

# In-Service Training School Bus Drivers



The **Education Code 40085** requires that every school bus driver in the state of California is to receive a minimum of 10 hours of in-service training for each training period, and during the last training period (the 12 months prior to certificate expiration), each driver shall receive a minimum of 10 hours of classroom instruction.

**In-service training** credit may be given by a state-certified driver instructor to a driver for attending or participating in appropriate driver training workshops, driver safety meetings, driver safety conferences, and other activities directly related to passenger safety and driver training.

Now let me explain exactly **what a training period is**. When you first receive your school bus certificate (California Special Drivers Certificate) that's when your first training period begins. You will be required to receive at least 1 hour of in-service training per month for every month thereafter until your next birthday, not counting the month that you received your certificate and not counting the month of your birthday.

***Example** your next birthday falls on November 15, 2003, you received your school bus certificate on February 3, 2003, you will need a minimum of 1 hour for each month in between, not counting the month of February or the month of November. The total in-service training needed for your first training period would be 8 hours. This doesn't mean that you have to attend in-service for 1 hour each month, it means that you need to complete a total of 8 hours during that period.*

Once you have completed your first training period, then your training periods will be from birthday to birthday. If you accumulate more than 10 hours during a training period, that's great! However you cannot carry over hours to the next training period.

**Remember it's your responsibility as a driver** to keep your training hours current, if you're not sure that you have enough please check with your instructor at least 1 month before your birthday.

## **WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLETE REQUIRED TRAINING?**

Employers are required to notify CHP School Bus Officers within 10 days of your birthday. CHP Officers will make a note of your failure and then require proof of receiving the training be submitted to the CHP Office within 30 days from the notification. Failure to submit the training proof constitutes reason for the CHP to have the DMV cancel the driver's certificate. Upon notification of a subsequent (**if it happens again!**) occurrence, the CHP Officer will immediately notify DMV to cancel the driver's certificate.

