

SCHOOL BUS OPERATOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING

- I.** This policy is necessary to implement the substantive and procedural standards required to prohibit a school bus operator from driving while that operator has a prohibited drug and/or alcohol as evidenced by a test showing and presence of drugs, drug metabolites, or alcohol. The spirit and intent of this policy rests upon two (2) principles. The first principle recognizes the importance of securing, implementing and maintaining exemplary vehicle operator standards for student transportation activities of the Board, especially in school bus operations, where considerations of safety, the welfare of student passengers and the motoring public are of paramount importance. The second principle recognizes that the Board has the responsibility, as an agency working with children and youth, and a special obligation to reinforce the values inherent in its curriculum and instructional objectives through appropriate attitude and behavior.
- II.** The overall goal of controlled substance testing is to ensure a drug and alcohol free transportation environment which, in turn, would reduce the potential of accidents, and, casualties related to accidents, in the student transportation system and to participate with the transportation industry in the effort to eliminate drug and alcohol use and abuse in the transportation industry.
- III.** The Talbot County Board of Education shall implement a drug and alcohol testing program for school bus operators. The program testing procedures shall meet the standards established by the following:
- U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration Regulations
49 FR Parts 382 et al as originally published February 15, 1994 and including any subsequent amendments
 - Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Regulations
CFR Part 40, as originally published December 1, 1989 and including any subsequent amendments
 - C.O.M.A.R. 13A.06.07.08 Maryland State Department of Education Alcohol and Controlled Substances Use and Testing
 - Talbot County Public Schools Administrative Procedures for Bus Driver and Alcohol Testing