



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

March 5, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: *Alabama Minimum Specifications for School Buses for 2027*

The *Alabama Minimum Specifications for School Buses for 2027* document has been posted to the [Alabama State Department of Education \(ALSDE\) website](#) under Teachers and Administrators/Transportation/Minimum Specifications. Changes to the minimum specifications are noted on the “specifications changes” page at the front of the document. The specifications may be copied, as necessary. Hard copies of the specifications will be provided to all school systems as ALSDE instructors and inspectors visit school systems across the state.

The 2027 minimum specifications are effective and mandatory for all school buses ordered by Alabama school systems beginning April 1, 2026. Buses ordered prior to the effective date of the new specifications may comply with the 2026 specifications. Buses not meeting these requirements will not be certified by the ALSDE and may not be used to transport students; therefore, this document should be forwarded to your system transportation supervisor immediately. You should also ensure that your supervisor, shop foreman, and other appropriate staff are familiar with its contents. These specifications have also been provided to all Alabama school bus dealers.

As always, I appreciate your cooperation in making Alabama’s school buses the safest way to transport students. If you have questions regarding this information, please contact Mr. Chad Carpenter, Administrator of Pupil Transportation, or Mr. Bobby Beane, Inspection Program Supervisor, at 334-694-4545.

EGM/CC/FT

cc: City and County Transportation Supervisors
Alabama School Bus Specifications Committee Members
Selected Junior, Community and Technical College Presidents
Contract Supervisors
School Bus Dealers
Mr. Arthur Watts, Jr.
Mr. Chad Carpenter
Mr. Bobby Beane

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