

Pursuing a Commercial Driver's License

A commercial driver's license (CDL) is required to drive a RCSD school bus. In an effort to recruit and retain the highest quality school bus drivers, Rankin County School District offers various trainings for those who seek to enhance their driver's licenses with the class and endorsements required by the school district.

Rankin County School District requires new bus drivers to obtain a B Class CDL with both the passenger (P) and school bus (S) endorsements. This type of license will allow a driver to use any type of bus within the district's fleet. The following steps are used to obtain the required license.

Step 1: Contact the district transportation office or the transportation supervisor of the school zone for which you want to drive. Provide your driver's license number and date of birth which the district will use to request a motor vehicle record (MVR).

Step 2: Fill out an online application through the school district's website. (Link)
<https://www.applitrack.com/rcsd/onlineapp/default.aspx>

Step 3: Study for your permit tests that the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) requires. Study materials can be provided by our transportation department or any of our transportation supervisors.

Step 4: Visit a Department of Motor Vehicles location that services commercial drivers and request a Class B commercial learner's permit with both the P and S endorsements. You will be required to take three tests for the permit. (RCSD does not require an air brakes endorsement on CDLs.)

Step 5: After receiving a permit, attend training and practice at the transportation department's bus shop. The training will include performing proper pre-trip inspections on school buses and all backing skills that are required for obtaining a CDL.

Step 6: Attend Bus School. Bus School is a class that is required by the Mississippi Department of Education. Following the class, participants will receive a certification that allows them to transport public school children.

Step 7: Take the CDL skills and road test that is required for your license. After the test is completed, scores will be sent to the DMV within two days following the test. Permit holders will then be able to return to the DMV to purchase their new commercial driver's license.

NOTE: *Please keep all itemized receipts throughout the process of obtaining a CDL. After being employed as a driver for 90 school days, RCSD will reimburse the cost of the permit and license.*