

SPECIAL NEEDS EVENTS

Driving course events for the Special Needs Competition take place with a type A school bus. As in the real world, during the Special Needs driving course, driver and attendant will also have to contend with the distractions of managing students. Students will be picked up at the start of the course, simulating a school bus stop. There will be two judges on board that will be judging the driver and attendant on student management, railroad crossing and the final event emergency situation.

Note: attendant MAY assist the driver (observing, alerting, etc.) during any driving course event.

Course Events:

Alley Dock	Pre Trip
Car Seat Securement	Railroad Crossing
Emergency Event	Serpentine
Managing Student Behavior	Wheelchair Loading
Simulating a bus stop	Wheelchair Securement
Money Stop (\$20) *for fun*	Student Loading

Please refer any special needs questions to:

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SPECIAL NEEDS ALLEY DOCK

MAXIMUM SCORE: 83 POINTS

TIME LIMIT: Three (3) minutes

PURPOSE OF EVENT:

INSTRUCTIONS AND SCORING:

Each stall (or Bay) is identified by parallel white lines on the pavement, ten feet apart. Each front cover is marked by upright standards that will not interfere with the backing of the bus. In order to limit the driver to the established maneuvering room, there is a front wheel limitation line on the pavement perpendicular to the parallel stall marker lines. Drivers may approach the back-up stall from the right-hand side only. The distance from the front stall standards to the wheel limitation line will be the length of the conventional bus plus four feet.

Each contestant is allowed only one back-up, after approach, before demerits are charged for excessive backing. Drivers receive five demerits for each instance of backing more than once. Upon completion of the test, drivers must park the bus as nearly in the center of the ten-foot stall as possible (both ends of the bus).

Two demerits are given for each inch, or fraction thereof, the bus is off the two-inch centerline. Centering is determined by the relationship of the center of the front and rear bumpers to the center of the stall, with only the single greatest distance off center (front or rear) being used to compute demerits.

Drivers receive five demerits for each six inches, or fraction thereof, where the bus is parked in excess of one foot from the rear barrier. Contestants will sound the horn upon completion of the parking maneuver.

A maximum of three minutes are allowed for this event.

SPECIAL NEEDS CAR SEAT SECUREMENT

MAXIMUM SCORE: 120 POINTS

TIME LIMIT: Six (6) minutes

PURPOSE OF EVENT: Drivers and attendants often get new students throughout the school year. This event will test the drivers ability to properly secure a car seat in the bus along with knowing how to properly secure the child in a seat.

INSTRUCTIONS AND SCORING:

ITEM	
Check for label	Identify
Positioning of seat	Car seat must fully fit on the seat.
Securing seat	Seat belt must be properly routed through the car seat as per the manufacturer's instructions. The car seat must be very tight against the bus seat. Participants must check the tightness of the installation at the belt path. The car seat is tight when the participant cannot move the seat forward or backward more than one inch or side to side more than one inch. The seat buckle must be forward of the belt path.
Secures child in car seat	Harnesses must be buckled and used correctly. Harnesses must be threaded through the correct harness slot. Harnesses must be snug. A snug harness should not allow slack on the child's body. Participants should test the snugness of the harness by trying to "pinch" the webbing together near the shoulder. The harness retainer clip must be connected and placed at armpit level.

STUDENT PROFILES:

Jayce: is a 7 year old boy with a hearing impairment. He is very active. He is transported on the bus using a safety vest. Jayce does best on his ride if he has something to focus on.

Dylan: is a 14 yr old boy who has been recently diagnosed with bipolar II disorder. He was prescribed medicine to help with symptoms of major depression, but doesn't think he needs the medication and tends to not take it. When this happens he tends to become irritable and high strung. Dylan has a passion for baseball and is trying out for the baseball team after school today.

AJ: is 10 year old boy who has been diagnosed with high functioning autism. AJ also has Hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) and wears a monitor. AJ does best in a seat alone and away from Jayce since he has a tendency to be loud. AJ can be sensitive to touch and struggles to make eye contact while engaged in conversation.

Asa: is a 12 year old, McKinney Vento student who is emotionally disturbed. Asa was physically abused by his Father as a young child. Asa and his Mother were in a car accident a year ago and she did not survive. Asa finds comfort in being outside, talking about nature and looking at the different types of leaves on the trees.

SPECIAL NEEDS MANAGING

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

MAXIMUM SCORE: 100 POINTS

TIME LIMIT: None

PURPOSE OF EVENT: Drivers and attendants are faced with managing the ups and downs of our students' needs on a daily basis. During this event the team will have to manage the students' interactions with each other, behavior and medical needs.

INSTRUCTIONS: This event occurs simultaneously with the driving course. There will be two judges on board to judge your interaction and management skills of the four students. The students will board your bus when you conduct your first event - simulated bus stop. Students will remain on the bus until the very last event which is the emergency event.

SPECIAL NEEDS EMERGENCY EVENT

MAXIMUM SCORE: 120 POINTS

TIME LIMIT: Two (2) minutes

PURPOSE OF EVENT: At any given time a driver and attendant could be faced with an emergency on their bus. This event will put their decision making skills to the test.

INSTRUCTIONS: Students will be seated at the start of the event. Driver and attendant should take their seated positions before the event begins and should be wearing their seat belts. The emergency scenario will be read two times to the team.

Event and timing will begin at the conclusion of the second reading when the judges say - GO!

Important: Driver should NOT move the bus during this event.

SPECIAL NEEDS MONEY STOP

MAXIMUM SCORE: (\$20.00 PRIZE)

PURPOSE OF EVENT: For fun

INSTRUCTIONS:

Driver must stop their bus with the front driver's side tire completely covering a \$20.00 bill.

If the driver is successful, \$20.00 will be awarded at the awards ceremony.



SPECIAL NEEDS PRE TRIP

MAXIMUM SCORE: 80 POINTS

TIME LIMIT: Ten (10) minutes

PURPOSE OF EVENT: A school bus driver is required to make a daily pre-trip inspection of the bus before transporting students. This event will evaluate the driver's efficiency in conducting their inspection.

INSTRUCTIONS AND SCORING: Every item checked must be verbalized as well as visually examined, touched or pointed out.

Driver and attendant may perform the pre-trip together.

Example items to be checked ...	
Static Leaks	DOT Sticker, Registration & Insurance
Pressure Leaks	Handrails
Antenna	Emergency Equipment
Outside Lights and Signals	Driver Seat and Belt
Reflectors and Reflective Tape	Gauges
Mirrors	Switches, Steering & Horn
Hood	Reverse Beeper
Body Damage	2 - Way Radio
Tires and Wheels	Emergency Brake (Tug Test)
Battery Compartment	Air Brake Test
Mud Flaps	Interior Lights
Drive Shaft, Springs and Shocks	Cleanliness
Exhaust	Seats
Emergency Exits	Lift Door & Operation - Manual, Platform, Safety & Lights
Fuel Cap & DEF Cap (if present)	WC Securement Straps, Occupant Restraints & Instructions

SPECIAL NEEDS RAILROAD CROSSING

MAXIMUM SCORE: 100 POINTS

PURPOSE OF EVENT:

The railroad crossing represents one of the greatest hazards in so far as mass casualties or fatalities are concerned. This test evaluates the driver's degree of care and knowledge of laws, rules and regulations when required to operate a school bus across railroad tracks.

INSTRUCTIONS:

A simulated railroad crossing is laid out as follows:

1. A 60-foot roadway crossing one parallel set of tracks.
2. A railroad crossing sign in the proper position at the right side of the roadway.

Drivers are judged from the time they approach the crossing until they reach the other side of the crossing. They will be checked on use of directional signals and mirrors, stopping the bus, opening the door and window, checking tracks, driving across the railroad tracks, etc.

SPECIAL NEEDS SERPENTINE

MAXIMUM SCORE: 70 POINTS

PURPOSE OF EVENT: To determine the driver's ability to maneuver the bus through an 'S' curve formed by barrels.

INSTRUCTIONS: Driver should begin the event on the right hand side of the first barrel and proceed on a curved path around each of 4 barrels without crossing curb lines or backing up the bus.

SPECIAL NEEDS WHEELCHAIR LOADING

MAXIMUM SCORE: 150 POINTS

TIME LIMIT: Five (5) minutes

PURPOSE OF EVENT: Drivers and attendants will demonstrate their ability to load a wheelchair student.

INSTRUCTIONS: Event begins with the driver and attendant seated with seat belts fastened. Driver will verbalize his/her actions while simulating 'pulling up to the stop'. Driver or attendant must verbally indicate when loading is completed and the student is ready to be secured.

Important: the bus will not be moved during this event.

ITEM	WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Student flashers	Verbalize
Emergency brake	Verbalize
Mirrors	Verbalize
Lift zone	Verbalize
Lift door	Driver or attendant should open the lift door fully.
Lift	Lift should be lowered and roll stops physically checked.
Postural belt and wheelchair	Driver or attendant should check that passenger is wearing a properly adjusted postural belt and that the wheelchair is in safe condition (spokes, brakes, hand and foot rests, etc.)
Passenger on lift	Passenger should be gently wheeled onto lift.
Hands on lap	Driver or attendant must remind passenger to keep hands in lap for safety as lift is raised.
Hold chair	Either driver or attendant or both must have a firm grip on the wheelchair at all times while on the lift.
Head clearance	Driver or attendant must check for head clearance entering the bus.
Informing passenger	Passenger should be notified before lift is operated.
Moved to station	WC should be moved from platform to the chosen securement station inside the bus.
Lift door	After the lift is stowed, lift door should be shut and secured.

SPECIAL NEEDS WHEELCHAIR SECUREMENT

MAXIMUM SCORE: 100 POINTS

TIME LIMIT: Five (5) minutes

PURPOSE OF EVENT: Drivers and attendants will demonstrate their ability to secure the wheelchair and student after the loading event is complete.

INSTRUCTIONS: Driver and attendant are to secure the wheelchair and passenger. Driver or attendant must verbally indicate when the wheelchair and passenger are fully secured to their satisfaction.

ITEM	WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Communication	Driver and attendant should interact warmly with passenger throughout the event.
Station choice	If more than one securement station is available, wheelchair is NOT placed in rearmost station. If a position between front and rear axle is available, it should be utilized.
Position in station	As much as possible, wheelchair should be centered in the selected securement station.
Floor attachments	Four tie-down straps should be utilized; attachment points should be selected that allow for adequate tightening and minimize strap contact with wheelchair components.
Wheelchair securement points	Tie-down straps should be attached to identified securement points ("D" rings) on transportable wheelchairs or at or near welded joints as near as possible to the center of mass (bottom of seat) on the main wheelchair frame on older wheelchairs.
WC brakes	WC brakes must be released before tightening tie-downs.
Tightening tie-downs	All four tie-down straps must be very tight; with the wheelchair brake released, no wheelchair wheel should move more than one inch on the bus floor.
Lap/shoulder restraint	Lap belt must be routed as close to passenger hips as possible, lap belt should be snug over hips, not across the stomach, lap belt buckle should be positioned at hip, not middle of stomach. Shoulder belt should lie across collar bone and be snug but not excessively tight; lap and shoulder belt should be attached to proper points for system being used.
Informing Passenger	Before conducting a "shake test," passenger is alerted.
Shake test	With wheelchair brake released, driver or attendant attempts to move secured wheelchair.
Wheelchair brake	Wheelchair brake should be set after shake test.

STUDENT LOADING

MAXIMUM SCORE: **60 POINTS**

PURPOSE OF EVENT:

This test not only evaluates a driver's alertness while loading and unloading, but also determines the driver's ability to remember and perform several other quite important functions during such loading, including the proper use of mirrors and the special school bus lighting system.

INSTRUCTIONS: Drivers stop to load students using the proper technique. Contestants are judged for mirror use before and after the stop, proper activation of amber flashers and red stop lights, smooth stopping, lane position when stopped, foot on brake while stopped, and proper timing in opening and closing the door.

SCORING: Contestants receive a score of (0) if there is no mirror check before stop, failure to activate amber warning lights, or no mirror check before starting up again.