



# MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL

TR-13 School Bus Inspection Form

School Year 2022-2023

This form is required in accordance with §20-10-101 and §61-9-502, MCA. Vehicles not approved on first inspection must be reinspected by the Montana Highway Patrol as soon as all defects are corrected.

**Shaded fields must be verified by the Highway Patrol.**

County # and Name				School System # and Name			
Vehicle I.D. # (VIN)	Bus Number	Model Year	License #		Rated Capacity		
Chassis Make	Body Make	Bus Type			Type of Fuel		
Wheelchair Lift Equipped?	Wheelchair Tiedowns Are		Ownership				

## INSPECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL

Semester 1       Semester 2

Items Listed in the Montana School Bus Standards		Approved				Items listed in the Montana School Bus Standards		Approved			
Page*	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Corr	Page*	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Corr
30	Identification - Front					48	Wheelchair Forward Facing (Post 1993)				
32	Head Lamps					39	Belt Cutter				
19	Color – National School Bus Yellow					32	Interior Lamps				
33	Turn Signal Lamps – Front					19	Ceiling - Interior				
33	Turn Signal Lamps - Side (post 1987)					37	Seating				
32	Red and Amber Signals - Front					27	Floor				
34	Marker Lamps - Front					17	Aisle				
44	Windshield					32	Tools - Storage				
44	Windshield Wipers					43	Windows				
35	Exterior Mirrors					24	Warning Device (Post July 2007)				
21	Battery					24	Buzzer - Emergency Door				
22	Generator or Alternator					24	Emergency Door				
21	Service Door					33	Red and Amber Signals - Rear				
33	Head Lamp Indicator					33	Turn Signal Lamps - Rear				
30	Horn					33	Stop Lamps				
35	Interior Mirror					34	Marker Lamps - Rear				
31	Speedometer					34	Strobe Light - Rear (Mandatory)				
17	Brakes					30	Identification - Rear				
38	Driver Seat Belt					26	Exhaust System (No Leaks)				
39	Steering Gear					28	Fuel Tank				
24	Fire Extinguisher (5lbs)					41	Tires – Rear: 2/32", Front: 4/32" (min)				
25	First Aid Kit					29	Heaters				
26	Bodily Fluids Kit					40	Stop Arm - (Front Mandatory)				
20	Defroster					40	Rear Stop Arm 40ft. mandatory*				
32	Additional Red Flashing Lights (Optional)**					40	Extended Stop Arm (July 2022) Additional Flashing Lights**				

\*Page number reference in the Montana School Bus Standards (2022 Edition)

\*\*According to the 2022 Montana School Bus Standards resulting from legislation passed in 2021-Extended Stop Arm and Additional Red Lights

On first inspection, this bus is: [ ] Approved [ ] Not Approved

On second inspection, this bus is: [ ] Approved [ ] Not Approved

Inspecting Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspecting Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of District Official \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **TR-13 Montana Highway Patrol School Bus Inspection Form**

In accordance with MCA, 20-10-101(4)(a)(i), a school bus must comply with the bus standards established by the Board of Public Education as verified by the Department of Justice's semiannual inspection of school buses and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Montana Highway Patrol must inspect all school buses used to transport students. Bus inspections must be performed at least 30 days prior to the first semester and by January 31 for the second semester. 61-9-502, MCA.

Only school buses that pass inspection may be used to transport students and only school buses that pass inspection will receive state and county transportation reimbursement. A school bus that fails to pass inspection will not be eligible for state and county reimbursement until the bus is re-inspected and approved by the inspecting officer.

The school district is responsible for contacting the Montana Highway Patrol for bus inspections. Nothing in this rule precludes the Montana Highway Patrol from inspecting school buses at other times as the highway patrol sees fit. Buses that are placed in operation after the school semester has begun must be inspected and approved by the Montana Highway Patrol before the vehicle is operated on the established route. 10.7.110, ARM.

### **2022 Montana School Bus Standards**

The Board of Public Education has adopted the amendments to ARM 10.64.301 pertaining to the Montana School Bus Requirements.

The 2022 Montana School Bus Standards implement the new laws improving school bus safety which were passed by the 2021 Montana Legislature.

When a school bus route includes a stop that requires a child to cross a roadway, the school bus must be equipped with an extended stop arm that partially obstructs the roadway.

An extended stop arm must:

- meet the requirements of a stop arm;
- have flashing red lights that meet the requirements of 61-9-402(3), MCA;
- be capable of extending a distance of at least 54 inches from the school bus at a height of not less than 36 inches;
- have an illuminated stop sign.

Additional red flashing lights may be mounted to the front and to the rear at a height of at least 36 inches and not more than 72 inches from the ground. If additional red lights are mounted, they must be installed so that they can be actuated only if the school bus is stopped. 61-9-402(3)(a)-(c), MCA