

S Endorsement for CDL Holders

Kansas Division of Vehicles

Drivers License Examining Bureau

AN "S" ENDORSEMENT IS REQUIRED ON A CDL FOR THE OPERATION OF A SCHOOL BUS.

Why an "S" Endorsement?

- The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued on July 31, 2002, a final rule that significantly strengthens the licensing and sanctioning requirements of the commercial driver's license (CDL).
 - The rule was effective September 30, 2002.
 - Within three years after the rule's effective date, FMCSA will penalize states that are not in substantial compliance with the licensing and sanctioning requirements.

Kansas Statutes Annotated 8-2, 135

- To comply with FMCSA requirements, the Kansas legislature passed HB 2220 in April 2003.
 - Among other things, this bill requires an "S" endorsement on a commercial driver's license for operation of a school bus.

"S" Endorsement Requirements

- An applicant for a school bus endorsement must satisfy the following three requirements:
 - 1) Hold a passenger vehicle endorsement.
 - 2) Must pass a special school bus knowledge test.
 - 3) Must take a driving skills test in a school bus of the same vehicle group as the school bus applicant will drive; skills test includes a vehicle pre-trip inspection, control maneuvers, and a road test.

Fees

- Kansas DMV offices that provide CDL testing will issue new "S" endorsements on CDL licenses.
- CDL licenses may be renewed one year prior to expiration
- Total Fee
 - = \$21.00 (minimum)

\$10.00	"S" endorsement
\$ 3.00	Examination fee
\$ 8.00	Photo fee

Written Exam

- **ALL** "S" endorsement applicants must pass a special school bus written examination.
- The knowledge test will cover:
 - Loading and unloading children
 - Emergency exits
 - Rail road crossings
- The test will consist of multiple choice questions that are randomly generated from a pool of approved questions.
- 80% and above is a passing score.
- This is a closed book knowledge test.
- The written examination is solely derived from the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrator's, Model CDL Manual (revised 12-2005) approved by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.
- Knowledge test material is derived from the [Kansas School of Transportation, Regulations, Standards, Statutes, and Guidelines](#). This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the School Bus Safety Unit website at <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=117>.
- The test material will be derived from the Kansas CDL manual which is approved by FMCSA.

Study Material for the Knowledge Test

- All questions on the "S" Endorsement written test will be taken from a 4-page study manual. An "S" endorsement study pamphlet will be available at all DMV state examining locations; or
- the same material can be viewed online at: <http://www.ksrevenue.org/pdf/cdlsec10.pdf> (All questions will be taken from the Kansas CDL manual, which is available at any DMV office.)