



REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

# 7D Operator Responsibilities

Registry of Motor Vehicles, Vehicle Safety & Compliance Services  
PO Box 199109 · Boston, MA 02119-9109 · Email: Schoolbus7dnotify@dot.state.ma.us

**Pre-trip inspection:** All 7D operators are required to complete morning and afternoon pre-trip inspections of the vehicle to ensure safe operation.

Pre-trip reports must be recorded, and a copy must be present with the operator during daily operation. Operators should immediately notify company officials of any defects.

**Operators must check that the following required equipment and vehicle components are present and in proper working order.**

1. Tires
  - a. Minimum tread depth of 4/32 inches
2. Lighting Devices
  - a. Headlights (upper and lower beams)
  - b. Directionals (front and rear)
  - c. Stop lights
  - d. Reverse lights
  - a. Four-way flashers
  - b. License plate light
  - c. School bus lights
3. Brakes
  - a. Service
  - b. Parking
4. Mirrors
5. Exhaust
6. Fluid leaks
7. Doors
8. Windshield wipers and fluid
9. Horn
10. Interior of Vehicle
  - a. Seatbelts (safety belts)
  - b. Child seats/ booster seats (if necessary)
  - c. Door warning device
  - d. Clean interior
  - e. Heater and defroster
  - f. All vehicles must have an interior school bus light indicator
  - g. All vehicles must have an audible back-up alarm
11. Current registration
12. Front and rear pupil plates
13. Current inspection stickers
  - a. Annual state inspection sticker
  - b. Semi-annual 7D inspection sticker
14. Safety equipment
  - a. 2 chock blocks
  - b. First aid kit
  - c. Fire extinguisher properly charged and mounted accessible to driver- total rating of 2A10BC or greater with hose
  - d. 3 flares or safety triangles
  - e. Body fluid clean up kit
  - f. Seat belt cutter
  - g. Fire/Evacuation blanket (wheelchair vehicles only)
15. Vehicles 2018 or newer must have a child reminder system
16. Wheelchair lift if equipped

All 7D drivers shall be required to perform daily pre-trip inspections of their vehicles and to report promptly in writing to their employer of any defects or deficiencies discovered that may affect the safety of the vehicle's operation or result in its mechanical breakdown. *Chapter 90, Section 7B (16)*.