

How to become a bus driver Q & A

What do I need to become a school bus driver with the NWSD?

- 21 or older
- Valid Class 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 license, and not be a novice driver.
- Must have 5 years driving experience with a class 5 license.
- Pass SGI Drivers Medical Exam.
- Pass written knowledge exam issued by SGI.
- Pass driving exam issued by SGI. This gives you an S Endorsement.
- A clean criminal record check

What cost is involved in obtaining an S endorsement?

NWSD will reimburse employees for the following cost incurred in obtaining their S Endorsement. Receipts must be submitted to the Turtleford Office.

Free	Study Guides from SGI
\$25.00	SGI Written Exam
\$95.00	SGI Driving Exam (\$40 – Road Trip, \$55 – Pre-Trip)
\$15.00	Driver Abstract (My SGI Online)
Varies	SGI Medical Exam
Free	NWSD Driver Training

*In-class and driver training will be provided by the NWSD.

*Drivers will have access to a bus to practice with.

I have an old criminal record from 32 years ago, can I still apply?

No you will not meet the NWSD requirement of a clean criminal record check, if you receive a pardon for your record you will be eligible to apply.

Where do I get a medical exam done?

Medical exams are done by most family practitioners. There will be a cost for the medical exam which may vary by each doctor's office. Submit your receipt for reimbursement.

How do I study for the written exam?

You can obtain *Saskatchewan Driver's Handbook* and *Saskatchewan Professional Driver's Handbook* from any SGI motor issuer's office or off SGI website. There is a school bus section in the *Saskatchewan Professional Driver's Handbook* that you can study.

You can do practice exams on SGI's website. The written exam consists of three sections. All three sections are multiple choice with pictures. The exam is done on a computer at SGI.

The exam consists of:

Transportation Department
Turtleford Office
Box 280
Turtleford, SK S0M 2Y0
306-845-2150



Amanda Gerow
Supervisor of Transportation

Gini Calvert
Transportation Officer

- 20 - Basic driving questions
- 30 - Road sign questions
- 15 - School bus related questions

What do I do once I pass my written exam?

You will be required to meet with the Transportation Officer. She will review all the requirements for the road test and demonstrate a pre-trip inspection. You will practice driving the bus performing all requirements for the road test with SGI.

I have met with the Transportation Officer but still don't feel ready. What can I do?

Some people need more time to feel comfortable with driving a bus than others. If you feel you would like to review or practice more with the Transportation Officer, contact the Turtleford Office and they will plan to work with you again. We want all our drivers to feel comfortable behind the wheel and have confidence when taking their pre trip and road exam. Potential drivers meeting multiple times with the Transportation Officer is common in some instances.

What does the road test consist of?

During the road test, you will be tested on basic driving skills, railway crossing procedure and 2 point turn. All road test are conducted fairly and the content of the test (number of turns, stop signs, etc.) is consistent across the province. The duration of your test may vary depending on traffic, weather conditions and other factors, but actual driving time is usually about 20 minutes.

What if I already have my S Endorsement?

If you already have your S endorsement, you will complete a pre-hire drive to assess your performance of: a pre-trip inspection, a railway crossing procedure, a two point turn and regular driving practices including driving on a gravel road.

What does NWSD In Class training consist of?

All drivers are required to complete NWSD in class training. This is approximately 10-15 hours total. This will be assigned to you via email and all courses must be completed online before you begin driving bus routes. These courses consist of WHMIS 2015 (unless you can show current valid certificate), LAFOIP and COVID training. In-class training also includes administration procedures, bus maintenance, bus safety, and emergency procedures.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

All questions can be directed to the Transportation Office Gini Calvert at the Turtleford Office (306) 845-2150. She can also be reached by email gini.calvert@nwsd.ca