Elimination of School Bus Permits --- Effective January 1, 2019

Beginning January 1, 2019, the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will no longer be issuing School Bus Permits based on statute change due to LB 347 (2018 Legislative Session). Training requirements found in NDE Rule 91 *(Driver Qualifications and Operational Procedures)* will remain in place (Level Training and "Behind the Wheel" Training/Pre-Service orientation). NDE Rule 91 is currently under the revision process to incorporate this and other related changes.

Described below are the impacts of this change to pupil transportation drivers and employers:

Individuals currently holding a School Bus Permit

- Before current Medical Examiner's Certificate expires (making it invalid), drivers must schedule a physical.
  - With this new law in place, the Medical Examiner's Certificate will be valid for two years - *unless a shorter time frame is set by the physician*. Annual physicals will no longer be required.
  - Provide employer with the original copy of the valid Medical Examiner's Certificate. *(This is the card – not the long form).*
- Complete Level ll Instructional Course every five years after completing the Level l Instructional Course with the Nebraska Safety Center.
- *Only documentation required to be carried by the driver is a CDL or Class O license.*
  - *CDL drivers who drive interstate are required to carry a copy of their Medical Examiner Certificates (the card) for 14 days. (Contact DMV for more info.)*

Driver Documentation Requirement for Employers

- Retain the following to document their drivers are qualified as a pupil transportation vehicle driver:
  - Valid Medical Examiner's Certificate
  - Email from Nebraska Safety Center confirming completion of Level Instructional Training
  - Annual driving record from DMV
  - Criminal history Report

Individuals Preparing to Become a Pupil Transportation Driver

- **To drive a 15 or more passenger bus that requires a Commercial Driver's License (CDL)*:***
  - If currently not holding a CDL with School Bus and Passenger Endorsements, obtain a Commercial Learner's Permit through the DMV.
  - Follow DMV requirements to obtain a CDL with School Bus and Passenger Endorsements.
  - Schedule a physical to obtain a Medical Examiner's and provide the original copy to employer. *(This is the card – not the long form).* With this new law in place, physicals will be required every two years instead of annually.
  - Complete the "Behind the Wheel" training/Pre-Service Orientation and upload to Nebraska Safety Center Database.
  - Complete Level l Instructional Course with the Nebraska Safety Center.
  - *Only documentation required to be carried by the driver is their CDL. (CDL drivers who drive interstate are required to keep a copy of their Medical Examiner Certificate (the card) on their person for 14 days. Contact DMV for more info.)*
- **To drive a 14-passenger school bus (not requiring a CDL) and to drive small vehicle on routes:**
  - Hold a valid DMV Motor Vehicle Operator's License.
  - Schedule a physical to obtain a Medical Examiner's Certificate and provide the original copy to employer. *(The card – not the long form).* Physicals will be good for two years instead of annually.
  - Complete the "Behind the Wheel" training/Pre-Service Orientation and upload to Nebraska Safety Center Database.
  - Complete Level l Instructional Course with the Nebraska Safety Center.
  - *Only documentation required to be carried by the driver is their Class O License.*
- **To drive a small vehicle for school activities:**
  - Hold a valid Class O License.