

SCHOOL BUS TYPES

School bus: A bus owned, leased, contracted to or operated by a school or school district and regularly used to transport students to and from school or school-related activities, but not including a charter bus or transit bus. A school bus must meet all applicable FMVSSs and is readily identified by alternately flashing lamps, National School Bus Yellow paint, and the legend “School Bus,” except as may be provided for the multifunction school activity bus. The following describes each of these types and styles of vehicle.

Type A: A Type “A” school bus is a conversion or bus constructed utilizing a cutaway front section vehicle with a left side driver’s door. This definition includes two classifications:

Type A-1, with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 14,500 pounds or less; and **Type A-2**, with a GVWR greater than 14,500 and less than or equal to 21,500 pounds.



Type B: A Type “B” school bus is constructed utilizing a stripped chassis. The entrance door is behind the front wheels. This definition includes two classifications: **Type B-1**, with a GVWR of 10,000 pounds or less; and **Type B-2**, with a GVWR greater than 10,000 pounds.



Type C: A Type “C” school bus is constructed utilizing a chassis with a hood and front fender assembly. The entrance door is behind the front wheels; also known as a *conventional school bus*. This type also includes cutaway truck chassis or truck chassis with cab with or without a left side door and a GVWR greater than 21,500 pounds.



Type D: A Type “D” school bus is constructed utilizing a stripped chassis. The entrance door is ahead of the front wheels; also known as *rear or front engine transit style school buses*.



Multifunction school activity bus (MFSAB) or multipurpose passenger vehicle (MPV): “A school bus whose purposes do not include transporting students to and from home or school bus stops,” as defined in 49 CFR 571.3. This subcategory of school bus meets all FMVSS for school buses except the traffic control requirements (alternately flashing signal and stop arm).