

# SAFETY AWARENESS

*Brief Topic Safety Refresher Training For Associates*

2024

## School Bus Driving Safety

When you drive a school bus, you must deal with conditions on the road as well as passenger distractions inside the vehicle. Take care of yourself and your passengers by practicing the following basic tips for bus drivers of all kinds.

### **Do Not Lose Your Cool**

Distractions inside the bus are no reason to drive precariously. If you must address a passenger issue, pull over. Otherwise, you put everyone's safety at risk.



### **Maintain Your Vehicle**

Inspect your vehicle before each trip. The most important thing is to check your brakes—learn how to do this and how to identify safety defects.

### **Know Your No-Zone**

Obviously, your blind spots are larger than those on regular-sized vehicles. However, other drivers may be unaware of this, so be attentive in constantly checking for smaller vehicles in your no-zone.

### **Be Careful in Work Zones**

Where there is construction, there are extremely narrow lanes. Take your time going through these work zones—stay alert and stay focused. Statistics show that an average of 14 deaths happen every year because of school bus collisions.

### **Take Advantage of Your Height**

Your vehicle's height will help you anticipate braking situations; however, also be aware that it causes low visibility of people—especially small children—directly beneath you. Be especially cautious of your height if you drive a school bus.

### **Back up Carefully**

Only run your vehicle in reverse if it is absolutely necessary. Take all steps to ensure safety of those around you, including moving slowly and activating warning flashers

