

title 49, U.S. Code or the regulations issued thereunder which is independently applicable to transportation to which this section applies. A violation of any such standard shall also constitute a violation of the Act and these regulations.

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**§ 500.103 Activities not subject to vehicle safety standards.**

(a) *Agricultural machinery and equipment excluded.* Vehicle safety standards or insurance requirements issued under the Act and these regulations do not apply to the transportation of any seasonal or migrant agricultural worker on a tractor, combine, harvester, picker, other similar machinery and equipment while such worker is actually engaged in the planting, cultivating, or harvesting of any agricultural commodity or the care of livestock or poultry. This exclusion applies only to workers carrying out these activities on such machinery and equipment or being engaged in transportation incidental thereto. The exclusion does not include the use of such machinery for the transportation of any worker under any other circumstances.

(b) *Exclusion for immediate family transporting family members.* The standards of this subpart do not apply to an individual migrant or seasonal agricultural worker when the only other occupants of that individual's vehicle consist of his immediate family members as defined in § 500.20(o).

(c) *Carpooling.* Vehicle safety standards or insurance requirements of the Act and these regulations do not apply to carpooling arrangements made by the workers themselves, using one of the workers' own vehicles and not specifically directed or requested by an agricultural employer or agricultural association. Carpooling, however, does not include any transportation arrangement in which a farm labor contractor participates.

(See also § 500.120)

**§ 500.104 Department of Labor standards for passenger automobiles and station wagons and transportation of seventy-five miles or less.**

Any farm labor contractor, agricultural employer or agricultural association providing transportation in passenger automobiles and station wagons and other vehicles used only for transportation as provided in § 500.102(a) and (d) shall comply with the following vehicle safety standards:

(a) *External lights.* Head lights, tail lights, stop lights, back-up lights, turn signals and hazard warning lights shall be operable.

(b) *Brakes.* Every vehicle shall be equipped with operable brakes for stopping and holding on an incline. Brake systems shall be free of leaks.

(c) *Tires.* Tires shall have at least  $\frac{2}{32}$  inch tread depth, and have no cracks/defects in the sidewall.

(d) *Steering.* The steering wheel and associated mechanism shall be maintained so as to safely and accurately turn the vehicles.

(e) *Horn.* Vehicles shall have an operable air or electric horn.

(f) *Mirrors.* Mirrors shall provide the driver full vision of the sides and to the rear of the vehicle.

(g) *Windshields/windshield wipers.* Windshields and windows may not have cracks or opaque obstructions which obscure vision. Vehicles shall be equipped with windshield wipers that are operational to allow the operator full frontal vision in all weather conditions.

(h) *Fuel system.* Fuel lines and the fuel tank shall be free of leaks. The tank shall be fitted with a cap to securely cover the filling opening.

(i) *Exhaust system.* The exhaust system shall discharge carbon monoxide away from the passenger compartment and be free of leaks beneath the passenger compartment.

(j) *Ventilation.* Windows will be operational to allow fresh air to the occupants of the vehicle.

(k) *Safe loading.* Vehicles will not be driven when loaded beyond the manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating.

(l) *Seats.* A seat securely fastened to the vehicle will be provided for each occupant or rider in, or on, any vehicle, except that transportation which is