

NAPT and Transfinder Present: Best Practices: COVID-19 – Navigating Uncharted Territory Part IV

Question and Answer

1.) Any thoughts on how the Gov't /States may handle the impacted drivers in regards to renewing their CDL's and/school bus certificates? Most renewals must be completed in person and most DMV's are closed.

On March 24, 2020, the FMCSA issued a “Waiver in Response to the COVID-19 Emergency – For States, CDL Holders, CLP Holders, and Interstate Drivers Operating Commercial Motor Vehicles,” available [here](#). The waiver is multi-part and provides until June 30, 2020, a waiver from certain regulations applicable to interstate and intrastate commercial driver’s license (CDL) and commercial learner’s permit (CLP) holders and to other interstate drivers operating commercial motor vehicles (CMVs). Since individual states are responsible for implementing the CDL program, some may not have implemented similar relief measures at the state level. Therefore, we recommend that you contact your [state director of student transportation](#) or other regulating state agency, as individual states may have instituted similar relief measures during the current crisis.

NSTA has signed onto two coalition letters

On Transfinder’s Best Practices webpage there is a link under “Association Resources” for the AAMVA which provides state by state information on licensing.

2.) In Massachusetts, drivers still need the 8 hours of safety to renew. MA RMV is requiring managers/trainers to host online (ZOOM) meetings with drivers. Can anyone on the panel possibly share web sites or where we can go online for safety videos other than youtube?

A number of companies, organizations, and agencies have developed safety training materials and videos. We cannot recommend any one over the others, but you can find them through a web search or by reviewing content and advertisements within the two major trade publications, School Bus Fleet (www.schoolbusfleet.com) and School Transportation News (www.stnonline.com).

3.) To prepare for future flu seasons (not necessarily pandemics) what can we offer students? Our districts want to offer hand sanitizer, but the idea gets rejected because it is basically a gallon of flammable gel.

No recommendation except to consult with the school district’s facilities and sanitation professionals for guidance and advice.

4.) Will the cleansing of school buses be regulated by the CDC, and if so, how do we delegate to specific individuals? Would they be required to have specific training on the proper sanitizing methods for the school bus?

The CDC does not regulate procedures for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. CDS has general guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting, but they are not specific to school buses. The major school bus manufacturers have posted guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting school buses that take into consideration EPA-approved cleaners, their effect on the various surfaces inside buses (to ensure they do not degrade materials), and other factors. Districts and contractors may wish to consult their school bus dealers or the bus manufacturers' websites for these guidelines. Some public transit agencies have also developed guidelines that may be instructive.

5.) What are best practices for cleaning school buses now, relating to COVID-19 concerns?

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NAPT has a recorded Webinar of a best practice to use for cleaning. This webinar focuses on a product/chemical that disinfects for more than one day, a product that is not wiped clean, it is allowed to dry on items.

In addition, on Transfinder's Best Practices webpage under "Disinfecting Your Vehicles and Facilities" are several links to how to do this including recommendations from Thomas Built Buses and IC Bus.