

**THE PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 187 of 1990**

**257.1833 Paint; applicability.**

Sec. 33. (1) A school bus must be painted as follows:

- (a) The body, cowl, hood, and fenders must be national school bus chrome yellow.
  - (b) The bumper, body trim, wheels, and lettering must be black. The wheel rims must be gray, black, white, or natural, as provided by the manufacturer.
  - (c) The wheel covers, if painted, must be black.
  - (d) The grill, if not chrome, must be national school bus chrome yellow.
  - (e) The mirrors, if painted, must be black or yellow.
  - (f) The name of the school district or contractor must be permanently affixed in black letters that are at least 6 inches high on the sides of the bus. The name of the school district or contractor must be permanently affixed on the front and back of the bus in black letters.
  - (g) The words "school bus" must be permanently affixed on the front and back of the bus between the overhead flashers in black letters that are at least 8 inches in height.
  - (h) The outside of a school bus must not have any other lettering, symbol, marking, or advertising, except that animal pictures, cartoon figures, and similar insignia may be affixed to the bus in a temporary manner near the entrance door, but not closer than the second window, to assist in identifying the bus route. A unique identification number may be permanently affixed on the upper corners of the back, front, or sides of the bus. A contractor shall display a USDOT number when required and in the manner required by 49 CFR parts 390 to 399.
  - (i) Wording for school bus roof and door emergency exits, for inside and outside the bus, must comply with the motor vehicle safety standards found in 49 CFR 571.217.
  - (j) The roof of a school bus may be white or yellow. However, no part of a school bus may be white below the drip rail above the side windows.
  - (k) A sticker may be affixed to the side of a school bus that reads as follows: "An unauthorized person attempting to board or boarding this school bus is subject to citation for a civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than \$500.00.". A sticker affixed to a school bus under this subdivision must be affixed on the left side of the service door between the bottom of the window and the black rub rails.
- (2) A bus, other than a school bus, must not be painted, in whole or in part, in the colors and design specified in subsection (1). This subsection does not apply to either of the following:
- (a) A bus leased seasonally to transport agricultural workers to and from a field for agricultural operations.
  - (b) A bus certified by the state transportation department that is owned and operated by a private carrier primarily under contract with a school system that is also used for occasional charter service to the public or for school-related event transportation.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply to multifunction school activity buses.

**History:** 1990, Act 187, Eff. Aug. 15, 1990;—Am. 2001, Act 130, Imd. Eff. Oct. 15, 2001;—Am. 2006, Act 107, Eff. Aug. 15, 2006;—Am. 2018, Act 422, Eff. Mar. 20, 2019;—Am. 2021, Act 51, Eff. Oct. 11, 2021.