

ELDT-S Task Force

Iowa Department of Education
Via Zoom
October 15, 2025 (10:00 am - 12:00 pm)

1. Mission (from [HF 395](#))
 - a. The Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Transportation, shall adopt rules on or before July 1, 2026, establishing requirements for providers of entry-level driver training.
 - b. The rules must provide for minimum training content, contact hours, and proficiency standards, and must establish a standard training course duration that ensures each training course provides all entry-level driver training requirements and specified school bus driver training requirements, including but not limited to training necessary for a passenger endorsement and a school bus endorsement.
2. Unit D1.1 Danger Zones and Use of Mirrors (Details on page 2)
 - a. Collaborate to create minimum training content
 - b. Establish contact hours
 - c. Agree on proficiency standards
3. Unit D1.2 Loading and Unloading (Details on page 2)
 - a. Collaborate to create minimum training content
 - b. Establish contact hours
 - c. Agree on proficiency standards
4. Unit D1.3 Vehicle Orientation (Details on page 2)
 - a. Collaborate to create minimum training content
 - b. Establish contact hours
 - c. Agree on proficiency standards
5. Meeting preparation for October 29
 - a. Identify the individual components of D1.4, D1.5, and D1.6
 - b. Bring content for each unit that should be included
 - c. Be prepared to discuss contact hour requirements for these unit
6. Next Meetings
 - a. Wednesday, October 29, In-person, Des Moines (D1.4, D1.5, D1.6)
 - b. Wednesday, November 5, Zoom (D1.7, D1.8, D1.9)
 - c. Wednesday, November 19, In-person, Des Moines (D1.10, D1.11, P-End Considerations)
 - d. Tuesday, December 2, Zoom (if needed)
 - e. Tuesday, December 9, Zoom (if needed)
7. Adjournment

Unit D1.1 Danger Zones and Use of Mirrors

1. Danger Zones
2. Techniques to ensure the safety of those around the bus
3. Correct mirror adjustment
4. Correct mirror usage
5. Types of mirrors and their use
6. Requirements found in FMVSS 111 ([49 CFR 571.111](#))
7. Dangers of “dart-outs”
8. Importance of training students how to keep out of the danger zone
9. Importance of training students techniques to stay out of the danger zone

Unit D1.2 Loading and Unloading

1. Laws and regulations for loading and unloading
2. Required procedures for students waiting at bus stop
3. Required procedures for students crossing the roadway at a bus stop
4. Special dangers involved in loading and unloading
 - a. Procedures to ensure the danger zone is clear
 - b. Procedures to ensure no student has been caught in the doorway
5. Proper use of lights, stop arms, and crossing gate
6. Safe operation of service door during loading and unloading
7. Risks involved with leaving students unattended on a school bus
8. Proper techniques for checking the bus for sleeping children and lost items after route

Unit D1.3 Vehicle Orientation

1. Basic physical and operational characteristics of school buses
 - a. Overall height
 - b. Overall length
 - c. Overall width
 - d. Ground clearances
 - e. Rear overhang
 - f. Gross vehicle weight (GVW)
 - g. Gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR)
 - h. Axle weights
 - i. Wheels and rims
 - j. Tires
 - k. Tire ratings
 - l. Mirrors
 - m. Steer wheels
 - n. Lighting
 - o. Windshield
 - p. Windshield wipers
 - q. Engine compartments
 - r. Basic electrical system
 - s. Brake systems
 - i. Air
 - ii. Hydraulic
 - t. Spare tire storage
2. Driver seat adjustment
3. Mirror adjustment