

### § 383.121

- (f) Effects of road grade and curvature on motor vehicle handling with filled, half-filled and empty tanks;
- (g) Proper use of emergency systems; and
- (h) For drivers of DOT specification tank vehicles, retest and marking requirements.

#### **§ 383.121 Requirements for hazardous materials endorsement.**

In order to obtain a Hazardous Material Endorsement each applicant must have such knowledge as is required of a driver of a hazardous materials laden vehicle, from information contained in 49 CFR parts 171, 172, 173, 177, 178, and 397 on the following:

- (a) Hazardous materials regulations including:
  - (1) Hazardous materials table;
  - (2) Shipping paper requirements;
  - (3) Marking;
  - (4) Labeling;
  - (5) Placarding requirements;
  - (6) Hazardous materials packaging;
  - (7) Hazardous materials definitions and preparation;
  - (8) Other regulated material (e.g., ORM-D);
  - (9) Reporting hazardous materials accidents; and
  - (10) Tunnels and railroad crossings.
- (b) Hazardous materials handling including:
  - (1) Forbidden Materials and Packages;
  - (2) Loading and Unloading Materials;
  - (3) Cargo Segregation;
  - (4) Passenger Carrying Buses and Hazardous Materials;
  - (5) Attendance of Motor Vehicles;
  - (6) Parking;
  - (7) Routes;
  - (8) Cargo Tanks; and
  - (9) "Safe Havens."
- (c) Operation of emergency equipment including:
  - (1) Use of equipment to protect the public;
  - (2) Special precautions for equipment to be used in fires;
  - (3) Special precautions for use of emergency equipment when loading or unloading a hazardous materials laden motor vehicle; and
  - (4) Use of emergency equipment for tank vehicles.

### 49 CFR Ch. III (10-1-10 Edition)

- (d) Emergency response procedures including:
  - (1) Special care and precautions for different types of accidents;
  - (2) Special precautions for driving near a fire and carrying hazardous materials, and smoking and carrying hazardous materials;
  - (3) Emergency procedures; and
  - (4) Existence of special requirements for transporting Class A and B explosives.

#### **§ 383.123 Requirements for a school bus endorsement.**

- (a) An applicant for a school bus endorsement must satisfy the following three requirements:
  - (1) Qualify for passenger vehicle endorsement. Pass the knowledge and skills test for obtaining a passenger vehicle endorsement.
  - (2) Knowledge test. Must have knowledge covering at least the following three topics:
    - (i) Loading and unloading children, including the safe operation of stop signal devices, external mirror systems, flashing lights and other warning and passenger safety devices required for school buses by State or Federal law or regulation.
    - (ii) Emergency exits and procedures for safely evacuating passengers in an emergency.
    - (iii) State and Federal laws and regulations related to safely traversing highway rail grade crossings.
  - (3) Skills test. Must take a driving skills test in a school bus of the same vehicle group (see § 383.91(a)) as the school bus applicant will drive.
  - (4) *Exception.* Knowledge and skills tests administered before September 30, 2002 and approved by FMCSA as meeting the requirements of this section, meet the requirements of paragraphs (a)(2) and (a)(3) of this section.
- (b) *Substitute for driving skills test.* (1) At the discretion of a State, the driving skills test required in paragraph (a)(3) of this section may be waived for an applicant who is currently licensed, has experience driving a school bus, has a good driving record, and meets the conditions set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.
  - (2) An applicant must certify and the State must verify that, during the two-

year period immediately prior to applying for the school bus endorsement, the applicant:

(i) Held a valid CDL with a passenger vehicle endorsement to operate a school bus representative of the group he or she will be driving;

(ii) Has not had his or her driver's license or CDL suspended, revoked or canceled or been disqualified from operating a CMV;

(iii) Has not been convicted of any of the disqualifying offenses in §383.51(b) while operating a CMV or of any offense in a non-CMV that would be disqualifying under §383.51(b) if committed in a CMV;

(iv) Has not had more than one conviction of any of the serious traffic violations defined in §383.5, while operating any type motor vehicle;

(v) Has not had any conviction for a violation of State or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than a parking violation) arising in connection with any traffic accident;

(vi) Has not been convicted of any motor vehicle traffic violation that resulted in an accident; and

(vii) Has been regularly employed as a school bus driver, has operated a school bus representative of the group the applicant seeks to drive, and provides evidence of such employment.

(3) After September 30, 2006, the provisions in paragraph (b) of this section do not apply.

[67 FR 49760, July 31, 2002, as amended at 70 FR 56593, Sept. 28, 2005]

APPENDIX TO SUBPART G OF PART 383—  
REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS—  
SAMPLE GUIDELINES

The following is a sample of the specific types of items which a State may wish to include in the knowledge and skills tests that it administers to CDL applicants. This appendix closely follows the framework of §§383.111 and 383.113. It is intended to provide more specific guidance and suggestion to States. Additional detail in this appendix is not binding and States may depart from it at their discretion provided their CDL program tests for the general areas of knowledge and skill specified in §§383.111 and 383.113.

EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE ELEMENTS

(a) *Safe operations regulations.* Driver-related elements of the following regulations:

(1) Motor vehicle inspection, repair, and maintenance requirements as contained in parts 393 and 396 of this title;

(2) Procedures for safe vehicle operations as contained in part 392 of this title;

(3) The effects of fatigue, poor vision, hearing, and general health upon safe commercial motor vehicle operation as contained in parts 391, 392, and 395 of this title;

(4) The types of motor vehicles and cargoes subject to the requirements contained in part 397 of this title; and

(5) The effects of alcohol and drug use upon safe commercial motor vehicle operations as contained in parts 391 and 395 of this title.

(b) *Commercial motor vehicle safety control systems.* Proper use of the motor vehicle's safety system, including lights, horns, side and rear-view mirrors, proper mirror adjustments, fire extinguishers, symptoms of improper operation revealed through instruments, motor vehicle operation characteristics, and diagnosing malfunctions. Commercial motor vehicle drivers shall have knowledge on the correct procedures needed to use these safety systems in an emergency situation, e.g., skids and loss of brakes.

(c) *Safe vehicle control—(1) Control systems.* The purpose and function of the controls and instruments commonly found on commercial motor vehicles.

(2) *Basic control.* The proper procedures for performing various basic maneuvers, including:

(i) Starting, warming up, and shutting down the engine;

(ii) Putting the vehicle in motion and stopping;

(iii) Backing in a straight line; and

(iv) Turning the vehicle, e.g., basic rules, off-tracking, right/left turns and right curves.

(3) *Shifting.* The basic shifting rules and terms, as well as shift patterns and procedures for common transmissions, including:

(i) Key elements of shifting, e.g., controls, when to shift and double clutching;

(ii) Shift patterns and procedures; and

(iii) Consequences of improper shifting.

(4) *Backing.* The procedures and rules for various backing maneuvers, including:

(i) Backing principles and rules; and

(ii) Basic backing maneuvers, e.g., straight-line backing, and backing on a curved path.

(5) *Visual search.* The importance of proper visual search, and proper visual search methods, including:

(i) Seeing ahead and to the sides;

(ii) Use of mirrors; and

(iii) Seeing to the rear.

(6) *Communication.* The principles and procedures for proper communications and the hazards of failure to signal properly, including:

(i) Signaling intent, e.g., signaling when changing speed or direction in traffic;