Entry Level Driver Training Guide

Any person looking to obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) for the first time or looking to upgrade a CDL is required to meet the Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) requirements found in 49 CFR 380 subparts F and G.

In an effort to assist the school transportation industry with complying with the ELDT requirement this document has been created to provide you with the training material necessary to cover the curriculum components as outlined in;

- Appendix B to Part 380 – Class B – CDL Training Curriculum — Table 1
- Appendix C to Part 380 – Passenger Endorsement Training Curriculum — Table 2
- Appendix D to Part 380 – School Bus Endorsement Training Curriculum — Table 3

Any driver applying for a Class A CDL or looking to add the Hazardous Materials Endorsement (HME), will also need to meet the required curriculum for the class of license and necessary endorsements they are applying for. Any driver that already holds a CDL and is looking to upgrade class or add an endorsement will only be required to complete the curriculum components applicable to the upgrade. For example; a currently license Class B driver who wants to add the school bus endorsement would be need to complete the training curriculum for both passenger (P) and school bus (S).

49 CFR 380 subpart G also establishes the eligibility requirements for training providers and requires them to be listed on FMCSA's Training Provider Registry (TPR). Please review this section for both TPR requirements as well as trainer/instructor qualifications.

Before an applicant will be allowed to attempt the CDL skills or HME knowledge test, the State must verify that the applicant has completed the required ELDT.

The following tables contain the curriculum components as required in Appendix B, C and D as well as a reference as to where to find the applicable content to train to the ELDT requirements. References to the SBM are referring to the Minnesota Model School Bus Manual. The Minnesota Commercial Truck and Passenger Regulations document can be found at, MN Truck Book - Commercial Vehicle Operations - MnDOT (state.mn.us).

Table 1

Appendix B to Part 380 – Class B – CDL Curriculum	
Class B CDL applicants must complete the Class B CDL curriculum outlined in this Appendix. The curriculum for Class B applicants pertains to heavy straight vehicles (Group B) as defined in 49 CFR 383.91(a)(2).	
Theory Instruction	
There is no required minimum number of instruction hours for theory training, but the training instructor must cover all the topics in curriculum. Training providers must use written assessments to determine driver-trainees' proficiency in the knowledge objectives in the theory portion. The driver-trainee must receive an overall minimum score of 80 percent on the theory assessment. The Class B curriculum must, at a minimum, include the following:	
Section B1.1 Basic Operation	
This section must cover the interaction between driver-trainees and the CMV. Driver-trainees will receive instruction in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) and will be introduced to the basic CMV instruments and controls. This section must also teach driver-trainees how to perform vehicle inspections, control the CMVs under various road and traffic conditions, employ shifting and backing techniques, and couple and uncouple, as applicable. Driver-trainees must familiarize themselves with the basic operating characteristics of a CMV.	
Unit B1.1.1 Orientation	
This unit must introduce driver-trainees to the commercial motor vehicle driver training curriculum and the components of a commercial motor vehicle. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the safety fundamentals, essential regulatory requirements (*i.e.,* overview of FMCSRs/hazardous materials (HM) regulations), and driver-trainees' responsibilities not directly related to driving. This unit must also cover the ramifications and driver disqualification provisions and fines for non-compliance with parts 380, 382, 383, and 390 through 399 of the FMCSRs. This unit must also include an overview of the applicability of State and local laws relating to the safe operation of the CMV, stopping at weigh stations/scales, hazard awareness of vehicle size and weight limitations, low clearance areas (e.g., CMV height restrictions), and bridge formulas.	CDL Manual • Part A • Sec. 1
Unit B1.1.2 Control Systems/Dashboard	
This unit must introduce driver-trainees to vehicle instruments, controls, and safety components. The training providers must teach driver-trainees to read gauges and instruments correctly and the proper use of vehicle safety components, including safety belts and mirrors. The training providers must teach driver-trainees to identify, locate, and explain the function of each of the primary and secondary controls including those required for steering, accelerating, shifting, braking systems (e.g., ABS, hydraulic, air), as applicable, and parking.	Vehicle Operator's Manual

Unit B1.1.3 Pre- and Post-Trip Inspections	
The training provider must teach the driver-trainees to conduct pre-trip and post-trip inspections as specified in §§392.7 and 396.11, including appropriate inspection locations. Instruction must also be provided on enroute vehicle inspections.	CDL Manual • Part A • Part B • Sec 2.1 • Sec. 11 SBM Unit 4
Unit B1.1.4 Basic Control	
This unit must introduce basic vehicular control and handling as it applies to commercial motor vehicles. This unit must include instruction addressing basic CMV controls in areas such as executing sharp left and right turns, centering the vehicle, maneuvering in restricted areas, and entering and exiting the interstate or controlled access highway.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.2
Unit B1.1.5 Shifting/Operating Transmissions	
This unit must introduce shifting patterns and procedures to driver-trainees to prepare them to safely and competently perform basic shifting maneuvers. This unit must teach driver-trainees to execute up and down shifting techniques on multi-speed dual range transmissions, if appropriate. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the importance of increased fuel economy achieved by utilizing proper shifting techniques.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.3
Unit B1.1.6 Backing and Docking	
This unit must teach driver-trainees to back and dock the combination vehicle safely. This unit must cover "Get Out and Look" (GOAL), evaluation of backing/loading facilities, knowledge of backing set ups, as well as instruction in how to back with use of spotters.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.2.4
Section B1.2 Safe Operating Procedures	
This section must teach the practices required for safe operation of the CMV on the highway under various road, weather, and traffic conditions. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the Federal rules governing the proper use of seat belt assemblies (§392.16).	
Unit B1.2.1 Visual Search	
This unit must teach driver-trainees to visually search the road for potential hazards and critical objects, including instruction on recognizing distracted pedestrians or distracted drivers. This unit must include instruction in how to ensure a driver-trainee's personal security/general awareness in common surroundings such as truck stops and/or rest areas and at shipper/receiver locations.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.4
Unit B1.2.2 Communication	
This unit must teach driver-trainees how to communicate their intentions to other road users. Driver-trainees must be instructed in techniques for different types of communication on the road, including proper use of headlights, turn	CDL Manual

signals, four-way flashers, and horns. This unit must cover instruction in proper utilization of eye contact techniques with other drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.	• Sec. 2.5
Unit B1.2.3 Distracted Driving	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees in FMCSRs related to distracted driving and other key driver distraction driving issues, including improper cell phone use, texting, and use of in-cab technology (e.g., §§392.80 and 392.82). This instruction will include training in the following aspects: Visual attention (keeping eyes on the road); manual control (keeping hands on the wheel); and cognitive awareness (keeping mind on the task and safe operation of the CMV).	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.9
Unit B1.2.4 Speed Management	
This unit must teach driver-trainees how to manage speed effectively in response to various road, weather, and traffic conditions. The instruction must include methods for calibrating safe following distances under an array of conditions including traffic, weather and CMV weight and length.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.6
Unit B1.2.5 Space Management	
This unit must teach driver-trainees about the importance of managing the space surrounding the vehicle under various traffic and road conditions.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.7
Unit B1.2.6 Night Operation	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees in the factors affecting the safe operation of CMVs at night and in darkness. Additionally, driver-trainees must be instructed in changes in vision, communications, speed, space management, and proper use of lights, as needed, to deal with the special problems night driving presents.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.11
Unit B1.2.7 Extreme Driving Conditions	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the specific problems presented by extreme driving conditions. The training will emphasize the factors affecting the operation of CMVs in cold, hot, and inclement weather and on steep grades and sharp curves. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the proper tire chaining procedures in this unit.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.12 – 2.14
Section B1.3 Advanced Operating Practices	
This section must introduce higher-level skills that can be acquired only after the more fundamental skills and knowledge taught in the prior two sections have been mastered. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the advanced skills necessary to recognize potential hazards and must teach driver-trainees the procedures needed to handle a CMV when faced with a hazard.	
Unit B1.3.1 Hazard Perception	
The unit must provide instruction for recognizing potential hazards in the driving environment in order to reduce the severity of the hazard and neutralize possible emergency situations. The training providers must teach driver-trainees to identify road conditions and other road users that are a	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.8

potential threat to the safety of the CMV and suggest appropriate adjustments. The instruction must emphasize hazard recognition, visual search, adequate surveillance, and response to possible emergency-producing situations encountered by CMV drivers in various traffic situations. The training providers must also teach driver-trainees to recognize potential dangers and the safety procedures that must be utilized while driving in construction/work zones.	
Unit B1.3.2 Skid Control/Recovery, Jackknifing, and Other Emergencies	
This unit must teach the causes of skidding and jackknifing and techniques for avoiding and recovering from them. The training providers must teach the importance of maintaining directional control and bringing the CMV to a stop in the shortest possible distance while operating over a slippery surface. This unit must provide instruction in appropriate responses when faced with CMV emergencies. This instruction must include evasive steering, emergency braking, and off-road recovery, as well as the proper response to brake failures, tire blowouts, hydroplaning, and rollovers. The instruction must include a review of unsafe acts and the role the acts play in producing or worsening hazardous situations.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.17-2.19
Unit B1.3.3 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings	
This unit must teach driver-trainees to recognize potential dangers and appropriate safety procedures to utilize at railroad (RR)-highway grade crossings. This instruction must include an overview of various Federal/State RR grade crossing regulations, RR grade crossing environments, obstructed view conditions, clearance around the tracks, and rail signs and signals. The training providers must instruct driver-trainees that railroads have personnel available ("Emergency Notification Systems") to receive notification of any information relating to an unsafe condition at the RR-highway grade crossing or a disabled vehicle or other obstruction blocking a railroad track at the RR-highway grade crossing.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.15 • Sec. 10.4 • Part A
Section B1.4 Vehicle Systems and Reporting Malfunctions	
This unit must provide entry-level driver-trainees with sufficient knowledge of the CMV and its systems and subsystems to ensure that they understand and respect their role in vehicle inspection, operation, and maintenance and the impact of those factors upon highway safety and operational efficiency.	
Unit B1.4.1 Identification and Diagnosis of Malfunctions	
This unit must teach driver-trainees to identify major vehicle systems. The goal is to explain their function and how to check all key vehicle systems, as appropriate (e.g., engine, engine exhaust auxiliary systems, brakes, drive train, coupling systems, and suspension) to ensure their safe operation. Driver-trainees must be provided with a detailed description of each system, its importance to safe and efficient operation, and what is needed to keep the system in good operating condition.	CDL Manual • Sec.2.1 • Sec. 11

Unit B1.4.2 Roadside Inspections	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees on what to expect during a standard roadside inspection conducted by authorized personnel. The training providers must teach driver-trainees on what vehicle and driver violations are classified as out-of-service (OOS), including the ramifications and penalties for operating a CMV when subject to an OOS order as defined in section 390.5.	MN Commercial Truck & Passenger Regulations; Sec 13 SBM Unit 8
Unit B1.4.3 Maintenance	
This unit must introduce driver-trainees to the basic servicing and checking procedures for various engine and vehicle components and to help develop their ability to perform preventive maintenance and simple emergency repairs.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.1
Section B1.5 Non-Driving Activities	
This section must teach driver-trainees activities that do not involve actually operating the CMV, e.g., proper cargo securement.	
Unit B1.5.1 Handling and Documenting Cargo	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the basic theory of cargo weight distribution, cargo securement on the vehicle, cargo covering, and techniques for safe and efficient loading/unloading. The training providers must also teach driver-trainees the basic cargo security/cargo theft prevention procedures. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the basic information regarding the proper handling and documentation of HM cargo	CDL Manual • Sec. 3
Unit B1.5.2 Environmental Compliance Issues	
This unit must teach driver-trainees to recognize environmental hazards and issues related to the CMV and load, and also make aware that city, county, State, and Federal requirements may apply to such circumstances.	Air Pollution (idling), Fuel Efficiency, Fueling, Hazardous Material handling, Incident notification/reporting
Unit B1.5.3 Hours of Service Requirements	
This unit must teach driver-trainees to understand that there are different hours-of-service (HOS) requirements applicable to different industries. The training providers must teach driver-trainees all applicable HOS regulatory requirements. The training providers must teach driver-trainees to complete a Driver's Daily Log (electronic and paper), timesheet, and logbook recap, as appropriate. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the consequences (safety, legal, and personal) of violating the HOS regulations, including the fines and penalties imposed for these types of violations.	MN Commercial Truck & Passenger Regulations; Sec 12
Unit B1.5.4 Fatigue and Wellness Awareness	
The issues and consequences of chronic and acute driver fatigue and the importance of staying alert will be covered in this unit. The training providers must teach driver-trainees about wellness and basic health maintenance information that affect a driver's ability to safely operate a CMV.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.11 Sec. 2.22

Unit B1.5.5 Post-Crash Procedures	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the appropriate post-crash procedures, including the requirement that the driver, if possible, assess his or her physical condition immediately after the crash and notify authorities, or assign the task to other individuals at the crash scene. The training providers must teach driver-trainees how to protect the area; obtain emergency medical assistance; move on-road vehicles off the road in minor crashes so as to avoid subsequent crashes or injuries; engage flashers; place reflective triangles and other warning devices for stopped vehicles; and properly use a fire extinguisher, if necessary. The training providers must instruct driver-trainees in post-crash testing requirements related to controlled substances and alcohol.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.20 SBM Unit 3 SBM Unit 5.19
Unit B1.5.6 External Communications	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees in the value of effective interpersonal communication techniques/skills to interact with enforcement officials. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the specifics of the roadside vehicle inspection process, and what to expect during this activity. Driver-trainees who are not native English speakers must be instructed in FMCSA English language proficiency requirements and the consequences for violations. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the implications of violating Federal and state regulations will have on their driving records and their employing motor carrier's records.	SBM Unit 2 SBM Unit 8
Unit B1.5.7 Whistleblower/Coercion	
This unit must teach the driver-trainees about the right of an employee to question the safety practices of an employer without incurring the risk of losing a job or being subject to reprisals simply for stating a safety concern. The training providers must instruct driver-trainees in the whistleblower protection regulations in 29 CFR part 1978. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the procedures for reporting to FMCSA incidents of coercion from motor carriers, shippers, receivers, or transportation intermediaries.	MN Truck & Passenger Regulations, Sec 12
Unit B1.5.8 Trip Planning	
This unit must address the importance of and requirements for planning routes and trips. This instruction must address planning the safest route, planning for rest stops, heavy traffic areas, railroad-highway grade crossing safe clearance and ground clearance (i.e., “high center”), the importance of Federal and State requirements on the need for permits, and vehicle size and weight limitations. The training providers must teach driver-trainees the correct identification of restricted routes, the pros and cons of Global Positioning System (GPS)/trip routing software, and the importance of selecting fuel-efficient routes.	SBM Unit 4
Unit B1.5.9 Drugs/Alcohol	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the rules applicable to controlled substances (including prescription drugs) and alcohol use and testing related to the operation of a CMV.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.22

Unit B1.5.10 Medical Requirements	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the Federal rules on medical certification, medical examination procedures, general qualifications, responsibilities, and disqualifications based on various offenses, orders, and loss of driving privileges (49 CFR part 391, subpart B and subpart E).	CDL Manual • Sec. 1.2 • Part A • Part B SBM Unit 5
Behind-the-Wheel	
There is no required minimum number of instruction hours required for BTW (range and public road) training, but the training instructor must cover all topics set forth in the BTW curriculum. BTW training must be conducted in a CMV for which a Class B CDL is required. The instructor must determine and document that each driver-trainee has demonstrated proficiency in all elements of the BTW curriculum unless otherwise noted. Consistent with the definitions of BTW range training and BTW public road training in §380.605, a simulation device cannot be used to conduct such training or to demonstrate proficiency. Training instructors must document the total number of clock hours each driver-trainee spends to complete the BTW curriculum.	
Behind-the Wheel Range	
This unit must teach driving exercises related to basic vehicle control skills and mastery of basic maneuvers, as covered in §§383.111 and 383.113 of this chapter necessary to operate the vehicle safely. The training providers must teach driver-trainees activities in this unit on a driving range as defined in §380.605. The training provider must teach "Get Out and Look" (GOAL) to the driver-trainee as it applies to units B2.2-2.6.	
Unit B2.1 Vehicle Inspection Pre-Trip/Enroute/Post-Trip	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in conducting pre-trip and post-trip inspections as specified in §§392.7 and 396.11, including appropriate inspection locations. Instruction must also be provided on enroute vehicle inspections.	CDL Manual • Sec. 12
Unit B2.2 Straight Line Backing	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for performing various straight line backing maneuvers to appropriate criteria/acceptable tolerances.	CDL Manual • Sec. 12
Unit B2.3 Alley Dock Backing (45/90 Degree)	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for performing 45/90 degree alley dock maneuvers to appropriate criteria/acceptable tolerances.	CDL Manual • Sec. 12
Unit B2.4 Off-Set Backing	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for performing off-set backing maneuvers to appropriate criteria/acceptable tolerances.	CDL Manual • Sec. 12

Unit B2.5 Parallel Parking Blind Side	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for performing parallel parking blind side positions/maneuvers to appropriate criteria/acceptable tolerances.	CDL Manual • Sec. 12
Unit B2.6 Parallel Parking Sight Side	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for performing sight side parallel parking maneuvers to appropriate criteria/acceptable tolerances.	CDL Manual • Sec. 12
Behind-the-Wheel Public Road	
The instructor must engage in active two-way communication with the driver-trainees during all active BTW public road training sessions. Skills described in paragraphs B3.8 through 3.12 of this section must be discussed during public road training, but not necessarily performed. Driver-trainees are not required to demonstrate proficiency in the skills described in paragraphs B3.8 through 3.12.	
Unit B3.1 Vehicle Controls Including: Left Turns, Right Turns, Lane Changes, Curves at Highway Speeds, and Entry and Exit on the Interstate or Controlled Access Highway	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for initiating vehicle movement, executing left and right turns, changing lanes, navigating curves at speed, exiting and entering the interstate, and stopping the vehicle in a controlled manner.	CDL Manual • Sec. 13
Unit B3.2 Shifting/Transmission	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for performing safe and fuel-efficient shifting.	
Unit B3.3 Communications/Signaling	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for signaling intentions and effectively communicating with other drivers.	
Unit B3.4 Visual Search	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper techniques for visually searching the road for potential hazards and critical objects.	
Unit B3.5 Speed and Space Management	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in proper habits and techniques for adjusting and maintaining vehicle speed, taking into consideration various factors such as traffic and road conditions. Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in maintaining proper speed to keep appropriate spacing between the driver-trainee's CMV and other vehicles. Instruction must include methods for calibrating safe following distances under an array of conditions including traffic, weather, and CMV weight and length.	
Unit B3.6 Safe Driver Behavior	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in safe driver behavior during their operation of the CMV.	

Unit B3.7 Hours of Service (HOS) Requirements	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in the basic activities required by the HOS regulations, such as completing a Driver's Daily Log (electronic and paper), timesheet, and logbook recap, as appropriate.	
Unit B3.8 Hazard Perception	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate their ability to recognize potential hazards in the driving environment in time to reduce the severity of the hazard and neutralize possible emergency situations. Driver-trainees must demonstrate the ability to identify road conditions and other road users that are a potential threat to vehicle safety and suggest appropriate adjustments.	
Unit B3.9 Railroad (RR)-Highway Grade Crossing	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate the ability to recognize potential dangers and to demonstrate appropriate safety procedures when RR-highway grade crossings are reasonably available.	
Unit B3.10 Night Operation	
Driver-trainees must be familiar with how to operate a CMV safely at night. Training providers must teach driver-trainees that night driving presents specific circumstances that require heightened attention on the part of the driver. Driver-trainees must be taught special requirements for night vision, communications, speed, space management, and proper use of lights.	
Unit B3.11 Extreme Driving Conditions	
Driver-trainees must be familiar with the special risks created by, and the heightened precautions required by, driving CMVs under extreme driving conditions, such as heavy rain, high wind, high heat, fog, snow, ice, steep grades, and curves. Training providers must teach driver-trainees the basic driving habits needed to deal with the specific challenges presented by these extreme driving conditions.	
Unit B3.12 Skid Control/Recovery, Jackknifing, and Other Emergencies	
Driver-trainees must know the causes of skidding and jackknifing and techniques for avoiding and recovering from them. Driver-trainees must know how to maintain directional control and bring the CMV to a stop in the shortest possible distance while operating over a slippery surface. Driver-trainees must be familiar with proper techniques for responding to CMV emergencies, such as evasive steering, emergency braking, and off-road recovery. They must also know how to prevent or respond to brake failures, tire blowouts, hydroplaning, and rollovers.	

Table 2

Appendix C to Part 380—Passenger Endorsement Training Curriculum	
Passenger (P) endorsement applicants must complete the curriculum outlined in this section, which applies to driver-trainees who expect to operate CMVs in the any of the vehicle groups defined in §383.91(a)(1)-(3) for which a P endorsement is required.	
Theory Instruction	
There is no required minimum number of instruction hours for theory training, but the training provider must cover all the topics set forth in the curriculum. Training providers must use written assessments to determine driver-trainees' proficiency in the knowledge objectives in the theory portion. The driver-trainee must receive an overall minimum score of 80 percent on the theory assessment. The passenger endorsement training must, at a minimum, contain the following:	
Unit C1.1 Post-Crash Procedures	
This unit must teach driver-trainees appropriate post-crash procedures, including the requirement that the driver, if possible, assess his or her physical condition immediately after the crash and notify authorities, or assign the task to a passenger or other individuals at the crash scene. Also, training providers must teach driver-trainees how to obtain emergency medical assistance; move on-road vehicles off the road in minor crashes so as to avoid subsequent crashes or injuries; engage flashers, reflective triangles and other warning devices for stopped vehicles; and properly use a fire extinguisher if necessary.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.20, SBM Unit 3 SBM Unit 5.19
Unit C1.2 Other Emergency Procedures	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees in managing security breaches, on-board fires, emergency exit and passenger evacuation training, medical emergencies, and emergency stopping procedures including the deployment of various emergency hazard signals. Instruction must also include procedures for dealing with mechanical breakdowns and vehicle defects while enroute.	SBM Unit 3
Unit C1.3 Vehicle Orientation	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the basic physical and operational characteristics of passenger-carrying CMV (e.g., bus and motor coach), including overall height, length, width, ground clearances, rear overhang, Gross Vehicle Weight and Gross Vehicle Weight Rating, axle weights, wheels and rims, tires, tire ratings, mirrors, steer wheels, lighting, windshield, windshield wipers, engine compartments, basic electrical system, brake systems, as applicable, and spare tire storage. Additionally, training providers must instruct driver-trainees in techniques for proper driver seat and mirror adjustments.	CDL Manual • Sec. 4
Unit C1.4 Pre-Trip, Enroute, and Post-Trip Inspection	
This unit must teach the driver-trainee the importance of pre-trip, enroute, and post-trip inspections; and provide instruction in techniques for conducting such	CDL Manual • Sec. 10

inspections as stated in §§392.7 and 396.11, and demonstrate their ability to inspect the following: 1. Emergency exits; 2. Passenger-carrying CMV interiors (including passenger seats as applicable); 3. Restrooms and associated environmental requirements; 4. Temperature controls (for maintaining passenger comfort); 5. Driver and passenger seat belts. Additionally, training providers must instruct driver-trainees in procedures, as applicable, in security-related inspections, including inspections for unusual wires or other abnormal visible materials, interior and exterior luggage compartments, packages or luggage left behind, and signs of cargo or vehicle tampering. Finally, training providers must instruct driver-trainees in cycling-accessible lifts and procedures for inspecting them for functionality and defects.	SBM Unit 4.1
Unit C1.5 Fueling	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees on the significance of avoiding refueling a bus while passengers are onboard and the imperative of avoiding refueling in an enclosed space.	CDL Manual • Sec. 4.5
Unit C1.6 Idling	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the importance of compliance with State and local laws and regulations, including for example, idling limits, fuel savings; and the consequences of non-compliance, including adverse health effects and penalties.	SBM Unit 5
Unit C1.7 Baggage and/or Cargo Management	
In this unit, training providers must teach driver-trainees: 1. Proper methods for handling and securing passenger baggage and containers, as applicable. 2. Procedures for identifying and inspecting baggage and containers for prohibited items, such as hazardous materials. 3. Proper handling and securement of devices associated with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, including oxygen, wheeled mobility devices, and other associated apparatuses.	CDL Manual • Sec. 4.2,
Unit C1.8 Passenger Safety Awareness Briefing	
This unit must teach driver-trainees how to brief passengers on safety topics including fastening seat belts, emergency exits, emergency phone contact information, fire extinguisher location, safely walking in the aisle when the bus is moving, and restroom emergency push button or switch.	FMCSA Website – Pre-Trip Safety Information for Motorcoach Passengers, SBM Unit 4
Unit C1.9 Passenger Management	
In this unit, training providers must teach driver-trainees:	CDL Manual • Sec. 4.2 – 4.3

1. Proper procedures for safe loading and unloading of passengers prior to departure, including rules concerning standing passengers and the standee line. 2. Procedures for dealing with disruptive passengers.	
Unit C1.10 Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance	
Along with addressing the proper operation of accessibility equipment (e.g., lifts), this must teach driver-trainees the applicable regulations and proper procedures for engaging persons with disabilities or special needs under the ADA. Training must cover passengers with mobility issues, engaging passengers with sight, hearing, or cognitive impairments, and recognizing the permitted use of service animals.	SBM Unit 6
Unit C1.11 Hours of Service (HOS) Requirements	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the HOS regulations that apply to drivers for interstate passenger carriers. Training providers must teach driver-trainees the basic activities required by the HOS regulations, such as completing a Driver's Daily Log (electronic and paper), timesheet, and logbook recap, as appropriate. Training providers must teach driver-trainees how to recognize the signs of fatigue and basic fatigue countermeasures as a means to avoid crashes.	MN Commercial Truck and Passenger Regulations; Sec 12
Unit C1.12 Safety Belt Safety	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the Federal rules governing the proper use of safety restraint systems by CMV drivers, as set forth in §392.16.	CDL Manual • Sec. 4.1.5
Unit C1.13 Distracted Driving	
This unit must teach driver-trainees FMCSA regulations that prohibit drivers from texting or using hand-held mobile phones while operating their vehicles (e.g., §§392.80 and 392.82); and must teach the serious consequences of violations, including crashes, heavy fines, and impacts on a motor carrier's and/or driver's safety records, such as driver disqualification.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.9
Unit C1.14 Railroad (RR)-Highway Grade Crossings and Drawbridges	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees in applicable regulations, techniques, and procedures for navigating RR-highway grade crossings and drawbridges appropriate to passenger buses.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.15
Unit C1.15 Weigh Stations	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the weigh-station regulations that apply to buses.	Varies by state, follow the regulatory signs, (all commercial vehicles vs. all trucks.)

Unit C1.16 Security and Crime	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the basic techniques for recognizing and minimizing physical risks from criminal activities.	SBM Unit 3
Unit C1.17 Roadside Inspections	
This unit must teach driver-trainees what to expect during a standard roadside inspection conducted by authorized personnel. Training providers must teach driver-trainees what passenger-carrying vehicle and driver violations are classified as out-of-service (OOS), including the ramifications and penalties for operating a CMV when subject to an OOS order as defined in §390.5.	MN Commercial Truck & Passenger Regulations Sec 13; SBM Unit 8
Unit C1.18 Penalties and Fines	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the potential consequences of violating driver-related regulations, including impacts on driver and motor carrier safety records, adverse impacts on the driver's Pre-employment Screening Program record; financial penalties for both the driver and carrier; and possible loss of CMV driving privileges.	CDL Manual • Part A • Sec. 1 MN Truck and Passenger Regulations
Behind the Wheel—Range and Public Road	
This BTW training consists of exercises related to basic vehicle control skills and mastery of basic maneuvers necessary to operate the vehicle safely. Activities in this unit will take place on a driving range or a public road as defined in §380.605. The instructor must engage in active communication with the driver-trainees during all BTW training sessions. There is no required minimum number of instruction hours for BTW training, but training providers must determine whether driver-trainees have demonstrated proficiency in all elements of the BTW curriculum. Training instructors must document the total number of clock hours each driver-trainee spends to complete the BTW curriculum. The training must be conducted in a passenger vehicle of the same vehicle group as the applicant intends to drive.	
Unit C2.1 Vehicle Orientation	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate their familiarity with basic passenger-carrying CMV physical and operational characteristics including overall height, length, width, ground clearances, rear overhang, gross vehicle weight and gross vehicle weight rating, axle weights, wheels and rims, tires, tire ratings, mirrors, steer wheels, lighting, windshield, windshield wipers, engine compartments, basic electric system, and spare tire storage. Additionally, driver-trainees must demonstrate techniques for proper driver's seat and mirror adjustments.	
Unit C2.2 Pre-Trip, Enroute, and Post-Trip Inspection	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in conducting such pre-trip, enroute and post-trip inspections of buses and key components of §§392.7 and 396.11, and demonstrate their ability to inspect the following:	

1. Emergency exits; 2. Passenger-carrying CMV interiors (including passenger seats as applicable); 3. Restrooms and associated environmental requirements; 4. Temperature controls (for maintaining passenger comfort); and 5. Driver and passenger seat belts. Additionally, driver-trainees must demonstrate their knowledge of procedures, as applicable, in security-related inspections, including inspections for unusual wires or other abnormal visible materials, interior and exterior luggage compartments, packages or luggage left behind, and signs of cargo or vehicle tampering. Driver-trainees must be familiar with the operation of cycling-accessible lifts and the procedures for inspecting them for functionality and defects. For passenger-carrying vehicles equipped with said lifts and tie-down positions, trainee must demonstrate their ability to operate the cycling-accessible lifts.	
Unit C2.3 Baggage and/or Cargo Management	
In this unit, driver-trainees must demonstrate their ability to: 1. Properly handle passenger baggage and containers to avoid worker, passenger, and non-passenger related injuries and property damage; 2. Visually inspect baggage and containers for prohibited items, such as hazardous materials and identify such items; 3. Properly handle and secure devices associated with ADA compliance including oxygen, wheeled mobility devices, and other associated apparatuses.	
Unit C2.4 Passenger Safety Awareness Briefing	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate their ability to brief passengers on safety on topics including: Fastening seat belts, emergency exits, emergency phone contact information, fire extinguisher location, safely walking in the aisle when the bus is moving, and restroom emergency push button or switch.	
Unit C2.5 Passenger Management	
In this unit, driver-trainees must demonstrate their ability to safely load and unload passengers prior to departure and to deal with disruptive passengers.	
Unit C2.6 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proper procedures for safely navigating railroad-highway grade crossings in a passenger-carrying CMV.	

Table 3

Appendix D to Part 380—School Bus Endorsement Training Curriculum	
School bus (S) endorsement applicants must complete the curriculum outlined in this section, which applies to driver-trainees who expect to operate a "school bus" as defined in §383.5.	
Theory Instruction	
There is no required minimum number of instruction hours for theory training, but the training provider must cover all the topics set forth in the curriculum. The school bus endorsement training must, at a minimum, include the following:	
Unit D1.1 Danger Zones and Use of Mirrors	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the danger zones that exist around the school bus and the techniques to ensure the safety of those around the bus. These techniques include correct mirror adjustment and usage. The types of mirrors and their use must be discussed, as well as the requirements found in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 111 (49 CFR 571.111). Training providers must teach driver-trainees the dangers of "dart-outs." Training providers must teach driver-trainees the importance of training students how to keep out of the danger zone when around school buses and the techniques for doing so.	CDL Manual • Part B • Sec. 10
Unit D1.2 Loading and Unloading	
This unit must be instruct driver-trainees on the laws and regulations for loading and unloading, as well as the required procedures for students waiting at a bus stop and crossing the roadway at a bus stop. Special dangers involved in loading and unloading must be specifically discussed, including procedures to ensure the danger zone is clear and that no student has been caught in the doorway prior to moving the vehicle. Instruction also must be included on the proper use of lights, stop arms, crossing gates, and safe operation of the door during loading and unloading; the risks involved with leaving students unattended on a school bus; and the proper techniques for checking the bus for sleeping children and lost items at the end of each route.	CDL Manual • Part B • Sec. 10.2 SBM Unit 5.12
Unit D1.3 Vehicle Orientation	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the basic physical and operational characteristics of school buses, including overall height, length, width, ground clearances, rear overhang, Gross Vehicle Weight and Gross Vehicle Weight Rating, axle weights, wheels and rims, tires, tire ratings, mirrors, steer wheels, lighting, windshield, windshield wipers, engine compartments, basic electrical system, brake systems, as applicable, and spare tire storage. Additionally, the training providers must instruct driver-trainees in techniques for proper driver seat and mirror adjustments.	Dependent on vehicle being used
Unit D1.4 Post-Crash Procedures	
This unit must instruct driver-trainees on the proper procedures following a school bus crash. The instruction must include use of fire extinguisher(s), first aid kit(s), tending to injured passengers, post-crash vehicle securement, notification	SBM Unit 3

procedures, deciding whether to evacuate the bus, data gathering, and interaction with law enforcement officials.	
Unit D1.5 Emergency Exit and Evacuation	
This unit must teach driver-trainees their role in safely evacuating the bus in an emergency and planning for an emergency in advance. Training must include proper evacuation methods and procedures, such as the safe evacuation of students on field and activity trips who only occasionally ride school buses and thus may not be familiar with the procedures.	CDL Manual • Part B SBM Unit 3
Unit D1.6 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the dangers trains present and the importance of the school bus driver and students strictly following railroad crossing procedures. Instruction must be given on the types of crossings, warning signs and devices, and State and local procedures and regulations for school buses when crossing railroad-highway grade crossings.	CDL Manual • Part B
Unit D1.7 Student Management	
This unit must teach driver-trainees how to manage student behavior on the bus to ensure that safety is maintained and the rights of others are respected. Specific student management techniques must be discussed, including warning signs of bullying and the techniques for managing student behavior and administering discipline. Training providers must teach driver-trainees to avoid becoming distracted by student behavior while driving, especially when crossing railroad tracks and during loading and unloading.	CDL Manual • Part B SBM Unit 2
Unit D1.8 Special Safety Considerations	
This unit must teach the driver-trainees the special safety considerations and equipment in school bus operations. Topics discussed must include use of strobe lights, driving in high winds, safe backing techniques, and preventing tail swing crashes.	CDL Manual • Sec. 2.12-2.14; • Part B SBM Unit I & 5
Unit D1.9 Pre- and Post-Trip Inspections	
This unit must teach the driver-trainees the importance of pre-trip, enroute, and post-trip inspections; and provide instruction in techniques for conducting such inspections of buses as stated in §§392.7 and 396.11, and additionally demonstrate their ability to inspect the following: 1. Stop arms, 2. Crossing arms, 3. Emergency exits, 4. Fire extinguishers, 5. Passenger seats, 6. First aid kits, 7. Interior lights, and 8. Temperature control (for maintaining passenger comfort).	SBM Unit 4

Training providers must instruct driver-trainees in State and local requirements, as applicable, for inspection of school bus equipment.	
Unit D1.10 School Bus Security	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the security issues facing school bus drivers. Training providers must also teach driver-trainees potential security threats, techniques for preventing and responding to security threats, how to recognize and report suspicious behavior, and what to do in the event of a hijacking or attack on a school bus.	SBM Unit 3
Unit D1.11 Route and Stop Reviews	
This unit must teach driver-trainees the importance of planning their routes prior to beginning driving in order to avoid distraction while on the road. The training provider must also teach driver-trainees the techniques for reviewing routes and stops, as well as State and local procedures for reporting hazards along the route and at bus stops.	SBM Unit 4
Behind the Wheel—Range and Public Road	
This unit must consist of exercises related to basic vehicle control skills and mastery of basic maneuvers. Activities in this unit will take place on a driving range or a public road as defined in §380.605. The instructor must engage in active communication with the driver-trainees during all active training sessions. There is no required minimum number of instruction hours for BTW training, but the training provider must determine whether driver-trainees have demonstrated proficiency in all elements of the BTW curriculum. Training instructors must document the total number of clock hours each driver-trainee spends to complete the BTW curriculum. The training must be conducted in a school bus of the same vehicle group as the applicant intends to drive. Refer to the CDL Manual Sec. 12.	
Unit D2.1 Danger Zones and Use of Mirrors	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate the techniques necessary to ensure the safety of persons in the danger zone around the bus. Driver-trainees must practice mirror adjustment and usage. The types of mirrors and their use are shown, and cones used to demonstrate the requirements of 49 CFR 571.111.	
Unit D2.2 Loading and Unloading	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate the loading and unloading techniques learned in the theory portion of the training. Driver-trainees must demonstrate checking the vehicle for sleeping children and lost items at the end of the route.	
Unit D2.3 Emergency Exit and Evacuation	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate their role in safely evacuating the bus in an emergency.	

Unit D2.4 Special Safety Considerations	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate safe backing techniques and demonstrate their ability to avoid tail swing crashes by using reference points when making turns.	
Unit D2.5 Pre- and Post-Trip Inspections	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proficiency in conducting pre-and post-trip inspections, as stated in §§392.7 and 396.11, and of school bus-specific equipment, such as mirrors, stop arms, crossing arms, emergency exits, fire extinguishers, passenger seats, first aid kits, interior lights, and temperature control.	
Unit D2.6 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings	
Driver-trainees must demonstrate proper procedures for safely navigating railroad-highway grade crossings in a school bus.	