

**§ 383.121**

**§ 383.121 Requirements for hazardous materials endorsement.**

In order to obtain a Hazardous Material Endorsement each applicant must have such knowledge as is required of a driver of a hazardous materials laden vehicle, from information contained in 49 CFR parts 171, 172, 173, 177, 178, and 397 on the following:

(a) Hazardous materials regulations including:

- (1) Hazardous materials table;
- (2) Shipping paper requirements;
- (3) Marking;
- (4) Labeling;
- (5) Placarding requirements;
- (6) Hazardous materials packaging;
- (7) Hazardous materials definitions and preparation;
- (8) Other regulated material (e.g., ORM-D);
- (9) Reporting hazardous materials accidents; and
- (10) Tunnels and railroad crossings.

(b) Hazardous materials handling including:

- (1) Forbidden Materials and Packages;
- (2) Loading and Unloading Materials;
- (3) Cargo Segregation;
- (4) Passenger Carrying Buses and Hazardous Materials;
- (5) Attendance of Motor Vehicles;
- (6) Parking;
- (7) Routes;
- (8) Cargo Tanks; and
- (9) "Safe Havens."

(c) Operation of emergency equipment including:

- (1) Use of equipment to protect the public;
- (2) Special precautions for equipment to be used in fires;
- (3) Special precautions for use of emergency equipment when loading or unloading a hazardous materials laden motor vehicle; and
- (4) Use of emergency equipment for tank vehicles.

(d) Emergency response procedures including:

- (1) Special care and precautions for different types of accidents;
- (2) Special precautions for driving near a fire and carrying hazardous materials, and smoking and carrying hazardous materials;
- (3) Emergency procedures; and

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(4) Existence of special requirements for transporting Class A and B explosives.

**§ 383.123 Requirements for a school bus endorsement.**

(a) An applicant for a school bus endorsement must satisfy the following three requirements:

(1) Qualify for passenger vehicle endorsement. Pass the knowledge and skills test for obtaining a passenger vehicle endorsement.

(2) Knowledge test. Must have knowledge covering at least the following three topics:

(i) Loading and unloading children, including the safe operation of stop signal devices, external mirror systems, flashing lights and other warning and passenger safety devices required for school buses by State or Federal law or regulation.

(ii) Emergency exits and procedures for safely evacuating passengers in an emergency.

(iii) State and Federal laws and regulations related to safely traversing highway rail grade crossings.

(3) Skills test. Must take a driving skills test in a school bus of the same vehicle group (see §383.91(a)) as the school bus applicant will drive.

(4) *Exception.* Knowledge and skills tests administered before September 30, 2002 and approved by FMCSA as meeting the requirements of this section, meet the requirements of paragraphs (a)(2) and (a)(3) of this section.

(b) *Substitute for driving skills test.* (1) At the discretion of a State, the driving skills test required in paragraph (a)(3) of this section may be waived for an applicant who is currently licensed, has experience driving a school bus, has a good driving record, and meets the conditions set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(2) An applicant must certify and the State must verify that, during the two-year period immediately prior to applying for the school bus endorsement, the applicant:

(i) Held a valid CDL with a passenger vehicle endorsement to operate a school bus representative of the group he or she will be driving;

(ii) Has not had his or her driver's license or CDL suspended, revoked or