

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: CDE Division of School Operations, School Transportation Unit

DATE: May 9, 2024

RE: Notice of Rulemaking for 1 CCR 301-25 and 1 CCR 301-26

Background:

Below please find information to support the Notice of Rulemaking for 1 CCR 301-25 Colorado Minimum Standards Governing School Transportation Vehicles and 1 CCR 301-26 Colorado Rules for the Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of School Transportation Vehicles.

The Department has identified a number of technical adjustments necessary for the transportation rules to ensure that these rules appropriately reflect federal regulations, state statutes, and best practices to provide for the safe transportation of students.

The proposed changes to the Minimum Standards include:

- Registration of service providers every five years;
- Clarification on federal jurisdiction over new school transportation vehicles;
- Use of interior luggage racks;
- Clarification vehicle leases vs. vehicle rentals;
- Clarification on location of forward-most seat behind driver;
- Incorporation of standards of the Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc., the National Fire Protection Association, and the Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs from the Federal Highway Administration.

The proposed changes to the Operations Rules include:

- Clarification on state and federal training requirements;
- Registration of service providers every five years and certification that only vehicles meeting or exceeding Colorado Minimum Standards will be leased, rented, or used in contracted services;
- Require transportation directors to attend the CDE New to Transportation Class within the first 12 months of employment; and
- Clarification on use of alternating flashing red warning signal lamps.





The supporting material for this item is available on BoardDocs. These include a redline of each of the proposed rules, a clean copy of each of the proposed rules, and presentation slides. Additionally, any feedback received on the proposed rules prior to the May Board meeting will be added to BoardDocs.

Staff Recommendation:

CDE staff recommends that the board vote to approve a notice of a rulemaking hearing to consider proposed amendments to 1 CCR 301-25 Colorado Minimum Standards Governing School Transportation Vehicles and 1 CCR 301-26 Colorado Rules for the Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of School Transportation Vehicles. Upon approving a notice, a rulemaking hearing would be scheduled for the board's August meeting.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Jennifer Okes (okes_j@cde.state.co.us).

