



CHAPTER 20
ARTICLE 7 - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES

N.C.G.S. § 20-218.

Standard qualifications for school bus drivers; speed limit for school buses and school activity buses.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2009-550, s. 3.2 — eighteenth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 03:34 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 5ca189bc284bd5e84e1a4a4c - aa80c2317021fd260cc51e92 - 65d04841be2184ca
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§ 20-218(a) Qualifications. - No person shall drive a school bus over the highways or public vehicular areas of North Carolina while it is occupied by one or more child passengers unless the person furnishes to the superintendent of the schools of the county in which the bus shall be operated a certificate from any representative duly designated by the Commissioner and from the Director of Transportation or a designee of the Director in charge of school buses in the county showing that the person has been examined by them and is fit and competent to drive a school bus over the highways and public vehicular areas of the State. The driver of a school bus must be at least 18 years of age and hold a Class A, B, or C commercial drivers license and a school bus driver's certificate. The driver of a school activity bus must meet the same qualifications as a school bus driver or must have a license appropriate for the class of vehicle being driven.

§ 20-218(b) Speed Limits. - It is unlawful to drive a school bus occupied by one or more child passengers over the highways or public vehicular areas of the State at a greater rate of speed than 45 miles per hour. It is unlawful to drive a school activity bus occupied by one or more child passengers over the highways or public vehicular areas of North Carolina at a greater rate of speed than 55 miles per hour.

§ 20-218(c) Punishment. - A person who violates this section commits a Class 3 misdemeanor.

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

Amendment lineage

1937	1973		2009
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1937	c. 397, ss. 1-3	ENACTED
02	1941	c. 21	AMENDED
03	1943	c. 440	AMENDED
04	1945	c. 216	AMENDED
05	1957	cc. 139, 595	AMENDED
06	1971	c. 293	AMENDED
07	1977	c. 791, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
08	1977	c. 1102	AMENDED
09	1979	c. 31, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
10	1979	c. 667, s. 36	AMENDED
11	1981	c. 30	AMENDED
12	1987	c. 337, s. 1	AMENDED
13	1989	c. 558, s. 1	AMENDED
14	1989	c. 771, s. 6	AMENDED
15	1991	c. 726, s. 22	AMENDED
16	1993	c. 217, s. 1	AMENDED
17	1993	1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 761, s. 20	AMENDED
18	2009	S.L. 2009-550, s. 3.2	AMENDED

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-218 (2009).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-218(a) (2009).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1937, c. 397, ss. 1-3; 1941, c. 21; 1943, c. 440; 1945, c. 216; 1957, cc. 139, 595; 1971, c. 293; 1977, c. 791, ss. 1, 2; c. 1102; 1979, c. 31, ss. 1, 2; c. 667, s. 36; 1981, c. 30; 1987, c. 337, s. 1; 1989, c. 558, s. 1; c. 771, s. 6; 1991, c. 726, s. 22; 1993, c. 217, s. 1; 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 761, s. 20; 2009-550, s. 3.2.)

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