:



- Before they cross to the other side at the traffic signal, drivers may go right to reach the on-ramp.
- After they have crossed to the other side, drivers may simply turn left, without having to stop or wait for any oncoming traffic, to reach the on-ramp to go in the other direction. Motorists going straight through the intersection proceed through a second traffic signal and follow their lane back to the right side of the road.

Pavement markings and signals direct motorists to where they need to go.

KSDE School Bus Safety Unit

DIVIDED HIGHWAYS & CONTROLLED ACCESS HIGHWAYS: Kansas law prohibits a driver from driving a vehicle over, upon or across any intervening space, physical barrier or a clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as to impede vehicular traffic between the roadways. Kansas law prohibits making a left turn or "U" turn over, across or within any intervening space, physical barrier or a clearly indicated dividing section unless the opening provided is surfaced for the purpose of public use for such turning movement and is not posted with a sign prohibiting such turn.
KSA 8-1524

DOORS: Every Activity Bus, School Bus and School Passenger Vehicle Driver shall ensure that all doors are closed before the vehicle is put into motion and remain closed while the vehicle is moving.
KAR 91-38-7

DRIVER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS: Drivers shall comply with the following requirements:

- Every driver of an activity bus or school bus shall be provided a minimum of 12 hours training in a school bus. Six hours of the training must be completed before the driver is allowed to transport students; however, the second six-hour block may be completed while transporting students, so long as the appointed driver-trainer accompanies the trainee on the bus route or activity trip. Note: A CLP (Commercial Learners Permit) holders are prohibited from operating a school bus with students under Federal Law 49 CFR 383.25
- Every Activity Bus, School Bus and Primarily Hired School Passenger Vehicle Driver shall attend 10 safety meetings or the proportional number of meeting for the amount of time employed during the school year.
- Every Activity Bus, School Bus and Primarily Hired School Passenger Vehicle driver shall complete an approved first aid and CPR course within 30 days after the first day the driver transports students, and certification shall be kept current. Drivers who are currently certified emergency medical service providers are not required provided their EMS certification remains current. Courses must be instructor lead. Approved courses are Medic First Aid, American Red Cross, American Heart Association, and National Safety Council (NSC) First Aid.

NO ONLINE COURSES ACCEPTED!

- Every Activity Bus, School Bus and Primarily Hired School Passenger Vehicle shall successfully complete a vehicle accident prevention course approved by the state department of education, within 30 days after the first day the driver transports students and maintain certification by completion of an accident prevention course at least every three years. This course must be scheduled for 8 hours and instructor lead. Approved courses are American Auto Association (AAA), National Safety Council, Smith System, AARP Driver Safety Program, 3-D Hartford.

NO ONLINE COURSES ACCEPTED!

KAR 91-38-6

DROWSY DRIVING: Drowsy driving is estimated to contribute to as many as 1.2 million collisions, resulting in potentially 5,000 to 8,000 fatalities per year. But despite these risks, experts agree that drowsy driving is far too prevalent.

Warning Signs:

- Can't keep your eyes open or focused
- You can't keep your head up
- Daydreaming or wandering thoughts
- Drifting from your lane or off the road
- Unintentionally tailgating vehicles
- Yawning frequently or rubbing your eyes repeatedly
- Missing signs or driving past your intended turn or exit
- Feeling irritable or restless
- Being unable to recall how far you've gone, or places you've passed

Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office

DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING: Every driver required a CDL (Commercial Driver's License) to transport students is subject to the FMCSA (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration) Drug and Alcohol Testing. Testing includes:

- Pre-Employment Testing
- Random Testing
- Post-Accident/Crash Testing
- Reasonable Suspicion Testing
- Return To Duty Testing
- Follow Up Testing

49 CFR 382

EMERGENCY DRIVER: An Emergency Driver is someone who only drives for the employer 5 days in a school year. Emergency Drivers are required with NO exceptions:

- CDL with P & S endorsement
- Drug & Alcohol Testing
- DOT Physical

KAR 91-38-6

EVACUATIONS: As a general rule, student safety and control is best maintained by keeping students on the bus during an emergency and/or impending crisis situation, if so doing does not expose them to unnecessary risk or injury. Remember, the decision to evacuate the bus must be a timely one. A decision to evacuate should include consideration of the following conditions:

- Is there a fire or danger of fire?
- Is there a smell of raw or leaking fuel?
- Is there a chance the bus could be hit by other vehicles?
- Is the bus in the path of a sighted tornado or rising waters?
- Are there downed power lines?
- Would removing students expose them to speeding traffic, severe weather, or a dangerous environment such as downed power lines?
- Would moving students complicate injuries such as neck and back injuries and fractures?
- Is there a hazardous spill involved? Sometimes, it may be safer to remain on the bus and not come in contact with the material.

Mandatory Evacuations. The driver must evacuate the bus when:

- The bus is on fire or there is a threat of a fire.
- The bus is stalled on or adjacent to a railroad-highway crossing.
- The position of the bus may change and increase the danger.
- There is an imminent danger of collision.
- There is a need to quickly evacuate because of a hazardous materials spill

CDL Manual 10.3.1

Note: Students need to be familiar with service door operation in the event the driver becomes incapacitated.

EXPERIENCE: Every driver who operates an activity bus, school bus or school passenger vehicle to transport students shall have at least one years' experience in operating a motor vehicle.

KAR 91-38-6

FUEL: If an activity bus, school bus or school passenger vehicle is refueled during any trip when passengers are being transported, the driver shall unload all passengers from the vehicle and turn off the vehicle's motor before beginning refueling procedures. Fuel shall not be transported in any manner, except in the vehicle's fuel tank.

KAR 91-38-7

FMCSA DRUG & ALCOHOL CLEARING HOUSE CONSENT: Every CDL holder is required to give written consent to their employer for annual drug and alcohol LIMITED query. Any CDL holder who has started employment or changed employment after January 6, 2020 is required to register in the FMCSA Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse and provide digital consent to their employer for a FULL drug and alcohol query.

49 CFR 382

FOLLOWING TOO CLOSELY: Kansas law requires drivers to follow other vehicles at a reasonable and prudent distance, taking into consideration the speed of the vehicles and condition of the roadway.

Four of every 10 crashes involve rear-end collisions, usually because someone is following too closely (tailgating). Leave enough room between your vehicle and the one ahead so you can stop safely if the other vehicle stops suddenly.

Brake early and gently when preparing to stop or turn. It gives drivers behind you plenty of warning that you are slowing down. Be aware of space on either side of you, too, in case you have to change lanes quickly or pull over to avoid a hazard. If possible, leave yourself some escape room to your left and right.

If You're Being Tailgated

If the driver behind you is tailgating, move to another lane if possible, or if necessary, slow down and pull off the road to let the driver go by you. Be sure to signal when you drive off the road and when you return to it. Do not press your brakes to warn the offending driver, this could make a difficult situation become more dangerous.

Kansas Highway Patrol

HEADLIGHTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE ON:

- Sunset to Sunrise
- When windshield wipers are on due to rain, sleet or snow
- When visibility is less than 1000 feet

Note: Driving lights are not headlights

KSA 8-1703

HOURS: Every Activity Bus, School Bus and Primarily Hired School Passenger Vehicle Driver shall not drive a school vehicle for more than 10 consecutive hours or for more than a total of 10 hours in any 15-hour period.

KAR 91-38-7

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Is the exploitation of human beings, through force, fraud or coercion, for the purposes of commercial sex or forced labor, wherein a third party is making a profit. School bus drivers should watch for kids with:

- Unexplained absences
- Bruises/physical trauma
- Tattoos displaying the name or moniker of a trafficker
- Change in attire, behavior, relationships or material possessions
- Signs of drug addiction or malnourishment

Note: Human Trafficking is required for all CDL holders.

Busing On The Lookout – Truckers Against Trafficking

KBESS BOOK: (Kansas Bus Emergency Support System) KSDE School Bus Safety Publication listing 3 emergency contacts including contractors for each school district in Kansas. These contacts may be used for assistance with emergency mechanical issues which arise when traveling in school vehicles outside the home district.

KEYS: If an Activity Bus, School Bus or School Passenger Vehicle Driver leaves the driver's seat, the parking brake shall be set, the motor turned off, and the keys removed. However, drivers of specially equipped buses may leave the motor running to operate a power lift after setting the parking brake.

KAR 91-38-7

LINGERING LAW: It is illegal to linger and drive in the far-left lane outside of the city limits if you are not passing another vehicle.

KSA 8-1522

LOADING & UNLOADING – BLOCKING ROAD

We understand the driver's intention in this situation, however its violation of Kansas law to pull the bus left of center and block the roadway.

KSA 8-1514

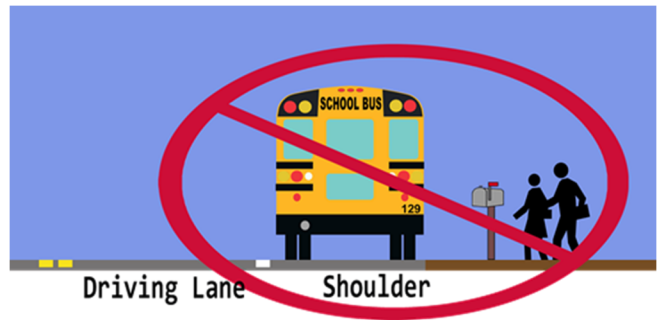


LOADING & UNLOADING ON SHOULDER

The school bus is designed to stop traffic with the 8-ways lights and stop arm. Kansas law prohibits stopping on the shoulder to load and unload with hazard lights.

When buses stop on the shoulder it creates a situation where some motorists may stop and some may not which endangers the students you are loading or unloading.

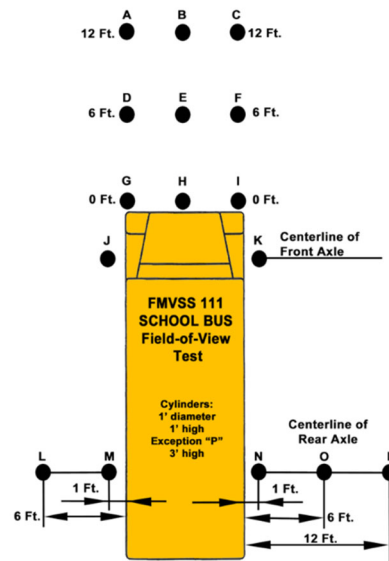
KAR 91-38-8 KSA 8-1459



Note: It is recommend to train students to stay back and not approach the bus until signaled by the driver it is safe to do so.

MIRRORS

Per FMVSS (Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards), school bus mirrors should be adjusted to comply and meet the requirements found in FMVSS 111



MEDICAL SELF-CERTIFICATION: If a school bus driver works and drives only for the school district, we recommend they be a category #2 on their medical self-certification. Category #2 drivers DO NOT send a copy of their medical examiners certificate to the state. Category #2 is an interstate classification which means the driver can legally drive a school bus out of state. Drivers can change their medical self-certification category at any time if they were to get a job where a category #1 was required.

It is important for CDL holders to understand & know their medical self-certification category and check their status on-line at least annually. CDL holders can check their status and medical self-certification category for free on-line using the Kansas Department of Revenue's Kansas Driver's License Status Check. Category #2 drivers DO NOT send proof of their DOT physical into the DMV.

Drivers who drive a school bus owned by a school bus contractor and the bus displays a US DOT number normally select Category #1 on their medical self-certification. Category #1 drivers are required to send their DOT physicals into the DMV.

KSDE School Bus Safety Unit

MODIFICATIONS: Kansas law prohibits modifications to the school bus unless done and approved by the manufacturer. This includes but not limited to: mechanics installing LED light bars, mounted hand sanitizers, drilling holes in seat frames to install seatbelts, moving seats, installing protective barriers such as curtains or plexiglass shields.

KAR 91-38-4

MOVE-OVER LAW: Kansas law requires drivers approaching a stationary emergency vehicle displaying flashing lights, including towing and recovery vehicles, traveling in the same direction, to vacate the lane closest if safe and possible to do so, or slow to a speed safe for road, weather, and traffic conditions.

KSA 8-1530, KSA 8-1531

OBJECT MARKERS FOR OBSTRUCTIONS ADJACENT TO THE ROADWAY: These signs are used to mark obstructions not actually within the roadway but close to the edge of the road and require a marker. These include underpass piers, bridge abutments, handrails, ends of traffic barriers, utility poles, and culvert headwalls. In other cases there might not be a physical object involved, but other roadside conditions exist, such as narrow shoulders, drop-offs, gores, small islands, and abrupt changes in the roadway alignment, that might make it undesirable for a road user to leave the roadway. Markers with stripes that begin at the upper right side and slope downward to the lower left side are designated as right object markers. Object markers with stripes that begin at the upper left side and slope downward to the lower right side are designated as left object markers. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices



OBSTRUCTIONS: Each Activity Bus and School Bus Driver shall ensure that openings for the service door, emergency exits, and aisles are kept clear of any obstructions (coolers, book bags, band instruments, school projects, sports equipment, etc.) at all times.

K.A.R. 91-38-7

OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS: Over-the-counter drugs taken for headaches, colds, hay fever or other allergies or those to calm nerves can make you drowsy and affect your driving. Pep pills, “uppers” and diet pills can make you feel nervous, dizzy, unable to concentrate, and they can affect your vision. Check the label on the product before you take an over-the-counter drug for warnings about its effect. If you are not sure if it is safe to take the drug and drive, ask your doctor or pharmacist about any side effects.

KS Driving Handbook

PASSING BICYCLES: A driver of a vehicle must allow 3 feet between their vehicle and the bicycle when passing a bicycle traveling in the same direction.

KSA 8-1516

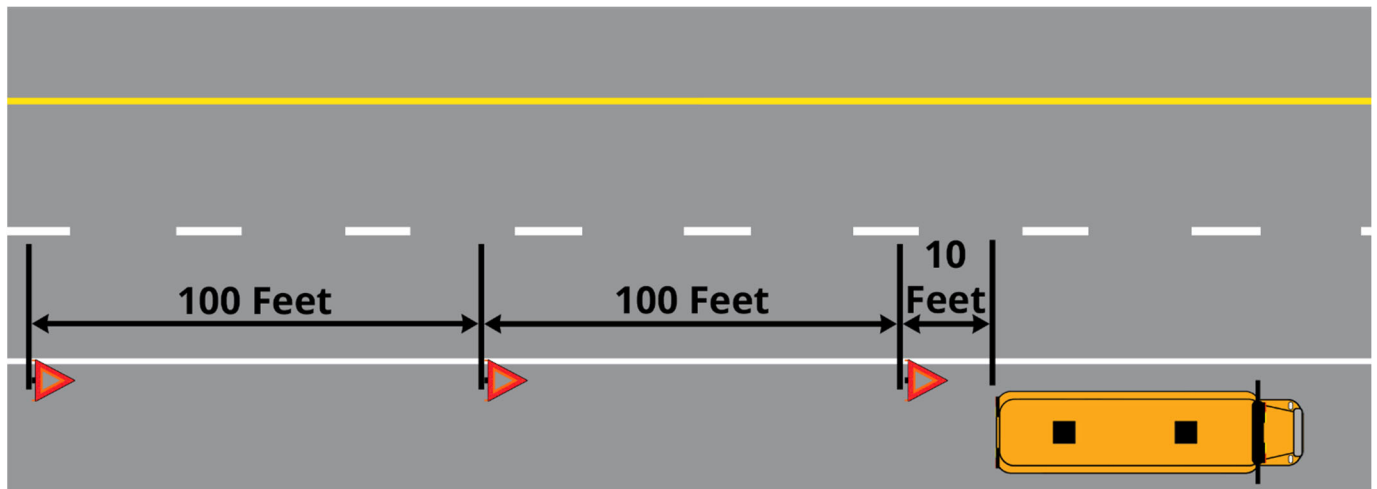
PASSING NEAR STOPPED EMERGENCY VEHICLE OR CONSTRUCTION VEHICLE: A driver of a vehicle shall not overtake and pass another when approaching within 100 feet of a stationary authorized emergency vehicle or construction vehicle on a highway that consists of two lanes

carrying traffic in opposite directions, when the vehicles are displaying flashing lights.
KSA 8-1520a

PEDESTRIAN RIGHT OF WAY: You must yield to pedestrians at all times. Even if they are not in a crosswalk and crossing the street where they should not be (also known as jaywalking), you must stop for them.
Kansas Driving Handbook

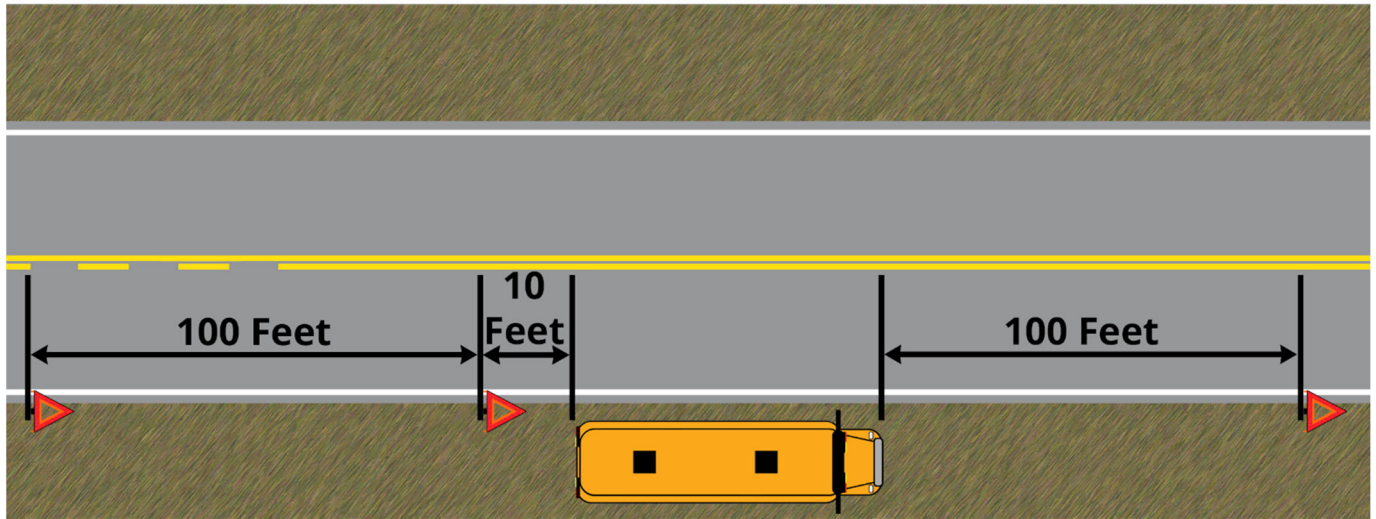
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS: Every Activity Bus, School Bus and Primarily Hired School Passenger Vehicle Driver is required to comply with physical qualification requirements of 49 C.F.R., Part 391.41 (most commonly known as a "DOT physical"). The employer can ask for an updated DOT physical at any time.
K.A.R. 91-38-6

PLACEMENT OF TRIANGLES ON DIVIDED HIGHWAY: A driver of an activity or school bus whose bus becomes disabled for more than 10 minutes on a divided highway shall place triangles as indicated in the diagram.



KSA 8-1745

PLACEMENT OF TRIANGLES ON TWO LANE ROADWAY: A driver of an activity or school bus whose bus becomes disabled for more than 10 minutes on a two lane roadway shall place triangles as indicated in the diagram.



KSA 8-1745

POST-ACCIDENT ALCOHOL TESTING: Drivers with a CDL may be required alcohol and or drug testing after an accident/crash in certain circumstances.

49 CFR 383.303

POST-TRIP INSPECTION: Following the completion of any trip, Every Activity Bus, School Bus and School Passenger Vehicle Driver shall perform a walk-through inspection of the school bus or activity bus, or a visual check of the school passenger vehicle, that the provider was driving, to ensure that all passengers have disembarked.

KAR 91-38-7

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS: Some prescription drugs can impact your driving and can affect your reflexes, judgment, vision, and alertness in ways similar to alcohol. Prescription drugs, such as, antidepressants, pain reducers, sleep aids and sedatives will have an impact on driving safely. Check the label on the prescription and packaging before you take a drug for warnings about its effects. If you are not sure if it is safe to take the drug and drive, ask your doctor or pharmacist about any side effects.

KS Driving Handbook

PRE-TRIP INSPECTION: Every Activity Bus, School Bus and School Passenger Vehicle Driver shall complete a pre-trip inspection before each trip and be documented prior to transporting students.

KAR 91-38-7

PROOF OF DOT PHYSICAL: All Activity/School bus drivers are required a DOT physical with no exceptions. School bus drivers are NOT required to carry proof of their DOT physical on their person. The employer/school district is required to have proof of a DOT physical for every bus driver they employ.

KAR 91-38-6

RAILROAD CROSSINGS: Activity Bus and School Bus Drivers shall stop the bus at every railroad crossing within 50 feet but not less than 15 feet from the nearest rail and while stopped shall listen and look in both directions along such track for any approaching train, and for signals indicating the approach of a train, and shall not proceed until such driver can do so safely. Exception would include: the crossing is controlled by a police officer or flagman, controlled by a traffic signal, crossing which is marked by a sign as being abandoned or exempt.

KSA 8-1553

REMOVAL OF VEHICLES FROM ROADWAY WHEN INVOLVED IN ACCIDENT: Except in the case of an accident involving death or apparent injury of any person, or the transportation of hazardous material, the owner or driver of a vehicle which obstructs the regular flow of traffic on any interstate highway, U.S. highway, or any multilane or divided roadway, shall make every reasonable effort to move the vehicle from the roadway, if, moving the vehicle may be done safely, does not require towing and may be operated under its own power without further damage to the vehicle or the roadway and without endangering other vehicles or persons upon the roadway.

KSA 8-15,507

REMOVING A STUDENT FROM THE BUS: Never put a student off the bus except at school or at his or her designated school bus stop. If you feel that the offense is serious enough that you cannot safely drive the bus, call for a school administrator or the police to come and remove the student.

CDL Manual 10.5.2

REPORTING ACCIDENTS/COLLISIONS: A driver is required to report any accident/collision resulting in any injury or \$1000 worth of property damage to law enforcement.

KSA 8-1602

RURAL ROAD DRIVING: Driving on empty rural highways can be just as dangerous as driving in heavy city traffic. It is easy to relax your attention and suddenly come upon something dangerous. Stay alert, watch for warning signs and slow down. Some road conditions and driving hazards are unique to rural roads when compared to a paved interstate or city street. Rural roads consist of paved, gravel and dirt roads. It is important to understand the different types and the hazards that are common on rural roads.

KS Driving Handbook

SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIRED IN ACTIVITY AND SCHOOL BUSES: All activity and school buses shall be equipped with a first-aid kit, body fluid clean-up kit, fire extinguisher, 3 reflectorized triangles and a seat belt cutter.

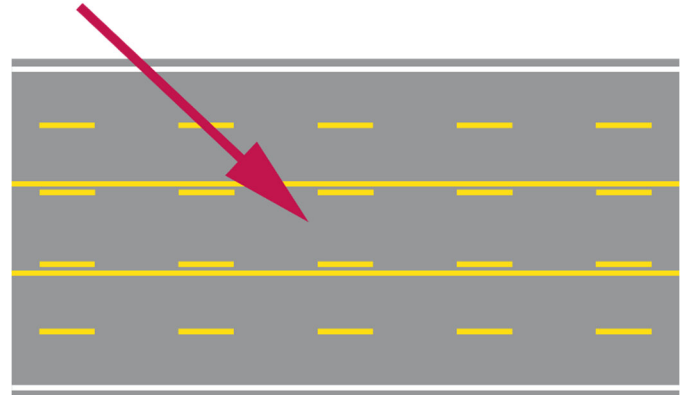
KAR 91-38-2

SAFETY HAZARDS: Every Activity Bus, School Bus and School Passenger Vehicle Driver shall report to the transportation supervisor any condition encountered by the driver on a transportation route that appears to pose a safety hazard.

KAR 91-38-3

SCHOOL BUS COLOR: It is illegal under Kansas law to use an activity bus not painted school bus yellow, equipped with 8-way lights and stop arm to transport students home after an activity trip or to pick up students at their home on the way to an activity trip.
72-64,100

SHARED LEFT TURN LANE: The purpose of a shared left turn lane, depicted by the red arrow in the picture to the right, is to allow traffic traveling in either direction to enter the shared left turn lane and make a left turn. It is illegal to use the shared left turn lane for anything other than making a left turn, this includes using the lane to merge into traffic, a passing lane or as an acceleration lane to merge into traffic.
KSA 8-1520 KSA 8-1528



SCHOOL BUS FACTS

There are 480,000 school buses on the road across the U.S., providing public transportation for half the country's students. 26 million kids ride a school bus to school each day.

- 36 MORE PASSENGER CARS**
One School Bus keeps 36 cars off the road which reduces traffic congestion on the road and at school.
- 2.6 BILLION GALLONS OF FUEL**
School Buses provide an annual savings of 2.6 billion gallons of fuel & 56.5 billion pounds of carbon dioxide
- 62 BILLION MILES OF DRIVING**
School Buses provide an annual savings of 62 billion miles of driving
- 70 TIMES SAFER**
Students who ride the bus are 70 times more likely to arrive at school safely than when they drive themselves or ride with a friend.

Revised 3-2017

NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)

SCHOOL VEHICLE MARKINGS: Kansas law requires all motor vehicles owned or leased by any school district to bear the name of the district, owning or leasing such vehicle plainly printed on both sides regardless of whether the vehicle is being used for student transportation.
KSA 8-305

SEAT BELTS: Every driver shall utilize the driver's safety belt at all times while the Activity Bus, School Bus or School Passenger Vehicle is in motion.
KAR 91-38-7

SERVICE DOOR OPERATION: It is highly recommended bus drivers include instruction on service door operation during evacuation drills and activity trip safety briefings.
KSDE School Bus Safety Unit

SIGNALING TURN: Kansas law requires a driver to signal a turn no less than 100 feet before turning.
KSA 8-1548

SIGNS:



Lane Ends



Narrow Bridge or Underpass



Pedestrian Crossing



Divided Highway Begins



Merging Traffic



NO Left Turn



Stop Sign Ahead



Added Lane



Left Curve



Low Clearance



Traffic Signal Ahead



School Crossing



T-Intersection Ahead



Slippery When Wet



Sharp Curve Ahead

SIGNS:



Flagger Ahead



Divided Highway Ends



Workers Ahead



Uneven Grade Crossing



Bicycle Crossing



Shared Center Lane Left Turn Only



Left Turn Yield On Green



Slower Traffic Keep right



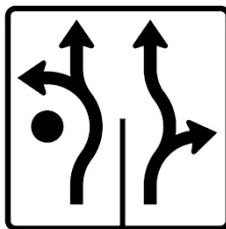
Divided Highway



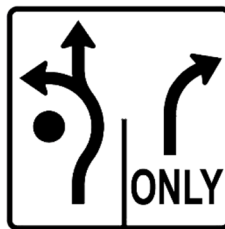
Railroad Advance Warning



Roundabout Ahead



Roundabout Regulatory



Roundabout Regulatory



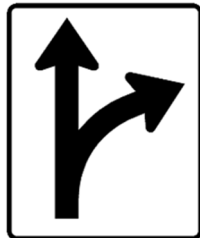
State Highway



US Highway



Interstate Highway



Traffic Straight or Turn Right



Yield Ahead



Emergency Vehicle Crossing



Deer Crossing



Advisory Speed For Ramp



Advisory Speed For Exit



Exit 4 Left Lane

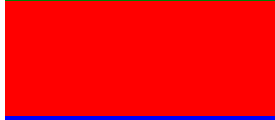


Winding Road

SIGN COLORS:



Green:
Guide, Directional Information



Red:
Stop, Yield, Do Not Enter, Wrong Way



Blue:
Motorist Services Guidance, Parking Spaces for Disabilities



White:
Regulatory



Orange:
Construction, Maintenance Warning



Brown:
Public Recreation Areas and Scenic Guidance



Yellow:
General Warning



Black:
Regulatory

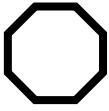


Fluorescent Green:
Pedestrian Warning, Bicycle Warning, Playground Warning,
School Bus and School Warning



Pink:
Incident Management

SIGN SHAPES:



Octagon:

Used exclusively for Stop Signs



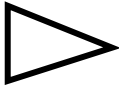
Horizontal Rectangle:

Guide Signs



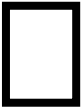
Triangle:

Used exclusively for Yield Signs



Pennant:

Advance warning of No Passing Zones



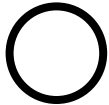
Vertical Rectangle:

Regulatory Signs



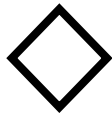
Pentagon:

School Advance and School Crossing Signs



Round:

Railroad Advance Warning Signs



Diamond:

Warning Signs

STUDENT SEATING: Kansas law prohibits students from sitting in the aisles while being transported. In addition to being illegal it is also unsafe due to compartmentalization, which will not work if the student is not sitting completely on a seat with their feet facing forward.

Note: The picture to the right shows a violation of Kansas law and an unsafe practice of a student (wearing a numbered jersey) sitting on the floor of the school bus.

K.A.R. 91-38-7



SUBSTITUTE DRIVERS: Every Activity Bus, School Bus and Primarily Hired School Passenger Vehicle Driver shall complete the same training requirements as regular drivers.

KAR 91-38-6

TAIL SWING: A school bus can have up to a three-foot tail swing. You need to check your mirrors before and during any turning movements to monitor the tail swing.

CDL Manual 10.7.4

TEXTING: Kansas law which prohibits texting while driving applies to school buses and activity buses.

KSA 8-15,111

TRAILERS: A driver of a school bus or activity bus shall not tow any trailer or other vehicle with the bus, while any passenger is on the bus.

KAR 91-38-7

VANS: The use of 12 and 15 passenger rated vans for student transportation is illegal. Kansas and Federal law both prohibit the use of any passenger vehicle, for student transportation, which is rated for more than 10 passengers plus the driver by the manufacturer. It is illegal to remove seats from a 12 or 15 passenger rated van to meet the mandated passenger requirement for student transportation. This would apply to both a school and/or a dealership if the intention is to circumvent the mandated passenger rating for school transportation.

KSA 72-64,100



THIS IS A VAN



A van will have a sliding or cargo style door for additional passenger entry

THIS IS A BUS



A bus will have a service door and a stepwell for passenger entry. Buses are rated for more than 10 passengers in addition to the driver the driver.

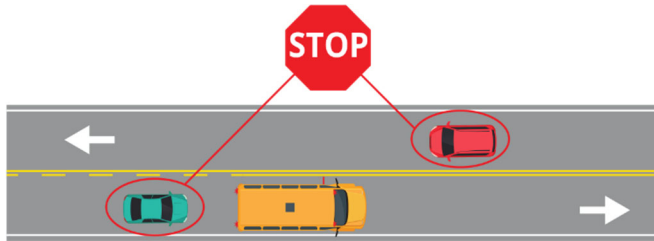
WINDSHIELD & WINDOW DECORATIONS: A driver shall not drive any vehicle with any sign, poster or other nontransparent material (i.e. window chalk, shoe polish) upon the windshield, side windows or rear windows which substantially obstructs, obscures or impairs the driver's clear view of the highway or any intersecting highway.

KSA 8-1741

VIOLATIONS OF SCHOOL BUS STOP ARMS EXAMPLES

TWO-LANE ROADWAY

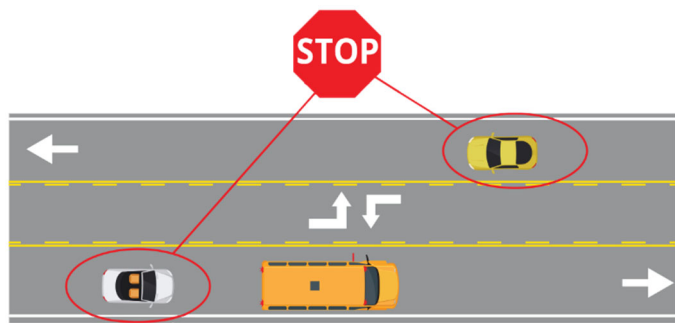
When a school bus tops and activates its stop arm and flashing red lights, all traffic must stop from both directions.



KSA 8-1556

TWO-LANE ROADWAY WITH SHARED LEFT TURN LANE

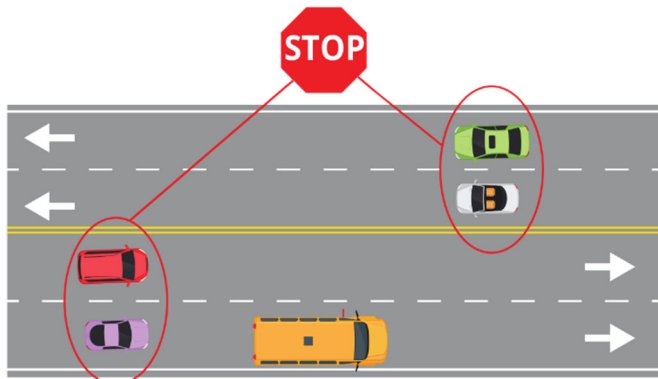
When a school bus tops and activates its stop arm and flashing red lights, all traffic must stop from both directions.



KSA 8-1556

FOUR-LANE ROADWAY

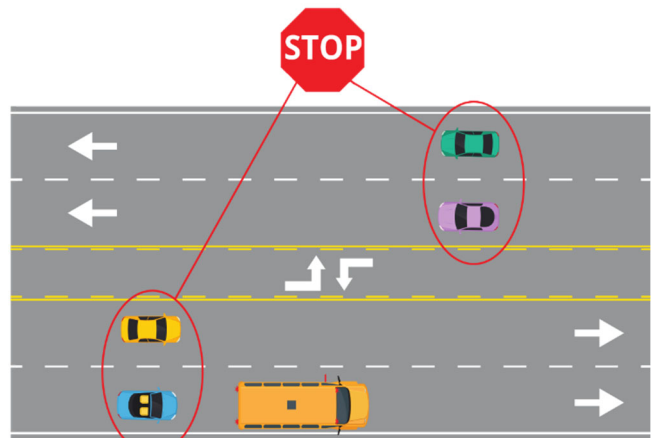
When a school bus tops and activates its stop arm and flashing red lights, all traffic must stop from both directions.



KSA 8-1556

FOUR-LANE ROADWAY WITH SHARED LEFT TURN LANE

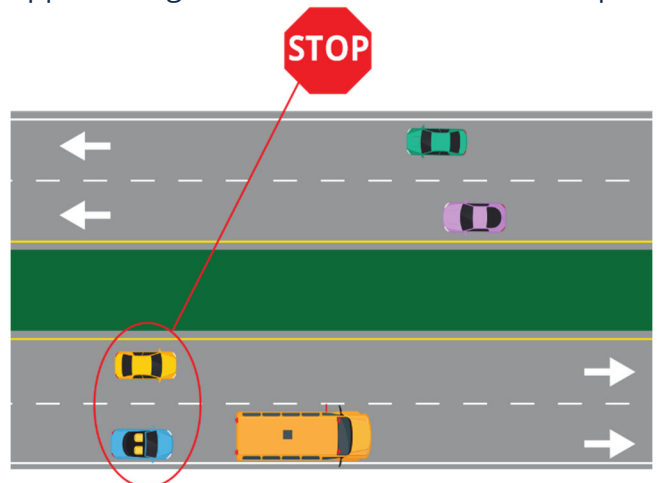
When a school bus tops and activates its stop arm and flashing red lights, all traffic must stop from both directions.



KSA 8-1556

DIVIDED HIGHWAY WITH MEDIAN SEPARATION

When a school bus stops and activates its stop arm and flashing red lights, traffic approaching the bus from behind must stop.



KSA 8-1556