

CDL School Bus Endorsement Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Don't worry about getting everything right, your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations, and take breaks to retain information better.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning.

7. Use Other Tools

Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly — adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

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Questions

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- 1. What is the recommended following distance according to the good rule about bus length and speed?**
 - A. One second for every 10 feet of bus length below 20 mph**
 - B. One second for every 10 feet of bus length below 30 mph**
 - C. One second for every 10 feet of bus length below 40 mph**
 - D. One second for every 10 feet of bus length regardless of speed**
- 2. When driving a school bus with air brakes, when is stab braking recommended?**
 - A. On wet surfaces**
 - B. On icy surfaces**
 - C. On dry surfaces**
 - D. In heavy traffic**
- 3. The convex mirrors are used to monitor the _____ sides at a _____ angle.**
 - A. left and right, narrow**
 - B. front and back, steep**
 - C. left and right, wide**
 - D. rear, direct**
- 4. When following two school buses, you should maintain at least the distance of which of the following?**
 - A. One city block**
 - B. Two city blocks**
 - C. One mile**
 - D. Half a city block**
- 5. True or False: A PJC (Prayer for Judgement Continued) is treated as a conviction for school bus driver certification.**
 - A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. It depends on the situation**
 - D. Only for first-time offenders**

6. How far away should the bus stop be from students at the designated stop?

- A. At least 10 feet**
- B. At least 5 feet**
- C. At least 15 feet**
- D. At least 20 feet**

7. The area to the _____ of the bus is always considered dangerous because of passing cars.

- A. right**
- B. left**
- C. front**
- D. rear**

8. When should a driver stop the bus to restore order?

- A. When passengers are not wearing their seatbelts**
- B. When chaotic behavior occurs**
- C. In case of mechanical issues**
- D. All of the above**

9. If you arrive first at a collision scene involving other vehicles while driving a school bus, what is your first action?

- A. Call for assistance**
- B. Park the bus in a safe place**
- C. Provide first aid**
- D. Turn on hazard lights**

10. A good rule of thumb for following distance at speeds below 40 mph is to allow at least one second for each how many feet of vehicle length?

- A. 5 feet**
- B. 10 feet**
- C. 15 feet**
- D. 20 feet**

Answers

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1. C
2. C
3. C
4. A
5. A
6. A
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What is the recommended following distance according to the good rule about bus length and speed?

- A. One second for every 10 feet of bus length below 20 mph**
- B. One second for every 10 feet of bus length below 30 mph**
- C. One second for every 10 feet of bus length below 40 mph**
- D. One second for every 10 feet of bus length regardless of speed**

The recommended following distance for a school bus driver is based on the principle that the driver should allow a greater following distance as speed increases. When considering the length of the bus, the guideline states that for every 10 feet of bus length, the driver should maintain a following distance of one second; this becomes critical for ensuring adequate reaction time to avoid collisions. For larger and heavier vehicles like a school bus, a one-second following distance for every 10 feet of bus length below 40 mph provides a realistic and safe measure to accommodate the bus's size and stopping distance. This guideline offers drivers the necessary flexibility and safety at higher speeds, particularly because larger vehicles require more time to come to a complete stop compared to smaller vehicles. Furthermore, the rationale behind using 40 mph as the threshold is that most urban bus routes do not exceed this speed significantly, and maintaining this standard ensures safety in everyday driving conditions. In contrast, the other options suggest shorter following distances based on lower speed limits, which does not account for the increased stopping distance that larger vehicles experience at higher speeds.

2. When driving a school bus with air brakes, when is stab braking recommended?

- A. On wet surfaces**
- B. On icy surfaces**
- C. On dry surfaces**
- D. In heavy traffic**

Stab braking is a technique used to stop a vehicle safely in emergency situations, particularly when driving a vehicle equipped with air brakes. This method involves applying the brakes fully for a brief moment and then releasing them. This process allows the wheels to regain traction and helps prevent wheel lockup, which can lead to loss of steering control. When driving on dry surfaces, stab braking is recommended because the tires can maintain better grip on the road. The brief locking and releasing of the brakes helps manage the vehicle's stopping distance effectively while allowing the driver to maintain control. On dry surfaces, the likelihood of skidding is minimized, making stab braking a safer option in emergency braking situations. In contrast, on wet or icy surfaces, the risk of skidding increases, so different braking techniques may be more appropriate to ensure control of the vehicle. Additionally, driving in heavy traffic often requires more nuanced braking strategies that consider the stopping distances of other vehicles, making stab braking less suitable in such an environment.

3. The convex mirrors are used to monitor the _____ sides at a _____ angle.

- A. left and right, narrow**
- B. front and back, steep**
- C. left and right, wide**
- D. rear, direct**

Convex mirrors are specifically designed to provide a wider field of view compared to flat mirrors. This characteristic makes them particularly useful for monitoring the left and right sides of a vehicle, such as a school bus, allowing the driver to see more of the surroundings without having to move their head extensively. The wide angle offered by convex mirrors helps to reduce blind spots, enhancing safety by ensuring that the driver is aware of other vehicles or pedestrians that may not be directly in view. Using convex mirrors for monitoring the sides at a wide angle is important in driving contexts, especially for larger vehicles, as it facilitates better awareness of surrounding traffic and obstacles. Thus, the option that states convex mirrors are used to monitor the left and right sides at a wide angle is accurate because it highlights their effectiveness in improving visibility and safety on the road. This is why the correct choice emphasizes both the directional aspect (left and right) and the nature of the visibility (wide angle).

4. When following two school buses, you should maintain at least the distance of which of the following?

- A. One city block**
- B. Two city blocks**
- C. One mile**
- D. Half a city block**

Maintaining at least the distance of one city block when following two school buses is important for several reasons. School buses often make frequent stops to pick up and drop off children, and keeping a safe distance allows for adequate reaction time in case of sudden stops or emergencies. This distance also ensures that children boarding or exiting the bus have enough space and time to do so safely, without the risk of being in the path of a moving vehicle. Additionally, this distance helps reduce the chances of rear-end collisions, particularly since drivers behind school buses may become distracted or underestimate their stopping distance. The requirement to maintain a distance of one city block aligns with safe driving practices around school zones and reinforces the emphasis on child safety during school hours. Other options, such as maintaining two city blocks or one mile, might be unnecessarily excessive for practical driving situations. Similarly, maintaining only half a city block does not provide sufficient distance for safe stops or emergencies, especially in bustling areas where children are present. Therefore, the recommendation of one city block strikes a balance between safety and practicality.

5. True or False: A PJC (Prayer for Judgement Continued) is treated as a conviction for school bus driver certification.

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. It depends on the situation**
- D. Only for first-time offenders**

A Prayer for Judgment Continued (PJC) is an arrangement in legal proceedings that allows a defendant to avoid a formal conviction while still admitting responsibility for the offense. However, for the purpose of school bus driver certification, a PJC is treated as a conviction. This is crucial for maintaining safety and integrity in school bus operations, as any serious legal issues can reflect on a person's qualifications to transport children. Modern regulations regarding commercial driving, especially for positions involving the safety of minors, typically view any legal finding that could indicate responsibility for a crime—regardless of the exact status of that finding—as a potential risk factor. Hence, a PJC, which effectively acknowledges wrongdoing, is treated as a conviction when considering the eligibility for school bus driver certification. This helps to ensure that all drivers meet a high standard of accountability and can be trusted to provide safe transportation for students. In this context, other options may suggest varied interpretations, but the guidelines governing school bus driver certifications strive for consistency and clarity in how legal matters affect a driver's eligibility.

6. How far away should the bus stop be from students at the designated stop?

- A. At least 10 feet**
- B. At least 5 feet**
- C. At least 15 feet**
- D. At least 20 feet**

The correct distance for a bus to stop from students at a designated stop is at least 10 feet. This distance is important for ensuring the safety of students boarding and alighting from the bus. By maintaining this buffer zone, it minimizes the risk of accidents that could occur if the bus is too close to the children, providing them with enough space to safely move around without the risk of being struck by the bus or its surroundings. Establishing a clear distance creates a safety measure that allows students to enter and exit the bus in an orderly fashion, reducing the chance of incidents caused by crowded or hurried movements near the vehicle. Overall, the 10-foot distance is a widely recognized safety guideline that helps protect children during critical moments of loading and unloading from the bus.

7. The area to the _____ of the bus is always considered dangerous because of passing cars.

- A. right
- B. left**
- C. front
- D. rear

The area to the left of the bus is considered dangerous due to the proximity of passing cars, especially in situations where the bus is making a left turn or when students are boarding or disembarking. This side of the bus faces oncoming traffic, making it crucial for bus drivers to be vigilant for vehicles that may attempt to pass the bus from the left. The dynamics of road traffic often place more risk on the left side due to the constant flow of cars in the lanes adjacent to the bus, thus emphasizing the importance of caution in this area to ensure the safety of passengers. Understanding this positioning helps drivers take appropriate steps to protect students and themselves while navigating through traffic situations that involve other vehicles.

8. When should a driver stop the bus to restore order?

- A. When passengers are not wearing their seatbelts
- B. When chaotic behavior occurs**
- C. In case of mechanical issues
- D. All of the above

Restoring order on a school bus is critical for the safety of all passengers. Stopping the bus when chaotic behavior occurs is necessary to ensure that the driver can address the situation directly. This decision allows the driver to regain control and ensure a safe environment for everyone on board. Chaotic behavior can distract the driver and could lead to unsafe driving conditions, making it paramount to stop and manage the situation effectively. While addressing passengers not wearing seatbelts is important for safety, and mechanical issues could necessitate stopping the bus for safety reasons, the primary focus here is on the immediate need to handle disorderly conduct. Thus, stopping for chaotic behavior directly addresses the concerns of safety and orderliness within the bus environment.

9. If you arrive first at a collision scene involving other vehicles while driving a school bus, what is your first action?

- A. Call for assistance**
- B. Park the bus in a safe place**
- C. Provide first aid**
- D. Turn on hazard lights**

When you arrive first at a collision scene while driving a school bus, the initial priority is to ensure safety for yourself and others involved. Parking the bus in a safe place allows you to create a secure environment, separating your vehicle from the potential hazards of the collision. It prevents further accidents and keeps the area manageable for first responders when they arrive. While calling for assistance, providing first aid, and turning on hazard lights are also important actions to take, they can be done after ensuring your vehicle is parked safely. Positioning the bus can also help to direct traffic or contain the situation, which is crucial in emergency situations to minimize risk and manage the scene effectively. This makes it the correct first response in handling a collision scene.

10. A good rule of thumb for following distance at speeds below 40 mph is to allow at least one second for each how many feet of vehicle length?

- A. 5 feet**
- B. 10 feet**
- C. 15 feet**
- D. 20 feet**

The correct answer is based on a common guideline used to determine safe following distances for vehicles, particularly for larger vehicles like school buses. The rule of thumb states that for every 10 feet of the vehicle's length, a driver should allow at least one second of following distance at speeds below 40 mph. Given that typical school buses range in length from about 30 to 40 feet, employing this rule of thumb helps ensure adequate space to react if the vehicle in front needs to stop suddenly. The one-second rule provides reassurance that the bus driver has enough time to respond to any sudden changes in traffic conditions, thereby enhancing safety for both the bus driver and the passengers. By focusing on the measurement of 10 feet, this rule aligns well with the standard practice of maintaining a safe distance according to vehicle size and speed. It is crucial for bus drivers, who transport children and may need extra time for stopping, to adhere to this guideline to prevent accidents on the road.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://cdlschoolbusendorsement.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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