

BUS DRIVER APPLICANTS

If the Division of Transportation has not yet contacted you, please call Chris Bailey at (859) 381-4504 to schedule an interview. He will explain the training process.

You will be required to complete the state-mandated School Bus Driver Training Program. Additionally, you will be required to complete a physical examination, psychological screening, and drug test. Please read the information provided below regarding the medical qualifications for school bus drivers.

NOTE: As a condition of employment you will be required to submit a copy of your high school diploma or GED certificate and any college transcripts that you may have. You will also be required to be fingerprinted so that a background check can be performed by the Kentucky State Police.

Medical Qualifications for School Bus Drivers

I. Kentucky Administrative Regulation 702 KAR 5:080 states that:

“A local board of education shall require annual medical examination of each school bus driver and drivers of special vehicles used to transport school children to and from school and events related to the schools. The medical examination shall include tests for hearing and vision disorders, emotional instability, and serious medical conditions including diabetes, epilepsy, heart disease, and other chronic or communicable diseases if indicated in the opinion of the examining physical. The examination shall include tests for tuberculosis upon initial employment and positive reactors shall be required to have further evaluations. Drug tests shall be conducted in accordance with the Kentucky department of Education, Division of pupil Transportation drug testing procedures, KDE-1530, and shall be a condition of initial employment for Kentucky School Bus Drivers, School Bus Mechanics, and other local school district personnel who drive a school bus.”

II. Medication:

No dilantin, no anticoagulants, no digitalis, and no major tranquilizers. For all medication prescribed by a physician, a statement from the prescribing physician is required that states the name, dose, and indication for the drug or drugs. The physician designated by the Fayette County Public Schools will evaluate any medication and/or

drug prescribed and also all non-prescribed drugs to determine if such medications/drugs would interfere with the ability of the driver to operate a motor vehicle.

III. Screening Evaluation:

Eyes: 1. A bus driver must have minimal acuity of 20/40 with both eyes open with or without corrective lenses. Any visual acuity worse than 20/40 with both eyes open disqualifies a driver. If vision in both eyes is worse than 20/70 without corrective lenses then: a. the driver must wear eye-glasses (no restriction if wearing contact lenses), and b. Driver restricted to in county and not on interstate.
2. Color blindness: The driver must be able to distinguish the colors of traffic signals showing red, green, and yellow. The driver must get 100% of these colors correct.

Ears: 1. Audiometric Screening: Prospective school bus drivers should be screen for hearing at 30 db for the frequencies of 250, 500, 1000, 2000, 4000, and 8000 Hx – both ears.
2. Audiologic Testing: Those persons who fail the screening or wear a hearing aid should be referred for more complete audiometric testing.

Blood Pressure: No diastolic 110 or over on repeated tests.

Diabetes: Known or newly detected confirmed diabetics should not be hired if on insulin or if FBS exceeds 200. If a person develops diabetes while working as a school bus driver, he/she may continue to drive as long as controlled and maintained without insulin.

Heart Disease: Any abnormality requires full report from a physician including EKG, physical findings, diagnosis, and any other pertinent data. Any patient with aortic stenosis, chronic congestive heart failure, or ischemic heart disease such as a myocardial infarction, coronary, or angina by history or EKG will be disqualified from driving a school bus.

Neuro-Muscular: Disqualify if Parkinson's disease is present. Other conditions will be evaluated as determined by the physician designated by the Fayette County Board of Education.

Frequency of Physical Examinations: An initial physical examination prior to employment will be performed. The physician designated by the Board of Education determines certification. Applicants who meet all other employment requirements must successfully complete the physical examination before final consideration is given for employment. All school bus drivers will be examined annually with certification to be determined by the physician.

If any driver is being treated for a specific medical condition and/or taking any type of drugs, they will be required to present the physician designated by the Board of Education a statement from their personal physician regarding the extent and nature of their condition, and the type, dosage, and frequency of dosage taken.

All school bus drivers are required to immediately report to the Director of the Division of Transportation any change in their medical status.

The physician designated by the Board of Education assumes the final definitive responsibility for determining eligibility.