

POLICY

1999

5740

Non-Instructional/Business
Operations

SUBJECT: QUALIFICATIONS OF BUS DRIVERS

A person shall be qualified to operate a bus only if such person:

- a) is at least twenty-one years of age;
- b) has been issued a currently valid driver's license or permit which is valid for the operation of a bus in New York State;
- c) has passed the bus driver physical examination administered pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations;
- d) is not disqualified to drive a motor vehicle;
- e) has on file at least three character references; and
- f) has completed, or is scheduled to complete, State Education Department safety programs as required by law.

Special Requirements For New Bus Drivers

Before employing a new bus driver, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall:

- a) require such person to pass a medical examination to drive a bus;
- b) make an inquiry to the appropriate agency in every state in which the person resided, worked, and/or held a driver's license or learner's permit during the preceding three years;
- c) investigate the person's employment record during the preceding three years;
- d) request the Department of Motor Vehicles to initiate a criminal history check;
- e) require such person to submit to the mandated finger-printing procedure.

Section 509 Article 19-a of the
Vehicle and Traffic Law
Part 6 of the Rules and Regulations of
the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations
(NYCRR) Section 156.3

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #5761 -- Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers and Other Safety-Sensitive Employees.

Adopted: 6/16/99