

## **Special Needs Student Transportation Personnel Standards**

### **Personnel Requirements**

1. Every driver must possess a current Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles 7-D Drivers License or CDL with DTE school bus endorsement and maintain 7D Drivers License eligibility throughout her/his term of service.
2. Every person involved in transporting students must follow any and all relevant federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
3. Smoking or alcohol use is never permitted in or around any vehicle used for student transportation.

### **Suggested Best Practices for Personnel**

1. Additional screenings such as out-of-state criminal records checks **may** be instituted by the transportation network, collaborative, or school district.
2. The transportation network, collaborative, or school district reserves the right to make a final determination of driver and monitor acceptability and may require that a driver or monitor be discharged.
3. The transportation provider, transportation network, collaborative and/or school district should train drivers in procedures for transporting special needs students, with additional disability-specific procedures as required.
4. Driver training should precede the start of transporting students and should be updated periodically during the school year.

Transportation networks, educational collaboratives, and/or school districts **may** require transportation providers to:

- conduct drug and alcohol screening of potential drivers and monitors
- periodically conduct this screening of current drivers and monitors
- permit random drug or alcohol testing of a driver or monitor upon request
- provide access to the driving records of a driver upon request
- provide drivers with professional training in vehicle operation and safe driving
- provide drivers and monitors with training in CPR administration