CDL Passenger Endorsement Cheat Sheet

Study Section 4 of the commercial driver handbook. Use the manual for your state to prepare for its tests.

Check the passenger vehicle

Inspect exit operation, emergency equipment, aisles, handholds and doors. The federal standee-line rule keeps standing passengers behind the marked line while the bus is in motion. 49 CFR 392.62

Know when to stop at a railroad crossing

When the stop rule applies, stop between 15 and 50 feet from the nearest rail. Look and listen before crossing and choose a gear that avoids shifting on the tracks. Review the stated exceptions. 49 CFR 392.10

Check your endorsement and training

A commercial bus that requires a CDL needs the appropriate passenger endorsement. First-time passenger applicants subject to ELDT complete theory and behind-the-wheel instruction before the skills test. FMCSA entry-level training

Quick review

Cover the answers as you review, or take the interactive practice test.

1. When inspecting the interior of a passenger bus during a pre-trip inspection, what must you check on emergency exits?

Answer: That all emergency exit doors and windows are clearly labeled, unlocked, and open/latch smoothly with working warning buzzers

Every emergency door and push-out window must be unobstructed, unlocked during transit, properly marked, and equipped with an operative warning buzzer. CDL Manual §4.1.2 — Interior Inspection & Emergency Exits

2. Where is the standee line located on a transit or intercity bus, and what is its rule?

Answer: A 2-inch-wide white or yellow line on the floor behind the driver's seat; no passenger may stand forward of this line while the bus is moving

49 CFR §393.90 requires a 2-inch standee line (or barrier) behind the driver's seat; passengers standing ahead of it obstruct the driver's right-mirror view and are prohibited while in motion. CDL Manual §4.2.3, Standee Line

3. According to standard CDL guidance, what should you do before refueling a passenger bus?

Answer: Avoid refueling with passengers aboard unless necessary, and never do it inside a closed building

49 CFR §392.50 prohibits fueling a bus in a closed building with passengers on board, and drivers should unload passengers whenever practical before refueling. CDL Manual §4.5, Prohibited Practices