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Back to School Safety



In the next two weeks we will see many students returning to school after the summer break. Pedestrian-vehicle injuries are a leading cause of death for children ages 5 to 14. Kids are back from summer camp, school will be in session again soon and school buses will be out on the streets. That means drivers need to step up safety around school zones, crosswalks, bus stops and wherever children may be playing outside. Here are some back-to-school tips:

- Be familiar with school zones. Get in the habit of noticing where school zones and crosswalks are on routes that you normally take. Accidents, including pedestrian accidents, are far more likely to occur locally on routes with which drivers are more familiar and comfortable.
- 2. Stop for school bus lights. Always stop for school buses with flashing red lights. Drivers approaching the bus must come to a full stop for the duration that the red lights are on. Some school buses have flashing yellow lights also, which means that drivers may proceed with extreme caution. Bus drivers often engage the flashing yellow lights before the flashing red lights, signaling that they are about to stop.
- 3. Obey crossing guards. School crossing guards are given police training and the same authority as local traffic police in most areas, so disobeying a crossing guard could get you in some serious trouble. Remember that driving on major streets where crossing guards and crosswalks are observed is safer than taking "short-cut" side streets where



August 2nd, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Driver Appreciation Week is Sept 8-14th



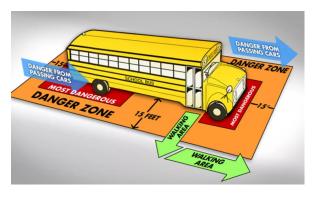
National Truck Driver Appreciation Week, an annual celebration of America's 3.5 million professional truck drivers, is the motoring public's opportunity to thank truck drivers for delivering critical goods to their communities.

Because professional truck drivers deliver hotdogs, drinks, hats, and everything that goes into America's favorite pastime, ATA decided to honor truck drivers on Friday, September 13 with special recognition at Nationals Park in Washington, DC during the Washington Nationals vs. Atlanta Braves game.

This year, National Truck Driver Appreciation Week runs September 8-14. Trucking industry organizations honor truck drivers by hosting company barbeques, offering safety bonuses, handing out safety awards, and making other special efforts. Trucking Moves America Forward, the trucking's industry-wide image movement, is again offering state trucking associations partnership opportunities on strategically located National Truck Driver Appreciation Week billboards.

children may be unattended.

4. Anticipate the worst. The speed and distance away of oncoming cars is more difficult for young children to judge. Always anticipate the chance that a small child may run in front of



you by slowing down and preparing to brake.

- 5. Be careful around parked vehicles. Be especially careful in areas with parked vehicles on the side of the road. Children waiting to cross may be especially difficult to see behind parked sport-utility vehicles.
- 6. Turn your headlights on. Drive with headlights on in areas with children and pedestrians. The AAA says that the use of headlights can reduce pedestrian accidents by about 25 percent.
- 7. Avoid using cell phones when driving. Cell phones are a known distraction. Never use hand-held cell phones while driving, and never use hands-free cell phones while driving in school zones or areas with children. The same goes for activities that distract the driver, such as changing CDs, looking at notes and reading maps.
- 8. Avoid reversing. Try to avoid reversing your vehicle in areas with children. It's more difficult to see short children and attend to your car's blind spots while reversing.



- 9. Don't speed. Remember that the speed limit in most school zones during school times or when children are present is 25 miles per hour. Bad weather, or areas with limited visibility, will require a lower speed. Your visibility to pedestrians, your ability to see them and your stopping distance all may be greatly impaired by weather or road conditions so follow common sense and slow down.
- 10. Don't honk at pedestrians or bicyclists. Honking at a child, whether on foot or on a bicycle, is generally not a good idea. The noise could possibly cause the startled child to trip or fall and be in a dangerous position for other approaching traffic. School Buses and Laws

Even if you don't have kids in school, it's not hard to see the increase in school buses around this time. Laws vary by state, but usually you have to stop if a school bus is loading or unloading—no matter what side of the street it's on. Passing a school bus while its red lights are flashing is illegal in every state. Watch for school buses stopping at railroad tracks. Make sure to familiarize yourself with the local laws regarding school buses. In their guide, "Reducing Illegal Passing of School Buses," the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that many school buses are illegally passed about once a day. Some buses are even passed on the right (the side children use)

FMCSA Issues Expanded FAQs on Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse Rule

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has issued on its <u>website</u> an expanded list of Frequently Asked Questions and other information on the agency's drug and

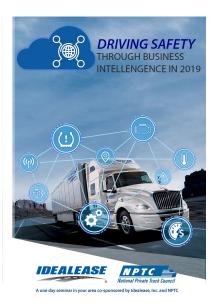
CVSA's Brake Safety Week is Sept.



The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's (CVSA) Brake Safety Week is scheduled for Sept. 15-21. Throughout that week, enforcement officials will conduct roadside safety inspections on commercial motor vehicles throughout North America. Vehicles with critical brake violations, or other critical vehicle inspection item violations, will be restricted from traveling until those violations are corrected. Vehicles without critical vehicle inspection item violations are eligible to receive a CVSA decal indicating that the vehicle passed inspection.

During this year's Brake Safety Week, inspectors will be paying special attention to brake hoses/tubing. While checking these brake system components is always part of the North American Standard Inspection Program, CVSA is highlighting brake hoses/tubing as a reminder of their importance to vehicle mechanical fitness and safety.

Register Now to Attend an Idealease/NPTC Safety Seminar This Fall!



The fall schedule has now been released. Join us at a safety seminar in August, September or October to hear the latest updates on regulations and compliance.

Fall 2019

| 8/21/2019 | San Leandro, CA |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 9/10/2019 | Chattanooga, TN |
| 9/11/2019 | Chattanooga TN |

alcohol testing clearinghouse rule. The new rule goes into effect on January 6, 2020.

The web page allows employers and drivers to subscribe to receive emails from FMCSA with news, updates, and information to help prepare to use the clearinghouse. Employers and drivers will be able to register with the clearinghouse beginning in



Fall 2019 to input and access data in the system once it becomes effective

Top Five FAQ's:

1. What is the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse (Clearinghouse) and what information will it contain?

Answer: The Clearinghouse is a secure online database that will give employers, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), State Driver Licensing Agencies (SDLAs), and State law enforcement personnel real-time information about commercial driver's license (CDL) and commercial learner's permit (CLP) holders' drug and alcohol program violations.

The Clearinghouse will contain records of violations of drug and alcohol prohibitions in 49 CFR Part 382, Subpart B, including positive drug or alcohol test results and test refusals. When a driver completes the return-to-duty (RTD) process and follow-up testing plan, this information will also be recorded in the Clearinghouse.

2. If a driver has a drug and alcohol program violation in one State, then applies for a commercial driver's license (CDL) in another State, will the Clearinghouse be able to connect that driver's drug and alcohol violation history to the new CDL?

Answer: Yes. The Clearinghouse will identify drivers who move frequently and obtain CDLs in different States and link those CDLs, in order to maintain complete and accurate information on such drivers.

3. How will driver data be protected in the Clearinghouse?

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) takes the protection of personal information very seriously. The Clearinghouse will meet all relevant Federal security standards and FMCSA will verify the effectiveness of the security protections on a regular basis.

- •Clearinghouse information will not be available to the public; only authorized users will be able to register and access the Clearinghouse for designated purposes.
- The Clearinghouse will require authentication, via a login.gov username and password, to access records. Login.gov, a shared service which offers secure online access to participating government systems, also requires the completion of a user verification process to ensure the proper person is using those credentials.
- Drivers registered in the Clearinghouse will be able to access their Clearinghouse records at any time, and at no cost to them. Drivers will only be able to access their own information, not information about other drivers.
- FMCSA will only share detailed drug and alcohol violation information with a prospective or current employer, and/or their designated consortium/third-party administrator (C/TPA), when an employer or designated C/TPA has requested and received specific consent from the driver. Drivers will be able to see the information that

| 9/12/2019 | Nashville, TN |
|------------|---------------------|
| 9/17/2019 | Louisville, KY |
| 9/18/2019 | Green Bay, WI |
| 9/19/2019 | Springfield, IL |
| 10/3/2019 | Erie, PA |
| 10/8/2019 | Chicago, IL |
| 10/8/2019 | Everett, WA |
| 10/9/2019 | Eugene, OR |
| 10/15/2019 | Reno, NV |
| 10/22/2019 | Salt Lake City, UT |
| 10/23/2019 | Lexington, KY |
| 10/23/2019 | Modesto/Turlock, CA |

Idealease and the National Private Truck Council NPTC will again be hosting safety seminars in 2019. The one-day seminar this year will focus on new safety

technologies available on trucks today, basic safety and compliance, regulation changes and CSA. The seminars and will be provided to all Idealease customers, potential customers and NPTC members at no charge. The seminar provides important information applicable for both the novice and experienced transportation professionals.

To register for an upcoming seminar in the Fall of 2019 click on the below link:

http://www2.idealease.com/e/36492/safety-seminarregistration/5ng4v6/734251607? h=EPicHLc0Ntgu1 Roc7jDsTw4jjlHxcDUMBPJIJdP0c

Register Your Employees for the Safety Bulletin or View Archives of Past Bulletins

SIGN UP FOR SAFETY BULLETINS

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would be released to an employer before consenting to the release.

- Driver information will only be used by FMCSA and other enforcement agencies as required to enforce drug and alcohol testing regulations.
 - 4. How do authorized users sign up to access the Clearinghouse database and when will registration be available?

Answer: Employers, drivers, medical review officers (MROs), substance abuse professionals (SAPs), and consortia/third-party administrators (C/TPAs) must register in the Clearinghouse to access the Clearinghouse database. Clearinghouse registration is scheduled to open in fall 2019. <u>Sign up now to receive email updates</u>, including a notification once registration is open.

5. Does the final rule change any of the existing drug and alcohol program requirements in Part 40?

Answer: No, the final rule does not change any existing requirements in the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)-wide procedures for transportation workplace drug and alcohol testing.

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