

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**July 27, 2023**

**OFFICE OF SAFE AND ORDERLY SCHOOLS**  
**DIVISION OF PUPIL TRANSPORTATION**

- J. Approval to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 81.3, State Board Policy Chapter 81, Rule 81.3: Driver Training/Motor Vehicle Record Check  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments)

Background Information: Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-41-1 authorizes, empowers, and directs the State Board of Education to promulgate rules and regulations relating to the transportation of students enrolled in the public-school districts, including school bus driver safety in-service training and annual review of the motor vehicle driver record for school bus drivers.

The temporary rule and final action are necessary to implement the policy revisions immediately upon its filing with the Secretary of State in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-43-3.113(2)(b)(ii). See *also* Miss. Code Ann. § 25-43-3.108. For a rule to become effective immediately upon its filing, the Board is required to make a finding that the rule only confers a benefit or removes a restriction on the public or some segment thereof.

The public comment period was open from May 19, 2023, through 5:00 p.m. June 20, 2023. The MDE received no public comments.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

## Chapter 81: Transportation

### Rule 81.3 *In-Service Driver Training/Motor Vehicle Record Check*

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SAFETY IN-SERVICE TRAINING AND REVIEW OF MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER RECORD FOR BUS DRIVERS, AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 37-41- 1, MISSISSIPPI CODE, 1972, AS AMENDED

School districts shall ~~be required to~~ conduct bus driver in-service safety training with every school bus driver employed in the public schools of Mississippi. A minimum of four hours of bus driver safety training shall be conducted each semester. This training shall consist of, but not be limited to the following:

1. Loading and unloading ~~procedures~~ - at home and on campus
2. Compliance with all traffic laws
3. State/local policies
4. ~~Pre/post-trip inspections~~ and proper care and use of the school bus
5. ~~Proper discipline~~ Student management
6. Railroad ~~crossings~~ crossing ~~procedures~~
7. Proper bus evacuation drill procedures
8. Defensive Driving
9. Human Trafficking – Busing on the Lookout (BOTL)  
<https://www.ago.state.ms.us/bethesolutionbus/>
10. Accident and other emergency procedures

The State Department of Education shall provide school districts as requested with ongoing technical assistance regarding training for school bus drivers.

In addition, school districts shall annually acquire from ~~the Mississippi Department of Education, Division of Transportation, or~~ the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, Driver Services Division, a certified copy of the motor vehicle record of all regular, substitute and replacement bus drivers. The school district shall maintain a current file of the motor vehicle record for all bus drivers. An individual driver record review shall be completed prior to any driver being assigned a school bus for the purpose of transporting pupils.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 37-1-3, § 37-41-1 (Revised 3/2012 7/2023)*