

School Bus Safety Features

With the start of another school year, First Student would like all parents to know that your children are in good hands each time they ride on a First Student bus. The safety of the children we transport is at the forefront of all we do.

Did you know that riding a bus is the safest way for children to get to and from school?

It's safer than walking, riding a bike or even riding in the family car. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that buses are 12 times safer than passenger cars.

First Student school buses are packed with state-of-the-art safety features to protect our riders.

- High-definition GPS systems are on most First Student buses, providing exact location and speed of a school bus at any time.
- Child Checkmate is an on-board electronic reminder system that reminds drivers to check for sleeping children before leaving the bus.
 - Flashing lights and extended stop arms warn motorists that children are boarding or unloading.
 - Well-anchored seats with high backs and heavy padding create a protective seating area.
 - Smaller buses for preschool children and special needs students utilize car seats or specialized restraint systems, and many have an assistant on board.

First Student buses operate under stringent safety protocols:

- Preventive maintenance inspections are conducted by certified mechanics to ensure buses are running at peak performance.
- Vehicle safety checks are performed before each route.
- Our strict no-idling policy reduces school bus emissions.

First Student drivers must meet extensive safety and training requirements, including:

- A comprehensive background check and a drug and alcohol screening
- A Department of Transportation physical exam
- More than 50 hours of classroom and behind-the-wheel training
- Monthly safety and training meetings
- Regular driving history checks and random drug and alcohol screens.

Safety is a core value at First Student.

We pride ourselves on our safety record, dedicated personnel and overall performance. Safely transporting the six million children entrusted to us on our buses each day is a responsibility we take very seriously.

For more information, visit www.firststudentinc.com.

