

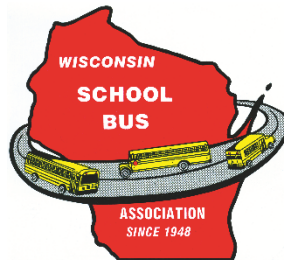
6th ANNUAL

WISCONSIN SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SAFETY COMPETITION

June 12 & 13, 2026



Driver Rules Regulations & Information
Fox Valley Technical College
Appleton, Wisconsin



Wisconsin School Bus Association
Safely Transporting Wisconsin's Future

INTRODUCTION

Safety Competitions have proven to be one of the most effective instructional tools to improve a person's driving skills. The State School Bus Drivers Safety Competition emphasizes the following objectives:

- To motivate reinforcement of learning and implementation of good practices involved in superior job performance as a school bus driver.
- To recognize excellence and provide for demonstration of the skills and responsible performance of the demanding job of the school bus driver.
- To develop public awareness of the skills and responsibilities involved in the job of a school bus driver.
- To encourage communication between drivers to share awareness and experience.
- Put yourself in a testing mindset, similar to going to DMV for your license test.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 6th Annual Wisconsin School Bus Driver Safety Competition is **Open to WSBA Members Only**. There are three diesel bus types to compete in:

- Type A, Small Bus (29 passenger)
- Type C, Conventional (74 passenger)
- Type D, Transit (72 passenger).

The Competition will initially limit the maximum number of contestants to 100 and ten (10) registrants per organization. If 100 contestants have not been reached by May 31, WSBA may open up the remaining slots to organizations already registered.

The **\$90 registration fee per contestant includes Lunch**. Payment is due with the contestant's application. Contestants will be responsible for their travel and lodging expenses.

The information available in this booklet is designed to serve as a guide in the preparation of contestants for the State School Bus Driver Safety Competition. It is suggested, though not required, that contestants be selected by competing in local or internal competitions prior to entry in the State Safety Competition. **Each contestant should very carefully read all the instructions in this booklet. These instructions explain what will be expected in each phase of the Safety Competition activities.**

Winners will be announced after all scores are totaled. Each contestant will receive a certificate of participation. Awards will be presented to the top three contestants receiving the most points in the three classes. **Additionally, winners will be recognized at the WSBA Annual Convention Awards Lunch, 12:00pm, Wednesday, June 24, at Marriott, Madison/Middleton. Each winner may bring one guest.**

First-place winners' information from each class will be sent to the National School Transportation Association (NSTA) International Competition Committee upon receipt of confirmation to advance, to the WSBA office. WSBA provides \$500 in travel expense costs for the first place winners in each class. All other costs associated with the International Competition are the sole responsibility of the driver's organization.

DRIVER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (Please Read Carefully):

1. If a driver had a preventable incident/accident or moving violation after January 1, 2026, they are disqualified from being a contestant.
2. In order to qualify for participation in the Competition, a driver must hold a valid Commercial Driver License (CDL) with S and P endorsement. Drivers holding a "School Bus Only" CDL are eligible for participation.
3. A contestant must enter the school bus class of competition. After registration is completed, drivers are not allowed to change their Competition Class.
4. All contestants must report to the competition registration desk between 6:30 AM – 7:45 AM (CT) on Saturday, June 13, 2026. **Optional early Registration is Friday, June 12, from 4:30 – 5:00 PM. All contestants must report in No Later Than 7:45 a.m., Saturday, June 13. LATE ARRIVAL WILL DISQUALIFY A CONTESTANT!**

5. **OFFICIAL DRIVER DEADLINE: May 31, 2026.** Competition applications must be received by WSBA
6. **At registration, each contestant will be required to show their Class A, or B with P and S endorsements.** There is no excuse for not having the correct license. Drivers who do not bring the correct license will be disqualified. There will be no exceptions. Please have cards checked by your supervisor prior to traveling.

REGULATIONS

1. In all driving events, **Drivers Must Wear Competition T-Shirt** provided.
2. Contestants will be assigned a number and a group. Contestants must remain with their group throughout the Competition.
3. Contestants must stay on property until called to start the competition.
4. It will be assumed that the driver has pupil passengers on board throughout the contest, and therefore, must conduct him/herself accordingly.
5. Bus doors must be kept closed unless rules and regulations of the Competition event require they be opened.
6. Each contestant will be allowed a **maximum of six (6) minutes** to familiarize him/herself with the instrumentation and controls of the school bus to be driven in competition. The driver may request assistance, from a competition official, in the adjustment of mirrors and seats within the manufactured specifications.
7. The contestant will be timed at selected events. No changes will occur on the course set-up once the competition starts. However, the Competition Director may disqualify any event during competition and apply the point value equally to all contestants.
8. Any bus used in competition shall have a mirror system that complies with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS 111). **Mirrors should be adjusted to provide the driver vision that would normally be required for the safe operation of the vehicle, getting the maximum field of vision and see at least 200 feet to the rear of the bus.** The driver should not lower their head below the highest point of the steering wheel to adjust the mirrors. Mirrors can only be adjusted within the recommended mirror box standards and not adjusted to just see the ground. During vehicle preparation before competition, drivers may use markers on the ground to adjust the mirrors, such as small cones, rulers, etc.
9. Demerits will be assessed any time the door is improperly opened during operation of the vehicle. A **Bus Rider** will be on each bus to time the event, provide directions to each course event, and assist with any directional questions – they will not answer how to perform the event.
10. These contest rules will apply even though they may differ from rules and regulations under which the driver normally operates.
11. The bubble of the tire is the part of the tire for measuring on parallel, curb-line, back-up, and tread of tire for controlled right turn. Location and size of course area will help determine length and/or entrance for the events. The turning radius of the buses being used will also determine the length of events.
12. **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE** - Only contestants may file grievance during any portion of the contest. The Grievance Committee will review each grievance. The committee's decision will be final.
13. **TIE** - In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken by totaling the first four (4) driving events. If a tie still exists, the fifth driving event will be considered, etc.

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

Any of the following may result in disqualification of a contestant.

1. Any misconduct on the part of a participant or spectator such as the following:
 - Unprofessional behavior

- Speeding and/or unsafe driving on the course
 - Use of drugs
 - Use of any alcohol during or immediately prior to the competition.
2. Any driver who knowingly accepts signals from spectators will automatically be disqualified. Only Competition judges, officials, and WSBA staff are allowed on the Competition Course.
 3. Failure to maintain a proper driving position (i.e. firmly in the driver's seat, hands on the wheel, etc). Drivers may use a seat cushion. No attachments to the brake or gas pedal is permitted.
 4. A contestant will not be permitted to put his/her head out the window.
 5. Seatbelt must be worn and snugly fastened during the competition. Placing the shoulder harness behind the back is not permitted. **Demerits will be deducted at the first course event if the belt is not properly fastened; headlights are not properly turned on; and wearing inappropriate clothing attire.**
 6. No drink or food allowed on the bus.
 7. Mirrors shall not be adjusted after being set by the driver and in compliance with FMVSS 111. Any mirror adjusted after the driver has properly set their mirrors in the bus preparation period will result in disqualification from the Safety Competition.
 8. No communication devices of any type will be allowed on the bus during competition or to be operated while driving on the course. (AM, FM, Disk Player, 2-way, CB, cell phones, Bluetooth, Blackberries, etc.)
 9. Contestants discussing answers to questions or bus defects with drivers will automatically disqualify both drivers. In the interest of fair play and good sportsmanship, **Contestants will be placed on their honor not to assist each other · in any way. contestants should not discuss the bus defects with anyone.**