

**CHAPTER 53**

**AUTOBUSES**

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 27:1A-5, 27:1A-6, 27:25-8c, 48:2-12, 48:4-2.1a and 52:14D-6; and October 5, 1978 Executive Reorganization Plan.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.2002 d.295, effective August 9, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1c, Chapter 53, Autobuses, expires on February 5, 2008. See: 39 N.J.R. 3889(a).

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 53, Autobuses, became effective with Subchapter 1, Autobus Specifications for Van-Type Autobuses, adopted as R.1979 d.124, effective March 23, 1979. See: 11 N.J.R. 263(a). Subchapter 2, Autobus Specifications, was originally adopted by the Board of Public Utilities as N.J.A.C. 14:11-2, and was filed and became effective prior to September 1, 1969. N.J.A.C. 14:11-2 was amended by R.1972 d.226, effective November 15, 1972; and R.1977 d.240, effective July 7, 1977. See: 4 N.J.R. 310(b); 9 N.J.R. 373(c). Pursuant to the Reorganization Plan for the Board of Public Utilities and the Department of Transportation (1978), and R.1982 d.30, N.J.A.C. 14:11-2 was recodified as N.J.A.C. 16:53-2, effective February 1, 1982. See: 14 N.J.R. 160(b). Subchapter 2, Special Equipment for Vehicles Used to Transport Passengers in Wheelchairs; Subchapter 4, Modified Interiors or Autobuses Used for Charter or Special Bus Operations; Subchapter 6, Autobus Specifications for Small Bus; Subchapter 7, Specifications for Special Autobus Type Recreational Vehicles; and Subchapter 8, Specifications for Sedan-Type Autobuses, were adopted as new rules; existing Subchapter 2 was recodified as Subchapter 3, Autobus Specifications; Subchapter 5, Certificates, was recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:11-3; and Subchapter 9, Public Liability Insurance, was recodified from 14:4-2, by R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983. See: 15 N.J.R. 694(b). Amendments to Chapter 53 were adopted as R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983. See: 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 53 was readopted as R.1984 d.82, effective March 8, 1984. See: 16 N.J.R. 746(a). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 53 expired on March 19, 1989. Expired Chapter 53, including new Subchapter 10, Designated Fees for Autobus Inspections, was adopted as R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989. See: 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 53 was readopted as R.1994 d.346, effective June 13, 1994. See: 26 N.J.R. 1606(a), 26 N.J.R. 2798(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 53 was readopted as R.1997 d.116, effective February 13, 1997. See: 29 N.J.R. 102(a), 29 N.J.R. 912(b).

Chapter 53, Autobuses, was readopted as R.2002 d.295, effective August 9, 2002. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

Subchapter 11, Inspection and Verification of Best Available Retrofit Technology Device Installation on Regulated Diesel Commercial Buses, was adopted as new rules by R.2007 d.233, effective August 6, 2007. See: 38 N.J.R. 5318(a), 39 N.J.R. 3387(a).

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**APPENDIX A. AUTOBUS MAINTENANCE INSPECTION**

**SUBCHAPTER 1. SPECIFICATIONS FOR VAN-TYPE AUTOBUSES**

**16:53-1.1 Scope**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, the New Jersey Department of Transportation hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the rules pertaining to the safety of equipment promulgated by the United States Department of Transportation set forth in 49 CFR Part 393, as amended and supplemented. A copy of 49 CFR Part 393 may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 783-3238.

(b) Any van-type autobus in operation or acquired prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has issued a certificate of compliance may continue in service as presently designed, constructed, and equipped. Any van-type autobus in operation in a foreign jurisdiction or acquired prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has not issued a certificate of compliance shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002. Any van-type autobus for which a contract of sale or purchase order has been entered into before September 1, 2002, and any new van-type autobus that is in manufacturer or dealer inventory before September 1, 2002, shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002.

(c) The specifications set forth in this subchapter shall apply to all van-type autobuses engaged in interstate or intrastate common carrier service that are subject to the New Jersey Department of Transportation's jurisdiction and for which certificates of compliance of the New Jersey Department of Transportation are required.

(d) For purposes of this subchapter, a van-type autobus shall be defined as a motor vehicle used in the transportation of passengers for hire having a seating capacity of 15 adult passengers or less, not including the driver, and a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 10,000 pounds or less. For

purposes of this subchapter, when referring to GVWR, the weight of each passenger shall be deemed to be 150 pounds.

(e) For purposes of this subchapter, the right or left side of a van-type autobus shall be determined by reference to the driver when sitting in a forward-facing position in the driver's seat.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section substantially amended.  
Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Acquisition cutoff date changed from January 2, 1983 to June 1, 1989.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-1.2 Dimensions**

(a) The overall length of the vehicle, including bumpers, shall not exceed 25 feet.

(b) The overall width of the vehicle shall not exceed 84 inches, measured at the widest point of the body. Mirrors, fender moldings and other similar accessories shall not be included in determining body width.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

(a): "225 inches" changed to "25 feet"; (c) deleted.

**16:53-1.3 Chassis and body construction**

(a) The chassis and body construction shall be of sufficient size and strength to safely support the gross vehicle weight (GVW) and the allowable payload, as recommended by the chassis manufacturer.

(b) Axles, springs, tires and suspension assemblies shall be of sufficient capacity to support the manufacturer's maximum GVWR.

(c) The GVWR certified by the manufacturer and the gross vehicle axle weight shall be set forth on a data plate that is affixed to the van-type autobus in a location that is readily visible for inspection. At no time shall the GVWR be exceeded.

(d) Alteration of the wheelbase or the standard chassis frame shall be permitted when such alteration is performed by the chassis or unit manufacturer or by others provided that a certification of approval has been issued by the original chassis or unit manufacturer. An extension may be installed at the rear end of the original chassis frame by the chassis manufacturer or by others provided that a certification of approval has been issued by the original chassis manufacturer. Such certification shall contain a detailed description of the alteration or extension.

(e) Body modifications, such as raising of the roof and ceiling, shall be performed by an established unit manufac-

turer or by others provided a certification of approval has been issued by the original manufacturer.

(f) Roof modifications shall meet the requirements of the roof crush resistance standard set forth in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 216 (49 CFR § 571.216), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. A certificate confirming that the roof crush resistance standard has been met shall be presented at the time of inspection.

(g) If an alteration or modification changes the GVWR of a van-type autobus, the GVWR on the data plate that is affixed to the vehicle shall be corrected to accurately reflect the GVWR of the vehicle.

(h) The body shall be mounted on an appropriate chassis and shall be free of sharp or jagged edges.

(i) A front and rear bumper shall be provided. The front and rear bumper shall be attached to the main chassis frame and shall be of sufficient size and strength to permit the vehicle to be pushed or pulled without permanent distortion to the bumper or the chassis.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section substantially amended.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (c) through (f); inserted a new (g); recodified existing (g) as (h); recodified existing (h) as (i) and rewrote the paragraph.

#### 16:53-1.4 Equipment unit

(a) The van-type autobus shall be of the single unit type, with the motive power and passenger compartment mounted as one unit.

(b) Trailers of any type are prohibited.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "van-type autobus" for "vehicle".

#### 16:53-1.5 Interior

(a) The interior shall be free of unnecessary projections. Body panels, seats, flooring, and all other component parts of the body shall be installed in a workmanlike manner and be free of sharp or jagged edges, protruding nails, screws, or similar objects.

(b) The interior shall be equipped with inner linings on the ceiling and side walls covering all body bows and body supports.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

#### 16:53-1.6 Doors

(a) A van-type autobus shall be equipped with a door to the right and to the left side of the driver. A van-type autobus

shall also be equipped with a door(s) on the right side center of the vehicle to provide ready access to and from seats in the passenger compartment. The door to the right side of the driver may be omitted on a van-type autobus not having a passenger area immediately to the right of the driver, provided the vehicle is equipped with a right side center door(s) and meets the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 (49 CFR § 571.217), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, pertaining to emergency egress.

(b) Doors shall be constructed and maintained so as to be readily opened from both inside and outside of the van-type autobus.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Delete subsections (c) and (d).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-1.7 Emergency exits

(a) A van-type autobus manufactured before September 1, 1973 shall meet the requirements of 49 CFR § 393.61 (b)(1), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) A van-type autobus manufactured on and after September 1, 1973 shall have emergency exits conforming to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 (49 CFR § 571.217), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) On vehicle having a center aisle, in addition to the right side center door(s), shall be equipped with a rear door or doors, and the aisle leading to said doors shall not be less than 12 inches in width, nor shall the aisle be obstructed in any manner. (Exemptions to this shall be when the aisle does not extend completely to the rear due to said area being utilized as baggage compartment).

(d) Side center doors and accessible rear doors shall be conspicuously marked with the words "EMERGENCY DOOR" or "EMERGENCY EXIT" on the interior, on, above, or immediately adjacent to the door. The markings shall be in letters not less than two inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section substantially amended.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a), (b) and (d).

#### 16:53-1.8 Aisles

(a) A van-type autobus having a center aisle shall have a center aisle with a minimum width of 12 inches of unobstructed clearance.

(b) A van-type autobus that is equipped with a rear seat located to the rear of the rearmost opening of the right side center door shall have an aisle not less than 10 inches in width leading from the rearmost seat to the right side center door opening.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Changed "11" to "10".

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Added a new (a); recodified former (a) as (b) and rewrote the paragraph; deleted former (b).

**16:53-1.9 Seating**

(a) A transverse and longitudinal seat space of not less than 15 inches shall be provided for each passenger on seats having multiple seating positions. Single seats shall provide a transverse seat space of not less than 19 inches and a longitudinal seat space of not less than 15 inches.

(b) Seats shall be of substantial construction, and securely mounted to the floor and/or sides. Perimeter seating is permitted when two stanchions are provided evenly spaced on each side of the aisle.

(c) Seats shall have kneeroom of not less than seven inches.

(d) A minimum of 35 inches of headroom measured from the top of the seat cushion to the ceiling shall be provided.

(e) Portable seats, and seats not securely and permanently mounted to the floor are prohibited.

(f) The front seat shall not be occupied by more than one passenger, exclusive of the driver, provided that vehicle construction so allows.

(g) The total number of passengers shall not exceed the capacity of the van-type autobus as specified by the manufacturer or the New Jersey Department of Transportation's rated seating capacity as designated on the Department's certificate of compliance.

(h) Wheelchair positions shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, 209, and 210 (49 CFR § 571.208, § 571.209, and § 571.210), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(i) Wheelchair positions may be rear, longitudinal, diagonal, or forward-facing. Wheelchair positions in van-type autobuses that are used to transport students to and from school or school-connected activities shall be forward-facing.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

(d): "36" to "35". (h): deleted "Seat areas" and add "Bench type . . . arm rests". Added (i).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a); in (g), substituted "van-type autobus" for "vehicle"; rewrote (h) and (i).

**16:53-1.10 Glazing**

All glazing shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 205 (49 CFR § 571.205), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-1.11 Lights; reflectors**

(a) Interior lighting shall be under the control of the driver, and sufficient in number to provide proper illumination.

(b) Exterior lights shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) Van-type autobuses shall be equipped with rear reflectors on each side in accordance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Deleted "Reflectors shall be . . . to the ground."

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), inserted "the" preceding "control" and substituted "provide proper" for "give adequate"; rewrote (b) and (c).

**16:53-1.12 Mirrors**

(a) Interior and exterior mirrors shall be provided to insure a clear view of the vehicle interior and of the exterior sides to the rear.

(b) Exterior left and right side mirrors shall be low mount, firmly supported, and easily adjustable.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (b), deleted "of the junior west coast type,".

**16:53-1.13 Brakes**

(a) Brakes shall conform to the manufacturer's specifications applicable to the GVWR of the van-type autobus.

(b) A hydraulic service brake system shall be of the dual (split) type and shall meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 105 (49 CFR § 571.105), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) Service brakes shall be power actuated and shall operate on all wheels.

(d) Service brakes shall be constructed and maintained to stop the van-type autobus at a rate of deceleration equivalent to a stop in 25 feet or less from a speed of 20 miles per hour.

(e) A van-type autobus shall be equipped with two independent brake systems having two sets of controls that are capable of being actuated independently of each other.

(f) If a van-type autobus is equipped with a mechanical parking brake, such parking brake shall be constructed and maintained to hold the van-type autobus in a stopped position with the transmission in a forward gear while the parking brake is applied.

(g) Brake stopping distances shall be measured by means of an instrument or machine of the decelerometer-type capable of being read in feet.

1. Each van-type autobus shall meet the brake stop test requirement on an approved decelerometer that has been calibrated for accuracy.

2. Brake stop test equipment shall be owned by the operator, or arrangements shall be made for its use by the operator, or such equipment shall be provided to the operator by others, or the operator may choose to have such testing performed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.2.

3. The brake stop test shall be performed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification.

(h) Brake drums and rotors shall be permanently and plainly marked and shall clearly indicate the maximum safe diameter of the drum or the minimum safe thickness of the rotor as determined by the manufacturer of the drum or rotor. A drum or rotor worn beyond the maximum safe diameter or minimum safe thickness as prescribed by industry standards shall be discarded.

(i) Brake linings and pads shall meet the manufacturer's specifications for minimum thickness.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (g) added 1.-4. requiring certain instruments and parameters for brake tests.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), inserted "of the van-type autobus" after "GVWR"; rewrote (b); in (d), substituted "van-type autobus" for "vehicle" and substituted "stop in 25 feet or less from" for "stop of 25 feet from"; rewrote (e), (f) and (g); added (i).

#### 16:53-1.14 Tires and wheels

(a) A van-type autobus shall be equipped with tires and wheels of sufficient size and construction as recommended by the manufacturer to meet the GVWR of the van-type autobus.

(b) A van-type autobus shall not be operated on any tire having exposed fabric on the tread or sidewall.

(c) The front and rear tires of a van-type autobus shall have a minimum tread groove of 2/32 inches. Measurements shall be made at any point on a major tread groove except where tie bars, humps, or fillets are located.

(d) A van-type autobus shall not be operated with re-grooved, recapped, or retread tires on any wheel.

(e) A van-type autobus shall be equipped with tires that are matched in size designation, construction, and profile. Radial tires shall not be mixed with other types of tires on the same axle.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Deleted (b); renumbered (c)-(f) as (b)-(e).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Substituted "A van-type autobus" for "Vehicle" throughout; in (a), inserted "of the van-type autobus" after "GVWR"; in (c), inserted "of a van-type autobus" after "rear tires" and substituted "shall" for "to" in the second sentence; in (e), inserted "of tires on the same axle" after "other types".

#### 16:53-1.15 Heaters and defrosters

(a) A van-type autobus shall be equipped with a heating and defrosting system maintained in proper operating condition.

(b) The use of exhaust gases for heating purposes within the passenger compartment shall not be permitted, nor shall any portion of the exhaust system be contained within the passenger compartment.

(c) Heaters permitting air contamination shall be prohibited.

(d) Heating devices utilizing gasoline or other fuel shall be of a type approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., shall conform to 49 CFR § 393.77, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and shall be located entirely outside of the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a) and (d).

#### 16:53-1.16 Fuel tanks and fuel systems

(a) Fuel tanks and systems shall meet all applicable Federal requirements as set forth in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 301 (49 CFR § 571.301), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Fuel tanks and filler pipes shall be located wholly outside of the body to the rear of the line of the windshield and/or the front axle, as physical conditions permit, and be properly insulated to prevent fire.

(c) Fuel tanks shall be constructed and located in a manner that will permit the filling and draining thereof only from the outside of the van-type autobus.

(d) The filler cap shall be non-detachable, leakproof, and spillproof.

(e) Fuel and any other combustible material or compressed gas, other than compressed gas contained in fire extinguishers, shall not be carried or stored in the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 301 (49 CFR § 571.301), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented" for "Part 301 of the Federal motor carriers safety regulations"; in (b), substituted "permit" for "may indicate" and deleted "danger of"; in (c), inserted "thereof only" following "draining" and substituted "van-type autobus" for "vehicle only"; rewrote (d); in (e), inserted "or compressed gas, other than compressed gas contained in fire extinguishers," following "material".

#### 16:53-1.17 Exhaust system

(a) The exhaust system shall be securely installed entirely outside of the vehicle body. The exhaust system shall be equipped with a muffler in proper operating condition. The exhaust system shall be free of leaks. Flexible pipe or tubing is prohibited in the exhaust system.

(b) The exhaust system shall vent to the rear of the rear wheels and shall not vent below or forward of any door or window designed to be opened for ventilation. A window designed to be opened solely as an emergency exit shall not be considered a window designed to be opened for ventilation.

(c) The engine shall be maintained in proper operating condition so as to prevent the emission of excessive smoke or other air contaminants. Van-type autobuses shall meet the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection motor vehicle emission inspection standards applicable to the type of engine installed.

1. Each exhaust emission system shall be inspected utilizing equipment approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Inspection of the exhaust emission system may be conducted by the operator, by a person designated by the operator, or by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.1.

3. Each van-type autobus shall be inspected every six months by a person qualified to conduct emission testing. Self-inspection emission testing shall be completed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification. Inspections performed by any person other than New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall require a certification from the individual conducting such inspection indicating his or her qualifications to conduct such a test and the type of equipment used.

(d) No portion of the exhaust system shall be located in a manner that could result in the burning or damaging of electrical wiring, fuel system components, or any combustible part of the van-type autobus.

(e) Engine covers shall be properly sealed and shall not permit any engine compartment vapors to enter the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Added 1.-4. at (c) describing the requirements of conducting exhaust emission testing.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a) and (b); in (c), rewrote the introductory paragraph; in deleted "vehicle" preceding "exhaust" in 1, rewrote 2 and 3 and deleted 4; in (d), deleted "otherwise" preceding "damaging", substituted "electrical" for "electric" and "van-type autobus" for "vehicle".

**16:53-1.18 Windshield wipers and washers**

(a) Van-type autobuses shall be equipped with windshield wipers and washers sufficient in size and power and maintained so as to provide the driver with clear forward vision. Windshield wipers shall be located and shall operate in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer's specifications.

(b) Windshield wipers shall be of variable speed and electrically-operated.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote (a).

**16:53-1.19 Steps**

(a) The first step at the right side center door area shall not be more than 16 inches from the ground when the van-type autobus is unloaded.

(b) The surface of all steps shall be a nonskid material.

(c) A van-type autobus having a front entrance door of 74 inches or more in height shall have a step height at that location not to exceed 16 inches (unloaded) and shall also be equipped with an entrance handle.

(d) Steps shall not extend beyond the body limits to a degree that could result in bodily injury or property damage.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
Added "door".

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), deleted "less than 10 inches or" and substituted "van-type autobus" for "vehicle"; in (c), substituted "A van-type autobus" for "Vehicle", inserted "or more" after "74 inches", substituted "16" for "18" and deleted "adequate" preceding "entrance"; in (d), deleted "possibly" and substituted "bodily" for "body".

**16:53-1.20 Sun visor**

A van-type autobus shall be equipped with an interior sun visor for the use of the driver.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-1.21 Baggage racks and compartments**

(a) Exterior baggage racks shall be constructed so that all baggage is held in a secure manner under all conditions of operation.

(b) Ladders or any other similar means of reaching the exterior baggage racks shall be prohibited unless protection is provided that will prevent the possibility of ride hitching.

(c) An interior baggage area shall be separated from the passenger compartment by a partition of sufficient strength and construction installed in a workmanlike manner to safely separate the areas. A partition shall not intrude past the rear of the rear seat with or without baggage on board. Interior baggage shall be carried in a manner so as not to interfere with any passenger's seat, safety, or comfort.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Added "or similar material" to subsection (a).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), deleted “. safe”; rewrote (c).

### 16:53-1.22 Drive shaft

Any drive shaft extending lengthwise under the floor of the passenger compartment of a van-type autobus shall be protected by means of at least one guard or bracket at that end of the drive shaft which is provided with a sliding connection (spline or other such device) to prevent the whipping of the shaft in the event of failure thereof or of any of its component parts. A shaft contained within a torque tube shall not require any such device.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-1.23 Speedometer; odometer

(a) Each van-type autobus shall be equipped with a speedometer in proper operating condition capable of indicating the speed of the vehicle in miles per hour and readily visible to the driver.

(b) Each van-type autobus shall be equipped with an odometer in proper operating condition capable of recording accumulated miles.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-1.24 Overhang of body

(a) The maximum overhang of the body to the rear of the rear axle shall not exceed one-third of the total length of the van-type autobus.

(b) Vehicle measurements shall be taken from the extreme front to the extreme rear of the van-type autobus, not including the bumpers.

(c) Overhang measurements shall be taken from the center of the rear axle to the extreme rear of the van-type autobus, not including the rear bumper.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted “exceed” for “be in excess of”; in (c), deleted “end” following “extreme rear”; substituted “van-type autobus” for “vehicle” throughout.

### 16:53-1.25 Horn; audible warning device

(a) Each van-type autobus shall be equipped with a horn in proper operating condition to give reasonable warning to others of the approach of the vehicle.

(b) Each van-type autobus shall be equipped with an audible warning device that shall be activated when the vehicle is in reverse.

R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-1.26 Grounding device

Each vehicle, unless otherwise designed to eliminate static electric charge buildup, shall be equipped with a suitable grounding device.

R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

### 16:53-1.27 Identification

(a) A van-type autobus shall not be operated unless it displays on each side of its exterior the exact name of the operator in clearly visible letters at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background.

(b) Every van-type autobus shall be assigned an identification number by the operator. This number shall be displayed on the interior front, and on the front, rear, and both sides of the exterior. All numbers shall be at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background.

(c) Each van-type autobus shall display on the right-hand side thereof the number of the New Jersey Department of Transportation’s certificate of compliance and the charter number, if applicable, in letters and numbers three inches high in the following style: NJDOT 12345 and/or NJDOT 123C.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
Section substantially amended.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-1.28 Certificate of inspection

A van-type autobus shall not be operated unless it prominently displays on the lower right-hand corner of the windshield, visible from the exterior, an unexpired certificate of inspection issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(a).  
Originally N.J.A.C. 16:53-1.24.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Substituted “A van-type autobus” for “No vehicle” and inserted “not” following “shall”.

**16:53-1.29 Maintenance and inspection**

(a) The body, chassis, engine and all equipment, shall be maintained in good repair and safe operating condition.

(b) All equipment shall receive a specification inspection by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel in order to insure compliance with all of the Department's specifications. All van-type autobuses that meet New Jersey Department of Transportation specifications shall be issued a certificate of compliance.

(c) All van-type autobuses for which certificates of compliance have been issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall receive a certification inspection at least twice annually. Nothing herein shall limit the New Jersey Department of Transportation's authority to require more frequent certification inspections of such vehicles by Department personnel when the safety of the public so requires.

(d) A systematic maintenance record shall be kept for each van-type autobus showing the vehicle identification number, driver, dates of breakdowns, defects reported, and corrective measures taken. The records shall be retained by the operator for at least 12 months and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(e) Each van-type autobus shall receive a complete inspection at regular time and/or mileage intervals for mechanical or structural defects. All necessary repairs shall be completed and a certificate of inspection affixed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 16:53-1.30 before the van-type autobus is returned to service. An itemized record of each inspection showing the date, vehicle identification number, lubrication record, adjustments and repairs, and signed by the person making such inspection, shall be available at the inspection site at the time of inspection and for at least 12 months thereafter, and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(f) The maintenance facilities shall be adequate to assure compliance with specifications herein and shall include either a suitable pit or lift or an arrangement for the use of such facilities.

(g) The entire van-type autobus shall be kept clean and sanitary.

(h) All van-type autobuses directly operated by the New Jersey Transit Corporation shall be on a six-month full New Jersey Department of Transportation inspection program in accordance with the August 2000 Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the New Jersey Transit Corporation and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The Memorandum of Understanding is available for inspection at the Office of the Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, 225 East State Street, 9th Floor, Trenton, New Jersey. All van-type autobuses operated by private operators shall receive an in-terminal inspection at six-month intervals;

once by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel during the first six months, and then a self-inspection by the private operator once during the second six-month period. A record of each six-month certification inspection shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(i) The self-inspection certification shall not apply to van-type autobuses certified for school use. Such vehicles shall be inspected biannually by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel.

(j) New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall perform unannounced audit inspections of self-inspected van-type autobuses to insure compliance with the self-inspection program.

As amended, R.1983 d.455, effective October 17, 1983.  
 See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).  
 As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
 See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
 Originally N.J.A.C. 16:53-1.25.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-1.30 Certification of inspection**

(a) An authorized New Jersey Department of Transportation official or company official (private operator) shall affix a certificate of inspection (inspection sticker) to a van-type autobus at the completion of each six-month certification inspection.

(b) A certificate of inspection shall not be issued without certification by the person authorized to inspect the van-type autobus verifying that the vehicle was inspected, is in proper and safe condition, and complies with all requirements of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The required certification shall be made on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(c) A van-type autobus shall not be operated unless it prominently displays an unexpired certificate of inspection issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, visible from the exterior, on the lower right corner of the right-hand windshield.

(d) Each van-type autobus operating in the State shall be subject to on-road and in-terminal inspections. Such inspections shall be conducted at the New Jersey Department of Transportation's option as to location and frequency.

(e) Any person who issues a certificate of inspection or submits a certification to the New Jersey Department of Transportation without the required inspection and repair having been performed shall be deemed to be a disorderly person in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:4-2.1(a).

(f) A notice of discontinuance shall be affixed to any van-type autobus that fails the required inspection.

(g) A certificate of inspection or compliance shall not be issued if payment of a statutory or regulatory fee remains outstanding to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.  
See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(h), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-1.31 Fire extinguisher

Each van-type autobus shall be equipped with a fire extinguisher having a minimum Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 5BC. The fire extinguisher shall be permanently mounted and readily accessible to the driver.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

### 16:53-1.32 Warning devices

Each van-type autobus shall be equipped with three red emergency reflective triangles for use during roadside emergencies as provided in 49 CFR § 393.95, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

## SUBCHAPTER 2. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR VEHICLES USED TO TRANSPORT PASSENGERS IN WHEELCHAIRS

### 16:53-2.1 Doors

(a) A service door(s) shall be located on the right side. The door(s) opening shall be of sufficient size to accommodate the wheelchair and seated passenger.

(b) A drip molding shall be installed above the door(s) opening to effectively spill water from the entrance.

(c) The door(s) shall cover the entire opening and shall be weathersealed to include lift or ramp storage area.

(d) The door(s) shall be equipped with a device that will actuate an audible or visible signal when the door(s) is not securely closed. Such warning signal shall be located in the driver's compartment.

(e) A positive fastening device shall be installed to hold the door(s) in an open position.

(f) A light located over the service door(s) and activated by opening the door(s) shall be provided.

### 16:53-2.2 Ramp

(a) If a ramp is used, it shall be stored completely enclosed in the vehicle and shall be of sufficient strength and rigidity to support wheelchair, occupant and attendant. It shall be equipped with protective flange on each longitudinal side to keep the wheelchair on the ramp. The ramp shall be capable of supporting a minimum of 500 pounds.

(b) Ramp shall be equipped with handle(s) designed to permit one person to place the ramp in service position and to return it to storage area.

(c) Ramp shall be properly secured in the stored position.

(d) Provisions shall be made to permanently attach the ramp at one end to the inside of the vehicle at floor level, in such manner as to permit easy access of the wheels of the wheelchair(s) to the floor of the vehicle.

(e) Width of ramp shall conform generally to width of the door(s) opening.

(f) Rear door ramps are not permitted.

### 16:53-2.3 Power lift

(a) If a power lift is used, it shall be stored completely within the vehicle and shall be of sufficient size to accommodate the wheelchair and occupant. The power lift shall be capable of lifting a minimum load of 500 pounds. Protective panelling adjacent to the lift shall be provided to prevent shearing action between platforms and vehicle floor.

(b) The power lift shall be mounted on the chassis frame or vehicle body, provided the body and or chassis frame is adequately strengthened and warranted by the lift installer. Edges of platform and adjacent floor shall be properly finished and all seams covered with molding as required for vehicle floor. Flexible seals, designed to keep out dirt, water and fumes, when in a locked position, shall be installed along platform edges.

(c) The power lift floor shall be of skid-resistant material.

(d) An approach ramp shall be permanently attached to the lift platform. When the platform is in the down position, approach ramps shall minimize the incline from the ground to the lift floor. The approach ramp shall have a skid-resistant surface. There shall be means provided to contain the wheelchair on lift platform when platform is in use.

(e) A device shall be installed which will prevent operation of lift until door(s) is open.

(f) A device shall be provided to prevent power lift from dropping while in a stored position.

(g) All electrical and hydraulic lines within the passenger compartment shall be adequately enclosed and protected.

(h) Rear door lifts are prohibited.

(i) In the event the power lift, when in stored position, prevents inside access to the special service door(s) opening, the lift control system shall be equipped with a device which will allow moving the lift from its obstructing position in the event of an emergency or power failure.

(j) All lifts shall be approved by lift manufacturer for passenger carrying purposes. Manufacturer's certificate must be permanently attached to vehicle.

**16:53-2.4 Fastening devices for wheelchairs**

Positive fastening devices as approved by the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall be provided, attached to the floor, walls or both, that will securely hold wheelchair(s) in position and will not constitute a tripping hazard. Fastening devices attached to the underside of a fold-up seat shall be permitted if the original manufacturer certifies their suitability.

**16:53-2.5 Aisle**

An aisle leading from a wheelchair position to the emergency or exit door shall be a minimum of 30 inches.

**16:53-2.6 Fuel tanks**

The fuel tank may be located at other than normal position if required for wheelchair installation and approved by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

**16:53-2.7 Interlocks**

Interlocks shall be provided to prevent the operation of the vehicle while the lift or ramp is not in its stored position.

certificates of compliance of the New Jersey Department of Transportation are required.

(c) Any autobus in operation or acquired prior to September 1, 2002, and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has issued a certificate of compliance may continue in service as presently designed, constructed, and equipped except as otherwise provided in this subchapter. Any autobus in operation in a foreign jurisdiction or acquired prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has not issued a certificate of compliance shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002. Any autobus for which a contract of sale or purchase order has been entered into before September 1, 2002, and any new autobus that is in manufacturer or dealer inventory before September 1, 2002, shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002.

(d) For purposes of this subchapter, an autobus shall be defined as a motor vehicle used in the transportation of passengers for hire having a seating capacity of 26 or more passengers, not including the driver, except as otherwise provided in N.J.A.C. 16:53-4. For purposes of this subchapter, an articulated vehicle is a single unit.

(e) For purposes of this subchapter, when referring to gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), the weight of each passenger shall be deemed to be 150 pounds.

(f) For purposes of this subchapter, the right or left side of an autobus shall be determined by reference to the driver when sitting in a forward-facing position in the driver's seat.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
 See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
 Transferred from N.J.A.C. 14:11-2.1 with substantial changes.  
 Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 In (c), dates changed from January 2, 1983 to June 1, 1989.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**SUBCHAPTER 3. AUTOBUS SPECIFICATIONS**

**16:53-3.1 Scope**

(a) Except as otherwise herein provided, the New Jersey Department of Transportation hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the rules pertaining to the safety of equipment promulgated by the United States Department of Transportation set forth in 49 CFR Part 393, as amended and supplemented. A copy of 49 CFR Part 393 may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 783-3238.

(b) The specifications set forth in this subchapter shall apply to all autobuses engaged in interstate or intrastate common carrier service that are subject to the New Jersey Department of Transportation's jurisdiction and for which

**16:53-3.2 Dimensions**

(a) The overall length of a single unit autobus shall not exceed 45 feet, excluding the bumpers. The overall length of an articulated autobus shall not exceed 61 feet, excluding the bumpers.

(b) The overall width of an autobus shall not exceed 102 inches outside measurement, measured at the widest point of the body. Mirrors, fender moldings, and other similar accessories shall not be included in determining body width.

(c) The inside height of the entire aisle of autobuses transporting passengers shall not be less than 75 inches measured vertically from the floor to the ceiling or any fixture. For purposes of this subsection, an aisle shall be deemed to start at the front of the front seats and end at a point 84 inches forward of the rear firewall.

(d) The overall height of an autobus shall not exceed 13 feet, six inches.

Amended by R.1982 d.30, effective February 1, 1982.  
See: 13 N.J.R. 834(a), 14 N.J.R. 160(b).

(a): "61" feet was "40".

Amended by R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 16:53-2.2 with substantial changes in section.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Maximum outside width measurement made consistent at 102 inches throughout; deleted reference to 96 inches.

Amended by R.1993 d.190, effective May 3, 1993.  
See: 25 N.J.R. 459(a), 25 N.J.R. 1885(a).

Revised (a) and (d).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a) and (b); deleted former (c); recodified former (d) as (c) and rewrote the paragraph; recodified former (e) as (d).

### 16:53-3.3 Window opening

(a) Each window opening, other than the driver's window, shall be restricted to a maximum of six inches.

(b) On autobuses that are used to transport children to or from school or school-connected activities, each full side window, other than push-out type windows installed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 16:53-3.8(f), shall provide an unobstructed opening at least nine inches high and 22 inches wide, obtained by lowering the window.

R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-3.4 Guardrail

Each autobus equipped to permit the carrying of standees shall comply with 49 CFR § 393.90, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. A crowd gate or guardrail that is installed in an autobus shall be in proper operating condition.

As amended, R.1982 d.30, eff. February 1, 1982.  
See: 13 N.J.R. 834(a), 14 N.J.R. 160(b).

Catchline: "or marking" added, old text deleted and replaced with new text.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Deleted old text and inserted new text.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-3.5 Partition and curtain

Each autobus shall be equipped with a partition of metal, safety glass, or rigid plastic and shall be located to the rear of the driver's seat with a curtain or tinting, if necessary, to shield the driver from the glare of inside lights. The minimum dimensions of drivers' partitions shall be 18 inches wide and shall extend upward from at least two inches below the top of the driver's seatback to not less than 18 inches from the ceiling.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Added "or rigid . . . AS 13".

Amended by R.1986 d.399, effective October 6, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1519(b), 18 N.J.R. 2058(c).

Added text "The minimum dimensions . . . from the ceiling."

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-3.6 Service doors

(a) All service doors and connecting passages shall have a horizontal clearance of not less than 24 inches.

(b) Service doors located rearward of the front service door shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal indicating to the driver when the door is not completely closed. Such doors shall also be equipped with flexible rubber edges having a total width of four inches.

(c) Rear side service doors shall be so interlocked that it will be impossible, under normal operating conditions, to put the vehicle in motion when such door is open.

(d) Autobuses equipped with a kneeling feature are required to have the following:

1. A warning sign located on the right front exterior, visible while the door is opened, indicating that the bus kneels;

2. A flashing amber light at least 2½ inches in diameter located at the right front of the vehicle and an audible device which shall be activated when the bus is lowered or raised; and

3. An interlock installed so that during the kneeling cycle, it will be impossible, under normal operating conditions, to put the vehicle in motion.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

This section recodified from 14:11-2.6.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

(d) added concerning requirements for autobuses with a kneeling feature.

### 16:53-3.7 (Reserved)

R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Repealed by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Section was "Special equipment for vehicles used to transport passengers in wheelchairs".

### 16:53-3.8 Emergency exits

(a) An emergency door located in the center of the rear vertical plane of the bus body or in the left side of the bus body between the center of the bus and the extreme rear of the bus body shall be provided. The emergency door shall have a clearance with the door open of not less than ten inches at the floor line and not less than 18 inches from a point 12 inches above the floor line to the upper belt panel.

(b) The emergency door shall be conspicuously marked in letters at least one inch high with the words "EMERGENCY DOOR" or "EMERGENCY EXIT" on the inside of the autobus body and shall be identified by a red light as provided in 49 CFR § 393.92, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) The emergency door shall be constructed and maintained in such condition as to be readily opened by passengers in case of emergency.

(d) A clear passage to the emergency door of not less than ten inches in width and free from all obstruction shall be provided and maintained.

(e) The emergency door shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal to warn the driver when the door is not completely closed.

(f) In lieu of an emergency door, each autobus shall have adequate means of escape for passengers through push-out type windows. Roof hatches shall also be required where there is no rear push-out type window. Each push-out type window so constructed shall have a frame or sash so designed, constructed, and maintained as to permit the opening thereof with reasonable effort. Both push-out type windows and roof hatches shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 (49 CFR § 571.217), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

(f) added: "Roof hatches . . . type window"; and "both push-out . . . FMVSS217".

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (b) and (f).

**16:53-3.9 Aisle**

The width of the aisle shall not be less than 14 inches.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section recodified from N.J.A.C. 14:11-2.8.

**16:53-3.10 Seating**

(a) A clearance of not less than 26 inches shall be provided between seats, measured at the seat line from the front of the back rest of each seat to the nearest forward obstruction.

(b) A transverse and longitudinal seat space of not less than 16 inches shall be provided for each seated passenger.

(c) The seating capacity or seat layout in any autobus shall not be permanently changed without notification to the New Jersey Department of Transportation and no autobus in which such changes have been made shall be placed in service until inspected and approved by a representative of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(d) Seats are prohibited to the right of the driver except as otherwise provided in (e) below.

(e) A tour guide seat may be installed to the right of the center aisle, provided that such seat shall not be occupied by a person other than an employee of the autobus company. The seat shall be permanently installed. When the tour guide seat is not in use, it shall automatically fold to allow a clear 24-inch passageway. The tour guide seat shall be forward-facing and shall be equipped with a seat belt. The tour guide seat shall conform to 49 CFR § 393.90, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(f) Seats shall be of substantial construction and securely mounted to the floor and/or sides.

(g) Wheelchair positions may be rear, longitudinal, diagonal, or forward-facing. Wheelchair positions in autobuses that are used to transport students to or from school or school-connected activities shall be forward-facing. Wheelchair positions shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, 209 and 210 (49 CFR § 571.208, § 571.209 and § 571.210), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Changed "board" to "Department".

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

(e) added allowing for the installation and use of a tour guide seat.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (d) and (e); added (f) and (g).

**16:53-3.11 Entrance handles for passenger use**

(a) Rails or handles located inside the autobus body shall be provided at each service door.

(b) Outside handles shall not be permitted on any portion of the autobus.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Recodified section.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "autobus" for "bus".

**16:53-3.12 Handles for standing passengers**

(a) Handles, stanchions, or handrails placed at a convenient height shall be provided in autobuses that carry standing passengers.

(b) All handrails, stanchions, and handles shall be constructed of rigid materials and provide for a suitable grasp.

(c) Standing passengers shall not be carried in excess of the following limitations, except that the total weight of the passenger load plus a combined weight of the body and chassis shall not exceed the gross vehicle weight rating recommended by the chassis manufacturer:

1. 75 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle not less than 20 inches wide;
2. 70 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle less than 20 inches but not less than 19 inches wide;
3. 65 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle less than 19 inches but not less than 18 inches wide;
4. 60 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle less than 18 inches but not less than 17 inches wide;
5. 55 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle less than 17 inches but not less than 16 inches wide;
5. 55 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle less than 17 inches but not less than 16 inches wide;
6. 50 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle less than 16 inches but not less than 15 inches wide;
7. 40 percent of the seating capacity of a bus with a main aisle less than 15 inches but not less than 14 inches wide.

(d) Passengers shall not be permitted to stand forward of the crowd gate, guardrail, or marking set forth in 49 CFR § 393.90, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, as may be applicable, while the autobus is in motion.

(e) Each autobus carrying passengers shall have the permitted standing passenger capacity of the vehicle displayed on the exterior of the vehicle adjacent to the area of the service door and clearly visible to all boarding passengers. An autobus not permitting standees shall display on the exterior of the vehicle the words "No standees."

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Added subsection (c).

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Requirement added at (e) regarding display of sign on exterior when vehicles do not permit standees.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-3.13 Interior lights

(a) An interior lighting system shall be provided having a total luminous intensity of not less than five rated candlepower per seated passenger and receptacles located so as to provide a reasonably uniform diffusion of light within the passenger compartment. The lamps shall be located or shielded so as to prevent direct rays of light from striking the windshield.

(b) At least one step light shall be provided at each service door. All interior steps shall be illuminated.

(c) All instrument panel, warning, and signaling lights shall operate as designed by the manufacturer.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Recodified section.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-3.14 Passenger signal

A signal system shall be provided for the use of passengers to signal for a stop if the autobus is operated on an approved route and passengers are discharged at points between termini.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Added "if operated . . . between termini".

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Deleted "satisfactory" preceding "signal" and "and maintained" following "provided", inserted "the autobus is" preceding "operated".

### 16:53-3.15 Signs

(a) An illuminated sign indicating route and destination shall be provided, so designed and located that it may be read by day or night. Such sign shall not interfere with the driver's view or produce an annoying glare.

(b) The destination sign requirement set forth in (a) above may be waived provided the operator receives written approval from the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(c) A sign shall be provided indicating that smoking on autobuses is prohibited by law.

(d) Every autobus shall have a sign with letters at least one-half inch high indicating that it is a violation of the Federal Highway Administration's regulations for an autobus to be operated with persons occupying the prohibited area as provided in 49 CFR § 393.90, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(e) A sign shall be provided that indicates the location of the fire extinguisher if the fire extinguisher is not readily visible.

(f) All signs required by (c), (d) and (e) above shall be located in the interior front of the autobus.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Added new (b). Changed old (b) to (c).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "Such sign shall" for "This sign must"; rewrote (b); added (d) through (f).

**16:53-3.16 Chassis and body construction**

(a) The chassis and body, or the complete autobus unit, shall be so designed and constructed that it will properly and safely support the gross weight of the autobus, including the maximum passenger capacity thereof.

(b) Axles, springs, tires, and suspension assemblies shall be of sufficient capacity to support the manufacturer's maximum GVWR.

(c) The GVWR certified by the manufacturer and the gross vehicle axle weight shall be set forth on a data plate that is affixed to the autobus in a location that is readily visible for inspection. At no time shall the GVWR be exceeded.

(d) The body shall be mounted on an appropriate chassis and shall be free of sharp or jagged edges.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Recodified section.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a) and (b); added (c) and (d).

**16:53-3.17 Relation of body and chassis frame**

(a) The body shall not extend more than 18 inches beyond the rear of the main frame supporting the body.

(b) An extension may be installed at the rear end of the original chassis frame by the chassis manufacturer or by others provided that a certification of approval has been issued by the original chassis manufacturer. Such certification shall contain a detailed description of the extension.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Body frame extension changed from "15" inches to "18" inches. Old (b) deleted and new language substituted therefor.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (b).

**16:53-3.18 Overhang of body**

(a) The maximum overhang of the body to the rear of the rear axle shall not exceed one-third of the total length of the autobus.

(b) Vehicle measurements shall be taken from the extreme front to the extreme rear of the vehicle, not including the bumpers.

(c) Overhang measurements shall be taken from the center of a load-bearing axle to the extreme rear end of the autobus, not including the rear bumper.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section recodified.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.19 Bumpers**

(a) Each autobus shall be equipped with a front and rear bumper of sufficient size and strength attached to the main frame supporting the body and extending the full width of the body.

(b) The rear bumper shall extend at least four inches beyond the body limits and be shielded on the top to prevent toehold, except on an autobus constructed with its engine attached to the extreme rear end of the chassis frame or one having a similarly sized compartment between the extreme rear of the bus body and rear seat in the passenger compartment.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, eff. May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

(b) Deleted the language ", except on autobuses ... in the passenger compartment."

Amended by R.1983 d.399, effective October 6, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1519(b), 18 N.J.R. 2058(c).

Added text "except on an ... the passenger compartment."

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a).

**16:53-3.20 Brakes**

(a) Every autobus shall be equipped with two independent brake systems. Service brakes shall operate on all wheels and shall be capable of bringing the autobus to a stop of 22.5 feet or less from a speed of 20 miles per hour.

(b) The emergency brake shall be capable of bringing the autobus to a stop within 75 feet or less from a speed of 20 miles per hour.

1. The emergency brake shall be activated and capable of stopping and holding the autobus if the main system supply to the service brake falls below a safe operating level. Upon application of the emergency brake, it shall remain on, though the source of energy for its application may be eliminated.

2. When the emergency brake is activated by the loss of the system to the main service brakes, the driver, without leaving his or her seat, shall be able to override the emergency brake a minimum of three times. The control to operate the override shall be of a "dead man" type, necessitating constant driver effort to use. All autobuses manufactured after March 1975 and equipped with an air brake system shall comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 121 (49 CFR § 571.121), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, pertaining to split system and emergency application.

3. Any system source to activate the emergency brake shall be separate and independent of the main service brake system supply source.

4. If an autobus is equipped with a mechanical parking brake, such parking brake shall be constructed and maintained to hold the autobus in a stopped position with the transmission in a forward gear while the parking brake is applied.

(c) Brake stopping distances shall be measured by means of an instrument or machine of the decelerometer-type capable of being read in feet.

1. Each autobus shall meet the brake stop test requirement on an approved decelerometer that has been calibrated for accuracy.

2. Brake stop test equipment shall be owned by the operator, or arrangements shall be made for its use by the operator, or such equipment shall be provided to the operator by others, or the operator may choose to have such testing performed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.2.

3. The brake stop test shall be performed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification.

(d) Brake systems actuated by compressed air pressure or vacuum power shall be constructed to afford the following results:

1. Compressed air brake systems shall be equipped with an air compressor of sufficient size to fully charge the reservoir to its rated operating pressure in three minutes or less.

2. Reservoir capacity shall be sufficient to maintain 60 pounds per square inch after four full brake applications. This shall be accomplished with the engine and compressor shut down and the parking brake released.

3. Compressed air reservoir systems shall be equipped with a safety valve that shall vent to the atmosphere. The safety valve setting shall not be in excess of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the maximum air compressor governed pressure setting.

4. Vacuum reservoirs shall have a volume of not less than 1,000 cubic inches and shall be used for braking purposes only.

5. Vacuum brake systems shall develop a minimum of 14 inches of reservoir vacuum within the following times:

- i. Intake manifold of engine, one minute; and
- ii. Vacuum pump, two minutes.

(e) Brake systems shall be equipped with an air pressure or vacuum gauge, indicating pounds per square inch or inches of mercury, located in clear view of the driver and illuminated during the period when lighted lamps are required.

(f) Autobuses equipped with brake systems actuated by compressed air shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal within hearing or full view of the driver to indicate that air pressure is at least one-half of the compressor governor cut-out pressure. Autobuses equipped with brake systems actuated by vacuum power shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal within hearing or full view of the driver whenever the vacuum in the vehicle's supply reservoir is less than eight inches of mercury.

(g) Hydraulic system service (foot) brakes shall be of a dual-type, split to the front and rear wheels and each section separately actuated and shall meet the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 105 (49 CFR § 571.105), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(h) Brake drums and rotors shall be permanently and plainly marked and shall clearly indicate the maximum safe diameter of the drum or the minimum safe thickness of the rotor as determined by the manufacturer of the drum or rotor. A drum or rotor worn beyond the maximum safe diameter or minimum safe thickness as prescribed by industry standards shall be discarded.

(i) Brake linings and pads shall meet the manufacturer's specifications for minimum thickness.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section substantially amended.  
Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (c) added 1.-4. requirements of brake stop and brake stop testing; at (e) added inches of mercury as acceptable measure.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.  
Administrative correction.  
See: 35 N.J.R. 2261(a).

### 16:53-3.21 Equipment unit

(a) Only single-unit, including articulated, autobus equipment with the motive power and the passenger compartment mounted on such unit shall be permitted.

(b) Trailers shall not be permitted to be attached to an autobus used for the transportation of passengers.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Added (a): "including articulated". Added (b).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (b), substituted "for" for "in" and "transportation" for "transporting".

### 16:53-3.22 Identification

(a) An autobus shall not be operated unless it displays on each side of its exterior the exact name of the operator in clearly visible letters at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background.

(b) Every autobus shall be assigned an identification number by the operator. This number shall be displayed on the interior front, and on the front, rear, and both sides of the exterior. All numbers shall be at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background. The number at the rear shall be displayed at least 60 inches from the ground.

(c) Each autobus shall display on the right-hand side thereof the number of the New Jersey Department of Transportation's certificate of compliance and the charter number, if applicable, in letters and numbers three inches high in the following style: NJDOT 12345 and/or NJDOT 123C.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section substantially amended.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Height of exterior numbers changed from 3½ to three inches and requirement to display rear numbers 60 inches from ground and the display of the charter number if applicable.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.23 Certification of inspection**

(a) An authorized New Jersey Department of Transportation official or company official (private operator) shall affix a certificate of inspection (inspection sticker) to an autobus at the completion of each six-month certification inspection.

(b) A certificate of inspection shall not be issued without certification by the person authorized to inspect the autobus verifying that the vehicle was inspected, is in proper and safe condition, and complies with all requirements of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The required certification shall be made on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(c) An autobus shall not be operated unless it prominently displays an unexpired certificate of inspection issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, visible from the exterior, on the lower right corner of the right-hand windshield.

(d) Each autobus operating in the State shall be subject to on-road and in-terminal inspections. Such inspections shall be conducted at the New Jersey Department of Transportation's option as to location and frequency.

(e) Any person who issues a certificate of inspection or submits a certification to the New Jersey Department of Transportation without the required inspection and repair having been performed shall be deemed to be a disorderly person in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:4-2.1(a).

(f) A notice of discontinuance shall be affixed to any autobus that fails the required inspection.

(g) A certificate of inspection or compliance shall not be issued if payment of a statutory or regulatory fee remains outstanding to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Changed "Board" to "Department". Added language "Department, visible ... and frequency".

As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.

See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).

Section substantially amended.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (f) added ... "and be subject to the appropriate penalty".

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.24 Maintenance and inspection**

(a) The body, chassis, engine and all equipment shall be maintained in proper adjustment and safe operating condition.

(b) All equipment shall receive a specification inspection by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel in order to insure compliance with all of the Department's specifications. All autobuses that meet New Jersey Department of Transportation specifications shall be issued a certificate of compliance.

(c) All autobuses for which certificates of compliance have been issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall receive a certification inspection at least twice annually. Nothing herein shall limit the New Jersey Department of Transportation's authority to require more frequent certification inspections of such vehicles by Department personnel when the safety of the public so requires.

(d) A systematic maintenance record shall be kept for each autobus showing the vehicle identification number, driver, dates of breakdowns, defects reported and corrective measures taken. The records shall be retained by the operator for at least 12 months and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(e) Each autobus shall receive a complete inspection at regular time and/or mileage intervals for mechanical or structural defects. All necessary repairs shall be completed and a certificate of inspection affixed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 16:53-3.23 before the autobus is returned to service. An itemized record of each inspection showing the date, vehicle identification number, lubrication record, repairs and adjustments, and signed by the person making such inspection, shall be available at the inspection site at the time of inspection and for at least 12 months thereafter, and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(f) The maintenance facilities shall be adequate to assure compliance with specifications herein and shall include either a suitable pit or lift or an arrangement for the use of such facilities.

(g) The entire autobus shall be kept clean and sanitary.

(h) The self-inspection certification does not apply to autobuses certified for school use. Such vehicles shall be inspected biannually by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel.

(i) All autobuses directly operated by the New Jersey Transit Corporation shall be on a six-month full New Jersey Department of Transportation inspection program in accordance with the August 2000 Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the New Jersey Transit Corporation and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The Memorandum of Understanding is available for inspection at the Office of the Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, 225 East State Street, 9th Floor, Trenton, New Jersey. All autobuses operated by private operators shall receive an interterminal inspection at six-month intervals; once by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel during the first six months, and then a self-inspection by the private operator once during the second six-month period. A record of each six-month certification inspection shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(j) New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall perform unannounced audit inspections of self-inspected autobuses to insure compliance with the self-inspection program.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section substantially amended.  
As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.  
See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).

Section substantially amended.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-3.25 Tires and wheels

(a) An autobus shall be equipped with tires and wheels of sufficient size and construction, as recommended by the manufacturer to meet the GVWR of the autobus.

(b) An autobus shall not be operated with regrooved, retread, or recapped tires on the front wheels. An autobus shall not be operated on any tire having exposed fabric on the tread or sidewall.

(c) An autobus shall not be operated unless the front tires have tread groove of at least 4/32 of an inch when measured in a major tread groove.

(d) An autobus shall not be operated unless the rear tires have a tread groove of at least 2/32 of an inch when measured in a major tread groove.

(e) An autobus shall be equipped with tires that are matched in size designation, construction, and profile on the same axle. Radial tires shall not be mixed with other types of tires on the same axle.

(f) All autobuses shall meet the requirements set forth in 49 CFR § 393.75, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Subsections (b) through (d) added. Changes in (a).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a) and (b); in (c) and (d), substituted "An autobus shall not be" for "No autobus shall be" preceding "operated"; added (e) and (f).

#### 16:53-3.26 Windshield wipers and washers

Each autobus shall be equipped with windshield wipers and washers sufficient in size and power and maintained so as to provide the driver with clear forward vision. Windshield wipers shall be located and shall operate in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer's specifications.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section substantially amended.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-3.27 Exhaust system

(a) The exhaust system shall vent to the rear or on the street side to the rear of the rear wheels of the autobus. No portion of the exhaust system shall be located in a manner that could result in the burning, charring, or damaging of electrical wiring, the fuel supply, or any combustible part of the autobus.

(b) The exhaust system of an autobus powered by a gasoline engine shall terminate at or within six inches forward of the rearmost part of the autobus and shall discharge gases to the atmosphere to the rear of all doors or windows designed to be opened for ventilation. Windows designed to be opened solely as emergency exits shall not be considered to be designed to be opened for ventilation.

(c) The exhaust pipe of an autobus, other than a gasoline-powered autobus, shall:

1. Discharge gases to the atmosphere at or within 15 inches forward of the rearmost part of the autobus; or

2. Discharge gases to the atmosphere to the rear of all doors or windows designed to be opened for ventilation. Windows designed to be opened solely as emergency exits shall not be considered to be designed to be opened for ventilation.

(d) The exhaust system shall be maintained in proper operating condition in conformity with standards promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

1. Each autobus exhaust emission system shall be inspected utilizing equipment approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Inspection of the exhaust emission system may be conducted by the operator, by a person designated by the operator, or by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.1.

3. Each autobus shall be inspected every six months by a person qualified to conduct emission testing. Self-inspection emission testing shall be completed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification. Inspections performed by any person other than New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall require a certification from the individual conducting such inspection indicating his or her qualifications to conduct such a test and the type of equipment used.

(e) Engine covers shall be properly sealed and shall not permit any engine compartment vapors to enter the passenger compartment.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section completely amended.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (d) added 1.-4. describing auto exhaust emission system inspections.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a) and (b); in (c), rewrote the introductory paragraph, substituted "autobus" for "vehicle" in 1 and substituted "designed to be opened" for "openable" in 2; in (d), substituted "The exhaust" for "Such" and "proper operating condition" for "good working order" in the introductory paragraph, rewrote 2, substituted "Self-inspection emission testing" for "Inspections" and "self-inspection certification" for "the expiration date indicated on the sticker issued by the Department" in 3, and deleted 4; added (e).

**16:53-3.28 Drive shaft**

Any drive shaft extending lengthwise under the floor of the passenger compartment of an autobus shall be protected by means of at least one guard or bracket at that end of the drive shaft which is provided with a sliding connection (spline or other such device) to prevent the whipping of the shaft in the event of failure thereof or of any of its component parts. A shaft contained within a torque tube shall not require any such device.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section completely amended.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.29 Glazing and window construction**

(a) Glazing shall conform to 49 CFR § 393.60, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 205 and 217 (49 CFR § 571.205 and § 571.217), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Interior glazing including, but not limited to, mirrors, partitions, cabinets, and lighting fixtures shall be constructed of laminated safety glass or other material approved by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section completely amended.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Corrected Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulation cite.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.30 Exterior lights and reflectors**

(a) Each autobus shall be equipped with lamps, signaling devices, and reflectors that conform to 49 CFR § 393.11, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Stoptlights shall be separate and independent of all other rear lights. One stoptlight shall be provided at each side of the vertical centerline of the autobus at the same height and as far apart as practicable. Center stoptlights are permissible but shall not be considered as meeting the requirement for separate and independent stoptlights. Stoptlights shall be no lower than 15 inches nor higher than 72 inches measured from the road surface to the center of the lamp at curb weight.

(c) When viewed at a distance of 50 feet from the center of the rear of an autobus, rear hazard warning lights shall not be obstructed from view when the engine door(s) is open.

(d) Back-up lights are required and shall be activated only when the autobus is in reverse.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section completely amended.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.31 Horn; audible warning device**

(a) Each autobus shall be equipped with a horn in proper operating condition to give reasonable warning to others of the approach of the vehicle.

(b) Each autobus shall be equipped with an audible warning device that shall be activated when the vehicle is in reverse.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section recodified.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.32 Speedometer; odometer**

(a) Each autobus shall be equipped with a speedometer in proper operating condition capable of indicating the speed of the vehicle in miles per hour and readily visible to the driver.

(b) Each autobus shall be equipped with an odometer in proper operating condition capable of recording accumulated miles.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Section recodified.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Added requirements that speed be indicated in miles per hour and a method for recording accumulated miles be provided.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.33 Grounding device**

Each autobus, unless otherwise designed to eliminate static electric charge buildup, shall be equipped with a suitable grounding device.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Deleted original text and inserted "unless otherwise . . . device".

**16:53-3.34 Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning**

(a) A heating system capable of heating the passenger section to a temperature of at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit shall be provided.

(b) Heating systems using exhaust gas to heat air carried within the passenger section or exhaust gas passing through conductors within the passenger section are prohibited.

(c) Heating devices using gasoline or other fuel shall be of a type approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. and conform to 49 CFR § 393.77, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and all fuel lines shall be located outside of the passenger section.

(d) Every autobus shall be equipped with a system of ventilation capable of distributing an adequate supply of fresh air throughout the passenger section.

(e) Every autobus equipped with at least 50 percent non-operational passenger windows as originally designed by the manufacturer shall be equipped with an air conditioner in proper operating condition during the period between May 1 and October 1 of each year.

(f) Each autobus shall be equipped with a windshield defroster in proper operating condition.

As amended, R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "A" for "An adequate" and deleted ", whenever required."; rewrote (c), (e) and (f).

**16:53-3.35 Turntable (articulated)**

The turntable floor shall be properly aligned to prevent the raising or lowering thereof while the autobus is in operation.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.36 Turntable area enclosure**

Bellows or similar devices designed to enclose the portion of the autobus in the turntable area shall be maintained to prevent exhaust fumes or rain, snow, or ice from entering the autobus.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Substituted "devices designed" for "arrangement used", "vehicle" for "autobus" and "rain, snow, or ice" for "the elements".

**16:53-3.37 Anti-jackknifing devices**

(a) An articulated autobus shall be equipped with an interlock to prevent the vehicle from jackknifing while backing up.

(b) An articulated autobus shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal indicating to the driver when the vehicle is nearing the jackknife position.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.

See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "An articulated autobus shall" for "Articulated vehicles must"; in (b), substituted "An articulated autobus" for "The vehicle".

**16:53-3.38 Fuel system**

(a) All parts of the fuel system shall be securely installed outside of the passenger section and shall be located or protected so as to prevent damage to any part thereof.

(b) Buses manufactured after January 1, 1974, shall have the fuel supply line fitting located in the top of the tank.

(c) The filler cap shall be non-detachable, leakproof, and spillproof.

(d) A gasoline tank shall not be placed below an aisle unless the area over such tank is protected by metal shielding.

(e) A fuel supply system using a fuel other than gasoline or diesel shall meet all of the requirements set forth in 49 CFR § 393.69, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, or National Fire Protection Association Standard 52 "Compressed Natural Gas Vehicular Fuel Systems Code," incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, whichever is applicable. Copies of the National Fire Protection Association standards may be obtained from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269, (617) 770-3000.

(f) All buses manufactured after January 1, 1974 shall be equipped with fuel tanks certified and marked by the manufacturer to be in compliance with 49 CFR § 393.67, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, pertaining to liquid fuel tanks. Replacement fuel tanks installed on any bus after January 1, 1974 shall comply with this subsection.

(g) Fuel and any other combustible material or compressed gas, other than compressed gas contained in fire extinguishers, shall not be carried or stored in the passenger compartment.

(h) Fuel tanks and systems shall conform to 49 CFR § 393.65, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and either 49 CFR § 393.67 or § 393.69, whichever is applicable, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

R.1983 d.110, effective May 2, 1983.  
 See: 14 N.J.R. 1347(a), 15 N.J.R. 694(b).  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (b), substituted "Autobuses" for "Buses"; in (d), deleted "adequately"; rewrote (e) and (f); added (g) and (h).

**16:53-3.39 Fire extinguisher**

Fire extinguishers are required on all buses and shall be designed, constructed, and maintained as provided in 49 CFR § 393.95, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-3.40 Mirrors; video camera**

(a) Interior and exterior mirrors shall be provided to insure a clear view of the vehicle interior and of the exterior sides to the rear.

(b) A video camera may be installed to enable the driver to view the exterior rear of the bus. The camera shall be operable only while the bus is in reverse.

New Rule, R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Amended by R.1990 d.3, effective January 2, 1990.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 3259(a), 22 N.J.R. 60(a).  
 In (b), added, "If desired, a . . ." and changed "shall" to "may be installed".  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote (b).

**16:53-3.41 Video monitor and/or television receiver installation for passenger use**

(a) An bus shall not have a video monitor, except as otherwise provided in N.J.A.C. 16:53-3.40(b), and/or a television receiver installed in such a manner that the viewing screen is visible to the driver while operating the bus.

(b) The operation of a video monitor and/or television receiver, other than the on/off and volume functions, shall be performed at a location other than the driver's seat.

(c) A viewing screen shall be installed in such a manner so as to minimize passenger contact therewith. A viewing screen shall not block normal access to the aisle or emergency escape windows.

(d) A viewing screen placed above a passenger seat shall be installed in such a manner so as to allow a passenger to sit in the seat below the viewing screen without coming in contact with it.

(e) Except for the viewing screen and the front perimeter of the housing of the video monitor or television receiver, the video monitor or television receiver shall be enclosed in a material designed to soften any passenger impact with the chassis of the unit or its mounting components. Ventilation holes are permitted.

(f) All equipment (such as video screens, television receivers, video cassette recorders, and tape players) shall be securely mounted to the bus so that they cannot be moved without being intentionally unfastened. In lieu of this requirement, the equipment shall be inside of an enclosure to prevent its shifting or falling on the driver or passengers.

(g) Wiring shall be installed in a workmanlike manner and shall be equipped with an overload protector.

New Rule, R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), inserted " except as otherwise provided in N.J.A.C. 16:53-3.40(b)," following "monitor,"; rewrote (b) through (f).

#### 16:53-3.42 Lavatory

(a) An autobus that is equipped with a lavatory shall have:

1. An audible or visible signal to alert the driver of an emergency, which shall be clearly marked "EMERGENCY SIGNAL";
2. Adequate lighting; and
3. A door lock that normally operates only from the inside, with key provision for emergency access from the outside of the lavatory.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

#### 16:53-3.43 Steps

(a) The first step at entrance areas shall not exceed 16 inches from the ground when the autobus is unloaded.

(b) The surface of all steps shall be of a nonskid material.

(c) Steps shall not extend beyond the body limits to a degree that could result in bodily injury or property damage.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

#### 16:53-3.44 Sun visor

An autobus shall be equipped with an interior sun visor for the use of the driver.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

#### 16:53-3.45 Baggage racks and compartments

(a) Exterior baggage racks are prohibited.

(b) Interior baggage shall be carried in a manner so as not to interfere with any passenger's seat, safety, or comfort.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

### SUBCHAPTER 4. AUTOBUSES AND SMALL AUTOBUSES WITH MODIFIED INTERIORS

#### 16:53-4.1 Scope

(a) This subchapter shall apply to autobuses as defined in N.J.A.C. 16:53-3.1(d) and small autobuses as defined in N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.1(d) in which conventional interior arrangements have been changed and special equipment installed.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, an autobus or small autobus in which the conventional interior has been modified prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has issued a certificate of compliance may continue in service as presently designed, constructed, and equipped. Any such modified autobus or small autobus in operation in a foreign jurisdiction or acquired prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has not issued a certificate of compliance shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002. Any such modified autobus or small autobus for which a contract of sale or purchase order has been entered into before September 1, 2002, and any such modified autobus or small autobus that is in manufacturer or dealer inventory before September 1, 2002, shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (b) changed date from January 2, 1983 to June 1, 1989.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-4.2 Seating

(a) All seats shall be securely fastened.

(b) An autobus shall have an aisle that extends the entire length of the vehicle. The aisle shall have a minimum width of 14 inches, and shall be unobstructed.

(c) A small autobus shall have an aisle that extends the entire length of the vehicle. The aisle shall have a minimum width of 12 inches, and shall be unobstructed.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-4.3 Passageways

(a) Original service doors, steps, controls, and passageway lighting shall not be modified.

(b) Trap doors over entrance steps shall not be permitted.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "service" for "entrance" preceding "doors", inserted "passageway" preceding "lighting" and substituted "shall not be" for "are not to be"; rewrote (b).

#### 16:53-4.4 Fire extinguisher

A fire extinguisher that complies with 49 CFR § 393.95, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, shall be located adjacent to any interior auxiliary equipment that could produce a fire hazard (including, but not limited to, a microwave oven or stove).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-4.5 Installation of special equipment**

Special equipment including, but not limited to, auxiliary engines, generators, microwave ovens, refrigerators, and televisions shall be installed according to the manufacturer's specifications and, with regard to the installation of televisions, shall conform to 49 CFR § 393.88, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-4.6 Driver's compartment partition**

A partition shall be provided as required in N.J.A.C. 16:53-3.5. In no case shall a door or similar device completely separate the driver from the interior of the autobus or small autobus.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Substituted "autobus or small autobus" for "bus".

**16:53-4.7 Passenger signal**

Passenger signals are not required.

and incorporates by reference the rules pertaining to the safety of equipment promulgated by the United States Department of Transportation set forth in 49 CFR Part 393, as amended and supplemented. A copy of 49 CFR Part 393 may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 783-3238.

(b) Any small autobus in operation or acquired prior to September 1, 2002, and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has issued a certificate of compliance may continue in service as presently designed, constructed, and equipped. Any small autobus in operation in a foreign jurisdiction or acquired prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has not issued a certificate of compliance shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002. Any small autobus for which a contract of sale or purchase order has been entered into before September 1, 2002, and any new small autobus that is in manufacturer or dealer inventory before September 1, 2002, shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002.

(c) The specifications set forth in this subchapter shall apply to all small autobuses engaged in interstate or intrastate common carrier service that are subject to the New Jersey Department of Transportation's jurisdiction and for which certificates of compliance of the New Jersey Department of Transportation are required.

(d) For purposes of this subchapter, a small autobus shall be defined as a motor vehicle used in the transportation of passengers for hire having a seating capacity of no more than 25 adult passengers, not including the driver.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Date changed in (b) from January 2, 1983 to June 1, 1989.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.2 (Reserved)**

R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Repealed by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Section was "Definitions".

**16:53-6.3 Dimensions**

(a) The overall length of a small autobus, excluding the bumpers, shall not exceed 30 feet.

(b) The overall width of a small autobus shall not exceed 102 inches outside measurement, measured at the widest part of the body. Mirrors, fender moldings, and other similar accessories shall not be included in determining body width.

**SUBCHAPTER 5. CERTIFICATES**

**16:53-5.1 Fee for issuance**

(a) A certificate of compliance, as required by law and the rules of the New Jersey Department of Transportation, shall not be issued to an operator of a van-type autobus, an autobus, a small autobus, a special autobus-type recreational vehicle, or a sedan-type autobus unless the statutory fee therefor has been paid to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(b) A certificate of inspection shall not be issued to any operator of a van-type autobus, an autobus, a small autobus, a special autobus-type recreational vehicle, or a sedan-type autobus unless the statutory fee therefor has been paid to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(c) A certificate of inspection or compliance shall not be issued if payment of the statutory fee remains outstanding to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(d) A notice of discontinuance shall be affixed to any vehicle that fails the required inspection.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**SUBCHAPTER 6. SPECIFICATIONS FOR SMALL AUTOBUSES**

**16:53-6.1 Scope**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, the New Jersey Department of Transportation hereby adopts

(c) The overall height of a small autobus shall not exceed 13 feet, six inches.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.2 and changed excessive width from above 96 inches to above 102 inches.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.4 Chassis and body construction

(a) The chassis and body construction shall be of sufficient size and strength to safely support the gross vehicle weight and the allowable payload, as recommended by the chassis manufacturer.

(b) Axles, springs, tires, and suspension assemblies shall be of sufficient capacity to support the manufacturer's maximum gross vehicle weight rating.

(c) The gross vehicle weight rating certified by the manufacturer and the gross vehicle axle weight shall be set forth on a data plate that is affixed to the small autobus in a location that is readily visible for inspection. At no time shall the gross vehicle weight rating be exceeded.

(d) The body shall be mounted on an appropriate chassis and shall be free of sharp or jagged edges.

(e) Each small autobus shall be equipped with a front and rear bumper of sufficient size and strength attached to the main chassis frame supporting the body and extending the full width of the body.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

From N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.3.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.5 Equipment unit

(a) A small autobus shall be of the single unit type with the motive power and passenger compartment mounted as one unit.

(b) Trailers of any type are prohibited.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

From N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.4.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "A small autobus" for "The vehicle".

#### 16:53-6.6 Interior

(a) The interior shall be free of unnecessary projections. Body panels, seats, flooring, and all other component parts of the body shall be installed in a workmanlike manner and be free of sharp or jagged edges, protruding nails, screws, or similar objects.

(b) The interior shall be equipped with inner linings on the ceiling and side walls covering all body bows and body supports.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

From N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.5.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), deleted "all" preceding "necessary" and substituted "of" for "from" preceding "sharp or jagged edges".

#### 16:53-6.7 Aisle

The aisle of a small autobus shall be not less than 12 inches wide and 68 inches high.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

From N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.6.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Deleted "center" preceding "aisle".

#### 16:53-6.8 Seating

(a) A transverse seat width of not less than 15 inches shall be provided for each passenger on seats having multiple seating positions. Single seats shall provide a transverse seat width of not less than 19 inches. Seats shall have unobstructed kneeroom of not less than seven inches across the full width of the seat.

(b) Seats shall be of substantial construction and securely mounted to the floor and/or sides. Perimeter seating is permitted. Stanchions shall be provided, evenly spaced on each side of the aisle for use when carrying standees.

(c) Portable seats and seats not securely and permanently mounted to the floor are prohibited.

(d) The total number of passengers shall not exceed the capacity of the small autobus as specified by the manufacturer or the New Jersey Department of Transportation's rated passenger capacity as designated on the Department's certificate of compliance.

(e) Wheelchair positions may be rear, longitudinal, diagonal, or forward-facing. Wheelchair positions in small autobuses that are used to transport students to or from school or school-connected activities shall be forward-facing. Wheelchair positions shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, 209 and 210 (49 CFR § 571.208, § 571.209 and § 571.210), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(f) A tour guide seat may be installed to the right of the center aisle, provided that such seat shall not be occupied by a person other than an employee of the autobus company. The tour guide seat shall be equipped with a seat belt.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

From N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.7.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.9 Glazing**

(a) All glazing shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 205 (49 CFR § 571.205), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Interior glazing including, but not limited to, mirrors, partitions, cabinets, and lighting fixtures shall be constructed of laminated safety glass or other material approved by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.8.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.10 Lights; reflectors**

(a) Interior lighting shall be sufficient in number to provide proper illumination.

(b) Exterior lights shall conform to 49 CFR § 393.11, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) A small autobus shall be equipped with rear reflectors on each side in accordance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. Reflectors shall be mounted not more than 60 inches nor less than 24 inches as measured from the center of the reflector to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands.

(d) At least one step light shall be provided at each service door.

(e) Stoplights shall be separate and independent of all other rear lights. One stoplight shall be provided at each side of the vertical centerline of the small autobus at the same height and as far apart as practicable. Center stoplights are permissible but shall not be considered as meeting the requirement for separate and independent stoplights. Stoplights shall be no lower than 15 inches nor higher than 72 inches measured from the road surface to the center of the lamp at curb weight.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.9.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote (a), (b), (c) and (e).

**16:53-6.11 Mirrors**

(a) Interior and exterior mirrors shall be provided to insure a clear view of the vehicle interior and of the exterior sides to the rear.

(b) Exterior left and right side mirrors shall be low mount, firmly supported, and easily adjustable.

(c) A video camera may be installed to enable the driver to view the exterior rear of the small autobus. The camera shall be operable only while the small autobus is in reverse.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
Recodified from N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.10 and new (c) added.  
Amended by R.1990 d.3, effective January 2, 1990.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 3259(a), 22 N.J.R. 60(a).

In (c), added, "If desired, a . . ." and changed "shall" to "may be installed".

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (b), deleted "of the junior west coast type or equivalent," preceding "low mount"; rewrote (c).

**16:53-6.12 Brakes**

(a) Brakes shall conform to the manufacturer's specifications applicable to the gross vehicle weight rating of the small autobus.

(b) A hydraulic service brake system shall be of the dual (split) type and shall meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 105 (49 CFR § 571.105), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) Service brakes shall be power-actuated and shall operate on all wheels.

(d) Service brakes shall be constructed and maintained to stop the small autobus at a rate of deceleration equivalent to a stop in 25 feet or less from a speed of 20 miles per hour.

(e) A small autobus shall be equipped with two independent brake systems having two sets of controls that are capable of being actuated independently of each other.

(f) If a small autobus is equipped with a mechanical parking brake, such parking brake shall be constructed and maintained to hold the small autobus in a stopped position with the transmission in a forward gear while the parking brake is applied.

(g) Brake stopping distances shall be measured by means of an instrument or machine of the decelerometer-type capable of being read in feet.

1. Each small autobus shall meet the brake stop test requirement on an approved decelerometer that has been calibrated for accuracy.

2. Brake stop test equipment shall be owned by the operator, or arrangements shall be made for its use by the

operator, or such equipment shall be provided to the operator by others, or the operator may choose to have such testing performed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.2.

3. The brake stop test shall be performed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification.

(h) Brake drums and rotors shall be permanently and plainly marked and shall clearly indicate the maximum safe diameter of the drum or the minimum safe thickness of the rotor as determined by the manufacturer of the drum or rotor. A drum or rotor worn beyond the maximum safe diameter or minimum safe thickness as prescribed by industry standards shall be discarded.

(i) When the emergency brake is activated by the loss of the system to the main service brakes, the driver, without leaving his or her seat, shall be able to override the emergency brake a minimum of three times. The control to operate the override shall be of a "dead man" type, necessitating constant driver effort to use. All small autobuses manufactured after March 1975 equipped with an air brake system shall comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 121 (49 CFR § 571.121), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, pertaining to split system and emergency application.

(j) Any system source to activate the emergency brake shall be separate and independent of the main service brake system supply source.

(k) Brake systems actuated by compressed air pressure or vacuum power shall be constructed to afford the following results:

1. Compressed air brake systems shall be equipped with an air compressor of sufficient size to fully charge the reservoir to its rated operating pressure in three minutes or less.

2. Reservoir capacity shall be sufficient to maintain 60 pounds per square inch after four full brake applications. This shall be accomplished with the engine and compressor shut down and the parking brake released.

3. Compressed air reservoir systems shall be equipped with a safety valve that shall vent to the atmosphere. The safety valve setting shall not be in excess of 1½ times the maximum air compressor governed pressure setting.

4. Vacuum reservoirs shall have a volume of not less than 1,000 cubic inches and shall be used for braking purposes only.

5. Vacuum brake systems shall develop a minimum of 14 inches of reservoir vacuum within the following times:

- i. Intake manifold of engine, one minute; and
- ii. Vacuum pump, two minutes.

(l) Brake systems shall be equipped with an air pressure or vacuum gauge, indicating pounds per square inch or inches of mercury, located in clear view of the driver and illuminated during the period when lighted lamps are required.

(m) Small autobuses equipped with brake systems actuated by compressed air shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal, within hearing or full view of the driver to indicate that air pressure is at least one-half of the compressor governor cut-out pressure. Small autobuses equipped with brake systems actuated by vacuum power shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal within hearing or full view of the driver whenever the vacuum in the vehicle's supply reservoir is less than eight inches of mercury.

(n) Brake linings and pads shall meet the manufacturer's specifications for minimum thickness.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.11 and 1.-4. added at (g).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.13 Tires and wheels

(a) A small autobus shall be equipped with tires and wheels of sufficient size and construction as recommended by the manufacturer to meet the gross vehicle weight rating of the small autobus.

(b) A small autobus shall not be operated on any tire having exposed fabric on the tread or sidewall.

(c) The front tires of a small autobus shall have a minimum tread groove of 4/32 inches. The rear tires of a small autobus shall have a minimum tread groove of 2/32 inches. Measurements shall be made at any point on a major tread groove except where tie bars, humps, or fillets are located.

(d) A small autobus shall not be operated with regrooved, recapped, or retread tires on the front wheels.

(e) A small autobus shall be equipped with tires that are matched in size designation, construction, and profile on the same axle. Radial tires shall not be mixed with other types of tires on the same axle.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly 16:53-6.12.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.14 Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning

(a) A heating system capable of heating the passenger section to a temperature of at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit shall be provided.

(b) Heating systems using exhaust gas to heat air carried within the passenger section or exhaust gas passing through conductors within the passenger section are prohibited.

(c) Heating devices using gasoline or other fuel shall be of a type approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. and conform to 49 CFR § 393.77, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and shall be located outside of the passenger section.

(d) Every small autobus shall be equipped with a system of ventilation capable of distributing an adequate supply of fresh air throughout the passenger section.

(e) Every small autobus equipped with at least 50 percent non-operational passenger windows as originally designed by the manufacturer shall be equipped with an air conditioner in proper operating condition during the period between May 1 and October 1 of each year.

(f) Each small autobus shall be equipped with a windshield defroster in proper operating condition.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.13.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.15 Fuel tanks and fuel systems**

(a) Fuel tanks and systems shall meet all applicable Federal requirements as set forth in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 301 (49 CFR § 571.301), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and 49 CFR § 393.65 and § 393.67, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Fuel tanks and filler pipes shall be located wholly outside of the body to the rear of the line of the windshield and/or the front axle, as physical conditions permit, and be properly insulated to prevent fire.

(c) Fuel tanks shall be constructed and located in a manner that will permit the filling and draining thereof only from the outside of the small autobus.

(d) The filler cap shall be non-detachable, leakproof, and spillproof.

(e) Fuel and any other combustible material or compressed gas, other than compressed gas contained in fire extinguishers, shall not be carried or stored in the passenger compartment.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.14.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.16 Exhaust system**

(a) The exhaust system shall be securely installed entirely outside of the vehicle body. The exhaust system shall be equipped with a muffler in proper operating condition. The exhaust system shall be free of leaks. Flexible pipe or tubing is prohibited in the exhaust system.

(b) The exhaust system shall vent to the rear or on the street side to the rear of the rear wheels.

(c) The engine shall be maintained in proper operating condition so as to prevent the emission of excessive smoke or other air contaminants. Small autobuses shall meet the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection motor vehicle emission inspection standards applicable to the type of engine installed.

1. Each exhaust emission system shall be inspected utilizing equipment approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Inspection of the exhaust emission system may be conducted by the operator, by a person designated by the operator, or by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.1.

3. Each small autobus shall be inspected every six months by a person qualified to conduct emission testing. Self-inspection emission testing shall be completed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification. Inspections performed by any person other than New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall require a certification from the individual conducting such inspection indicating his or her qualifications to conduct such a test and the type of equipment used.

(d) No portion of the exhaust system shall be located in a manner that could result in the burning or damaging of electrical wiring, fuel system components, or any combustible part of the small autobus.

(e) Engine covers shall be properly sealed and shall not permit any engine compartment vapors to enter the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.15 and 1.-4. added at (c) regarding exhaust emission inspection.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.17 Windshield wipers and washers**

(a) Small autobuses shall be equipped with windshield wipers and washers sufficient in size and power and maintained so as to provide the driver with clear forward vision. Windshield wipers shall be located and shall operate in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer's specifications.

(b) Windshield wipers shall be of variable speed and electrically-operated.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.16.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a).

#### 16:53-6.18 Steps

(a) The first step at the entrance area shall not exceed 16 inches from the ground when the small autobus is unloaded.

(b) The surface of all steps shall be of a nonskid material.

(c) Steps shall not extend beyond the body limits to a degree that could result in bodily injury or property damage.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.17.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "exceed" for "be less than 10 inches nor more than" and "small autobus" for "vehicle"; in (b), substituted "nonskid" for "skid-resistant"; in (c), deleted "possibly" preceding "result".

#### 16:53-6.19 Sun visor

A small autobus shall be equipped with an interior sun visor for the use of the driver.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.18.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.20 Baggage racks and compartments

(a) Exterior baggage racks shall be constructed so that all baggage is held in a secure manner under all conditions of operation.

(b) Ladders or any other similar means of reaching the exterior baggage racks shall be prohibited unless protection is provided that will prevent the possibility of ride hitching.

(c) An interior baggage area shall be separated from the passenger compartment by a partition of sufficient strength and construction installed in a workmanlike manner to safely separate the areas. A partition shall not intrude past the rear of the rear seat with or without baggage on board. Interior baggage shall be carried in a manner so as not to interfere with any passenger's seat, safety, or comfort.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.19.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "is" for "will be" and deleted ", safe" preceding "manner"; in (c), rewrote the first sentence and added the second sentence.

#### 16:53-6.21 Identification

(a) A small autobus shall not be operated unless it displays on each side of its exterior the exact name of the operator in clearly visible letters at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background.

(b) Every small autobus shall be assigned an identification number by the operator. This number shall be displayed on the interior front, and on the front, rear, and both sides of the exterior. Interior and exterior numbers shall be at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background. The number at the rear shall be displayed at least 60 inches from the ground.

(c) Each small autobus shall display on the right-hand side thereof the number of the New Jersey Department of Transportation's certificate of compliance and the charter number, if applicable, in letters and numbers three inches high in the following style: NJDOT 12345 and/or NJDOT 123C.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.20.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a); in (b), inserted "small" following "Every", substituted "operator" for "utility", inserted "on" preceding "the front", and substituted "high" for "in height"; in (c), inserted "small" preceding "autobus" and substituted "numbers" for "figures".

#### 16:53-6.22 Certification of inspection

(a) An authorized New Jersey Department of Transportation official or company official (private operator) shall affix a certificate of inspection (inspection sticker) to a small autobus at the completion of each six-month certification inspection.

(b) A certificate of inspection shall not be issued without certification by the person authorized to inspect the small autobus verifying that the vehicle was inspected, is in proper and safe condition, and complies with all requirements of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The required certification shall be made on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(c) A small autobus shall not be operated unless it prominently displays an unexpired certificate of inspection issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, visible from the exterior, on the lower right corner of the right-hand windshield.

(d) Each small autobus operating in the State shall be subject to on-road and in-terminal inspections. Such inspections shall be conducted at the New Jersey Department of Transportation's option as to location and frequency.

(e) Any person who issues a certificate of inspection or submits a certification to the New Jersey Department of Transportation without the required inspection and repair having been performed shall be deemed to be a disorderly person in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:4-2.1(a).

(f) A notice of discontinuance shall be affixed to any small autobus that fails the required inspection.

(g) A certificate of inspection or compliance shall not be issued if payment of a statutory or regulatory fee remains outstanding to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.  
 See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).  
 Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.21.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.23 Drive shaft**

Any drive shaft extending lengthwise under the floor of the passenger compartment of a small autobus shall be protected by means of at least one guard or bracket at that end of the drive shaft which is provided with a sliding connection (spline or other such device) to prevent the whipping of the shaft in the event of failure thereof or of any of its component parts. A shaft contained within a torque tube shall not require any such device.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.22.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the first sentence.

**16:53-6.24 Signs**

(a) An illuminated sign indicating route, where applicable, and destination shall be provided, so designed and located that it may be read by day or night. Such sign shall not interfere with the driver's view or produce an annoying glare.

(b) The destination sign requirement set forth in (a) above may be waived provided the operator receives written approval from the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(c) A sign shall be provided indicating that smoking on autobuses is prohibited by law.

(d) Every small autobus shall have a sign with letters at least one-half inch high indicating that it is a violation of the Federal Highway Administration's regulations for a bus to be operated with persons occupying the prohibited area as provided in 49 CFR § 393.90, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(e) A sign shall be provided that indicates the location of the fire extinguisher if the fire extinguisher is not readily visible.

(f) All signs required by (c), (d) and (e) above shall be located in the interior front of the small autobus.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.23.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 In (a), substituted "Such sign shall" for "This sign must"; rewrote (b); added (d) through (f).

**16:53-6.25 Overhang of body**

(a) The maximum overhang of the body to the rear of a load-bearing rear axle shall not exceed one-third of the total length of the small autobus.

(b) Vehicle measurements shall be taken from the extreme front to the extreme rear of the vehicle, not including the bumpers.

(c) Overhang measurements shall be taken from the center of the rear load-bearing axle to the extreme rear end of the small autobus, not including the rear bumper.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.24.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.26 Speedometer; odometer**

(a) Each small autobus shall be equipped with a speedometer in proper operating condition capable of indicating the speed of the vehicle in miles per hour and readily visible to the driver.

(b) Each small autobus shall be equipped with an odometer in proper operating condition capable of recording accumulated miles.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Recodified from N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.25 and added requirement that a method for measuring accumulated miles be provided.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.27 Horn; audible warning device**

(a) Each small autobus shall be equipped with a horn in proper operating condition to give reasonable warning to others of the approach of the vehicle.

(b) Each small autobus shall be equipped with an audible warning device that shall be activated when the vehicle is in reverse.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.26.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.28 Grounding device

Each autobus, unless otherwise designed to eliminate static electric charge buildup, shall be equipped with a suitable grounding device.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.27.

#### 16:53-6.29 Partition and curtain

Each small autobus shall be equipped with a partition of metal, safety glass, or rigid plastic and shall be located to the rear of the driver's seat with a curtain or tinting, if necessary, to shield the driver from the glare of inside lights. The minimum dimensions of drivers' partitions shall be 18 inches wide and shall extend upward from at least two inches below the top of the driver's seatback to not less than 18 inches from the ceiling.

Amended by R.1986 d.399, effective October 6, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1519(b), 18 N.J.R. 2058(c).

Added text "The minimum dimension . . . from the ceiling."

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.28.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.30 Bumpers

(a) Each small autobus shall be equipped with a front and rear bumper of sufficient size and strength attached to the main frame supporting the body and extending the full width of the body.

(b) The rear bumper shall extend at least four inches beyond the body limits and be shielded on the top to prevent toehold, except on an autobus constructed with its engine attached to the extreme rear end of the chassis frame or one having similarly sized compartment between the extreme rear of the bus body and rear seat in the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.1986 d.399, effective October 6, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1519(b), 18 N.J.R. 2058(c).

Added text, "except on an . . . the passenger compartment."

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.29.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-6.31 Maintenance and inspection

(a) The body, chassis, engine and all equipment shall be maintained in proper adjustment and safe operating condition.

(b) All equipment shall receive a specification inspection by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel in order to insure compliance with all of the Department's specifications. All small autobuses that meet New Jersey Department of Transportation specifications shall be issued a certificate of compliance.

(c) All small autobuses for which certificates of compliance have been issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall receive a certification inspection at least twice annually. Nothing herein shall limit the New Jersey Department of Transportation's authority to require more frequent certification inspections of such vehicles by Department personnel when the safety of the public so requires.

(d) A systematic maintenance record shall be kept for each small autobus showing the vehicle identification number, driver, dates of breakdowns, defects reported, and corrective measures taken. The records shall be retained by the operator for at least 12 months and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(e) Each small autobus shall receive a complete inspection at regular time and/or mileage intervals for mechanical or structural defects. All necessary repairs shall be completed and a certificate of inspection affixed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.21 before the small autobus is returned to service. An itemized record of each inspection showing the date, vehicle identification number, lubrication record, repairs and adjustments, and signed by the person making such inspection, shall be available at the inspection site at the time of inspection and for at least 12 months thereafter, and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(f) The maintenance facilities shall be adequate to assure compliance with specifications herein and shall include either a suitable pit or lift or an arrangement for the use of such facilities.

(g) The entire small autobus shall be kept clean and sanitary.

(h) The self-inspection certification does not apply to small autobuses certified for school use. Such vehicles shall be inspected biannually by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel.

(i) All small autobuses directly operated by the New Jersey Transit Corporation shall be on a six-month full New Jersey Department of Transportation inspection program in accordance with the August 2000 Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the New Jersey Transit Corporation and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The Memorandum of Understanding is available for inspection at the Office of the Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, 225 East State Street, 9th Floor, Trenton, New Jersey. All small autobuses operated by private operators shall receive an in-terminal inspection at six-month intervals; once by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel during the first six months, and then a self-inspection by the private operator once during the second six-month period. A record of each six-month certification inspection shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(j) New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall perform unannounced audit inspections of self-inspected small autobuses to insure compliance with the self-inspection program.

As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.  
 See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).  
 Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.30.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-6.32 Special equipment**

Special equipment used to transport passengers in wheelchairs shall comply with N.J.A.C. 16:53-2.

Recodified by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Formerly N.J.A.C. 16:53-6.31.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Substituted "shall" for "must" and amended the N.J.A.C. reference.

**16:53-6.33 Fire extinguisher**

Every small autobus shall be equipped with a fire extinguisher having a minimum Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 5BC. The fire extinguisher shall be permanently mounted and readily accessible to the driver.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

**16:53-6.34 Window openings**

(a) Each window opening, other than the driver's window, shall be restricted to a maximum of six inches.

(b) On small autobuses that are used to transport children to or from school or school-connected activities, each full side window shall provide an unobstructed emergency opening at least nine inches high and 22 inches wide, obtained by lowering the window.

New Rule, R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

(b) For purposes of this subchapter, a special autobus-type recreational vehicle is defined as a motor vehicle used in resort areas or areas of public interest on public streets.

(c) Any special autobus-type recreational vehicle in operation or acquired prior to September 1, 2002, and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has issued a certificate of compliance may continue in service as presently designed, constructed, and equipped. Any special autobus-type recreational vehicle in operation in a foreign jurisdiction or acquired prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has not issued a certificate of compliance shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002. Any special autobus-type recreational vehicle for which a contract of sale or purchase order has been entered into before September 1, 2002, and any new special autobus-type recreational vehicle that is in manufacturer or dealer inventory before September 1, 2002, shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002.

(d) For purposes of this subchapter, a special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall have a device (governor) in proper operating condition that restricts the maximum speed of the vehicle to 25 miles per hour while carrying passengers.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 In (c), date changed from January 2, 1983 to June 1, 1989.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.2 Dimensions**

The overall length of a special autobus-type recreational vehicle, excluding the bumpers, shall not exceed 30 feet.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Excess width of 96 inches changed to 102 inches.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.3 Chassis and body construction**

(a) The chassis and body construction shall be of sufficient size and strength to safely support the gross vehicle weight (GVW) and the allowable payload, as recommended by the chassis manufacturer.

(b) Axles, springs, tire and suspension assemblies shall be of sufficient capacity to support the manufacturer's maximum GVWR.

(c) The gross vehicle weight rating certified by the manufacturer and the gross vehicle axle weight shall be set forth on a data plate that is affixed to the special autobus-type recreational vehicle in a location that is readily visible for

**SUBCHAPTER 7. SPECIFICATIONS FOR SPECIAL AUTOBUS TYPE RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

**16:53-7.1 Scope**

(a) This subchapter shall apply to all special autobus-type recreational vehicles described herein, subject to the New Jersey Department of Transportation's jurisdiction, and for which a certificate of compliance of the New Jersey Department of Transportation is required.

inspection. At no time shall the gross vehicle weight rating be exceeded.

(d) The body shall be mounted on an appropriate chassis and shall be free of sharp or jagged edges.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote (c).

#### 16:53-7.4 Equipment unit

(a) The special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be of the single unit type with the motive power and passenger compartment mounted as one unit.

(b) Trailers of any type are prohibited.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), inserted "special autobus-type recreational" preceding "vehicle".

#### 16:53-7.5 Interior

The interior shall be free of unnecessary projections. Body panels, seats, flooring, and all other component parts of the body shall be installed in a workmanlike manner and be free of sharp or jagged edges, protruding nails, screws, or similar objects.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Deleted "all" preceding "unnecessary" and substituted "from" for "of" preceding "sharp".

#### 16:53-7.6 Aisle

The aisle of a special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall not be less than 14 inches wide and 68 inches high.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Deleted "center" preceding "aisle" and substituted "special autobus-type recreational vehicle" for "recreational type vehicle".

#### 16:53-7.7 Seating

(a) A transverse seat space of not less than 15 inches shall be provided for each passenger on seats having multiple seating positions. Single seats shall provide a transverse seat space of not less than 19 inches. Seats shall have unobstructed kneeroom of not less than seven inches across the full width of the seat.

(b) Seats shall be of substantial construction and securely mounted to the floor and/or sides.

(c) Portable seats and seats not securely and permanently mounted to the floor are prohibited.

(d) The total number of passengers shall not exceed the capacity of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle as specified by the manufacturer or the New Jersey Department of Transportation's rated seating capacity as designated on the Department's certificate of compliance.

(e) A tour guide seat may be installed to the right of the center aisle, provided that such seat shall not be occupied by a person other than an employee of the autobus company. The tour guide seat shall be equipped with a seat belt.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), inserted "transverse" preceding "seat space" in the second sentence; rewrote (d); added (e).

#### 16:53-7.8 Glazing

(a) All glazing shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 205 (49 CFR § 571.205), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Interior glazing including, but not limited to, mirrors, partitions, cabinets, and lighting fixtures shall be constructed of laminated safety glass or other material approved by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-7.9 Lights; reflectors

(a) Interior lighting shall be sufficient in number to provide proper illumination.

(b) Exterior lights shall conform to 49 CFR § 393.11, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) Special autobus-type recreational vehicles shall be equipped with rear reflectors on each side in accordance with 49 CFR § 393.11, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. Reflectors shall be mounted not more than 60 inches nor less than 24 inches as measured from the center of the reflector to the level surface upon which the special autobus-type recreational vehicle stands.

(d) At least one step light shall be provided at each service door.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote (a) through (c).

**16:53-7.10 Mirrors**

(a) Interior and exterior mirrors shall be provided to insure a clear view of the vehicle interior and of the exterior sides to the rear.

(b) Exterior left and right side mirrors shall be low mount, firmly supported, and easily adjustable.

(c) A video camera may be installed to enable the driver to view the exterior rear of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle. The camera shall be operable only while the special autobus-type recreational vehicle is in reverse.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Designated section as (a) and added (b) and (c).

**16:53-7.11 Brakes**

(a) Brakes shall conform to the manufacturer's specifications applicable to the gross vehicle weight rating of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle.

(b) A hydraulic service brake system shall be of the dual (split) type and shall meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 105 (49 CFR § 571.105), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) Service brakes shall be power-actuated and shall operate on all wheels.

(d) Service brakes shall be constructed and maintained to stop the vehicle in 25 feet or less from a speed of 20 miles per hour.

(e) A special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with two independent brake systems having two sets of controls that are capable of being actuated independently of each other.

(f) If a special autobus-type recreational vehicle is equipped with a mechanical parking brake, such parking brake shall be constructed and maintained to hold the vehicle in a stopped position with the transmission in a forward gear while the parking brake is applied.

(g) Brake stopping distances shall be measured by means of an instrument or machine of the decelerometer-type capable of being read in feet.

1. Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall meet the brake stop test requirement on an approved decelerometer that has been calibrated for accuracy.

2. Brake stop test equipment shall be owned by the operator, or arrangements shall be made for its use by the operator, or such equipment shall be provided to the operator by others, or the operator may choose to have such testing performed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.2.

3. The brake stop test shall be performed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification.

(h) Brake drums and rotors shall be permanently and plainly marked and shall clearly indicate the maximum safe diameter of the drum or the minimum safe thickness of the rotor as determined by the manufacturer of the drum or rotor. A drum or rotor worn beyond the maximum safe diameter or minimum safe thickness as prescribed by industry standards shall be discarded.

(i) When the emergency brake is activated by the loss of the system to the main service brakes, the driver, without leaving his or her seat, shall be able to override the emergency brake a minimum of three times. The control to operate the override shall be of a "dead man" type, necessitating constant driver effort to use. All special autobus-type recreational vehicles manufactured after March 1975 equipped with an air brake system shall comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 121 (49 CFR § 571.121), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, pertaining to split system and emergency application.

(j) Any system source to activate the emergency brake shall be separate and independent of the main service brake system supply source.

(k) Brake systems actuated by compressed air pressure or vacuum power shall be constructed to afford the following results:

1. Compressed air brake system shall be equipped with an air compressor of sufficient size to fully charge the reservoir to its rated operating pressure in three minutes or less.

2. Reservoir capacity shall be sufficient to maintain 60 pounds per square inch after four full brake applications. This shall be accomplished with the engine and compressor shut down and the parking brake released.

3. Compressed air reservoir systems shall be equipped with a safety valve that shall vent to the atmosphere. The safety valve setting shall not be in excess of 1½ times the maximum air compressor governed pressure setting.

4. Vacuum reservoirs shall have a volume of not less than 1,000 cubic inches and shall be used for braking purposes only.

5. Vacuum brake systems shall develop a minimum of 14 inches of reservoir vacuum within the following times:

- i. Intake manifold of engine, one minute; and
- ii. Vacuum pump, two minutes.

(l) Brake systems shall be equipped with an air pressure or vacuum gauge, indicating pounds per square inch or inches of mercury, located in clear view of the driver and

illuminated during the period when lighted lamps are required.

(m) Special autobus-type recreational vehicles equipped with brake systems actuated by compressed air shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal within hearing or full view of the driver to indicate that air pressure is at least one-half of the compressor governor cut-out pressure. Special autobus-type recreational vehicles equipped with brake systems actuated by vacuum power shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal within hearing or full view of the driver whenever the vacuum in the vehicle's supply reservoir is less than eight inches of mercury.

(n) Brake linings and pads shall meet the manufacturer's specifications for minimum thickness.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (g) added 1.-4. regarding brake stop requirements.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-7.12 Tires and wheels

(a) A special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with tires and wheels of sufficient size and construction as recommended by the manufacturer to meet the gross vehicle weight rating of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle.

(b) A special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall not be operated on any tire having exposed fabric on the tread or sidewall.

(c) The front tires of a special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall have a minimum tread groove of 4/32 inches. The rear tires of a special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall have a minimum tread groove of 2/32 inches. Measurements shall be made at any point on a major tread groove except where tie bars, humps, or fillets are located.

(d) A special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall not be operated with regrooved, recapped, or retread tires on the front wheels.

(e) A special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with tires that are matched in size designation, construction, and profile on the same axle. Radial tires shall not be mixed with other types of tires on the same axle.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-7.13 Fuel tanks and fuel systems

(a) Fuel tanks and systems shall meet all applicable Federal requirements as set forth in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 301 (49 CFR § 571.301), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and 49 CFR § 393.65 and § 393.67, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Fuel tanks and filler pipes shall be located wholly outside of the body to the rear of the line of the windshield and/or the front axle, as physical conditions permit, and be properly insulated to prevent fire.

(c) Fuel tanks shall be constructed and located in a manner that will permit the filling and draining thereof only from the outside of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle.

(d) The filler cap shall be non-detachable, leakproof, and spillproof.

(e) Fuel and any other combustible material or compressed gas, other than compressed gas contained in fire extinguishers, shall not be carried or stored in the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-7.14 Exhaust system

(a) The exhaust system shall be securely installed entirely outside of the vehicle body. The exhaust system shall be equipped with a muffler in proper operating condition. The exhaust system shall be free of leaks. Flexible pipe or tubing is prohibited in the exhaust system.

(b) The exhaust system shall vent to the rear of the rearmost portion of the vehicle.

(c) The engine shall be maintained in proper operating condition so as to prevent the emission of excessive smoke or other air contaminants. Special autobus-type recreational vehicles shall meet the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection motor vehicle emission inspection standards applicable to the type of engine installed.

1. Each exhaust emission system shall be inspected utilizing equipment approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Inspection of the exhaust emission system may be conducted by the operator, by a person designated by the operator, or by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.1.

3. Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be inspected every six months by a person qualified to conduct emission testing. Self-inspection emission testing shall be completed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification. Inspections performed by any person other than New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall require a certification from the individual conducting such inspection indicating his or her qualifications to conduct such a test and the type of equipment used.

(d) No portion of the exhaust system shall be located in a manner that could result in the burning or damaging of electrical wiring, fuel system components, or any combustible part of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle.

(e) Engine covers shall be properly sealed and shall not permit any engine compartment vapors to enter the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (c), added 1.-4. regarding autobus exhaust emission system inspections.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.15 Windshield wipers and washers**

(a) Special autobus-type recreational vehicles shall be equipped with windshield wipers and washers, sufficient in size and power and maintained so as to provide the driver with clear forward vision. Windshield wipers shall be located and shall operate in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer's specifications.

(b) Windshield wipers shall be of variable speed and electrically-operated.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

(c) added requiring windshield defroster.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (a) and deleted (c).

**16:53-7.16 Steps**

(a) The first step at the entrance area shall not exceed 16 inches from the ground when the special autobus-type recreational vehicle is unloaded.

(b) The surface of all steps shall be of a nonskid material.

(c) Steps shall not extend beyond the body limits to a degree that could result in bodily injury or property damage.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "exceed" for "be less than 10 inches nor more than" and "special autobus-type recreational vehicle" for "vehicle"; in (c), deleted "possibly" preceding "result".

**16:53-7.17 Certification of inspection**

(a) An authorized New Jersey Department of Transportation official or company official (private carrier) shall affix a certificate of inspection (inspection sticker) to a special autobus-type recreational vehicle at the completion of each six-month certification inspection.

(b) A certificate of inspection shall not be issued without certification by the person authorized to inspect the special autobus-type recreational vehicle verifying that the vehicle was inspected, is in proper and safe condition, and complies with all requirements of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The required certification shall be made on

the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(c) A special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall not be operated unless it prominently displays an unexpired certificate of inspection issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, visible from the exterior, on the lower right corner of the right-hand windshield.

(d) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle operating in the State shall be subject to on-road and in-terminal inspections. Such inspections shall be conducted at the New Jersey Department of Transportation's option as to location and frequency.

(e) Any person who issues a certificate of inspection or submits a certification to the New Jersey Department of Transportation without the required inspection and repair having been performed shall be deemed to be a disorderly person in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:4-2.1(a).

(f) A notice of discontinuance shall be affixed to any special autobus-type recreational vehicle that fails the required inspection.

(g) A certificate of inspection or compliance shall not be issued if payment of a statutory or regulatory fee remains outstanding to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.

See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(a), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.18 Drive shaft**

Any drive shaft extending lengthwise under the floor of the passenger compartment of a special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be protected by means of at least one guard or bracket at that end of the drive shaft which is provided with a sliding connection (spline or other such device) to prevent the whipping of the shaft in the event of failure thereof or of any of its component parts. A shaft contained within a torque tube shall not require any such device.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.19 Overhang of body**

(a) The maximum overhang of the body to the rear of the rear load-bearing axle shall not exceed one-third of the total length of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle.

(b) Vehicle measurements shall be taken from the extreme front to the extreme rear of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle, not including the bumpers.

(c) Overhang measurements shall be taken from the center of the rear load-bearing axle to the extreme rear of the special autobus-type recreational vehicle, not including the rear bumper.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "exceed" for "in excess of"; in (c), inserted "rear" preceding "bumper"; inserted "special autobus-type recreational" preceding "vehicle"; inserted "load-bearing" preceding "axle" and substituted "shall" for "are to" throughout.

#### 16:53-7.20 Speedometer; odometer

(a) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with a speedometer in proper operating condition capable of indicating the speed of the vehicle in miles per hour and readily visible to the driver.

(b) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with an odometer in proper operating condition capable of recording accumulated miles.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Required a method of recording accumulated miles.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-7.21 Horn; audible warning device

(a) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with a horn in proper operating condition to give reasonable warning to others of the approach of the vehicle.

(b) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with an audible warning device that shall be activated when the vehicle is in reverse.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-7.22 Grounding device

Each vehicle, unless otherwise designed to eliminate static electric charge buildup, shall be equipped with a suitable grounding device.

#### 16:53-7.23 Maintenance and inspection

(a) The body, chassis, engine and all equipment shall be maintained in proper adjustment and safe operating condition.

(b) All equipment shall receive a specification inspection by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel in order to insure compliance with all of the Department's specifications. All special autobus-type recreational vehicles that meet New Jersey Department of Transportation specifications shall be issued a certificate of compliance.

(c) All special autobus-type recreational vehicles for which certificates of compliance have been issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall receive a certification inspection at least twice annually. Nothing herein shall limit the New Jersey Department of Transportation's authority to require more frequent certification inspections of such vehicles by Department personnel when the safety of the public so requires.

(d) A systematic maintenance record shall be kept for each special autobus-type recreational vehicle showing the vehicle identification number, driver, dates of breakdowns, defects reported, and corrective measures taken. The records shall be retained by the operator for at least 12 months and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(e) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall receive a complete inspection at regular time and/or mileage intervals for mechanical or structural defects. All necessary repairs shall be completed and a certificate of inspection affixed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 16:53-7.17 before the special autobus-type recreational vehicle is returned to service. An itemized record of each inspection showing the date, vehicle identification number, lubrication record, repairs and adjustments, and signed by the person making such inspection, shall be available at the inspection site at the time of inspection and for at least 12 months thereafter, and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(f) The maintenance facilities shall be adequate to assure compliance with specifications herein and shall include either a suitable pit or lift or an arrangement for the use of such facilities.

(g) The entire special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be kept clean and sanitary.

(h) The self-inspection certification does not apply to special autobus-type recreational vehicles certified for school use. Such vehicles shall be inspected biannually by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel.

(i) All special autobus-type recreational vehicles directly operated by the New Jersey Transit Corporation shall be on a six-month full New Jersey Department of Transportation inspection program in accordance with the August 2000 Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the New Jersey Transit Corporation and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The Memorandum of Understanding is available for inspection at the Office of the Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, 225 East State Street, 9th Floor, Trenton, New Jersey. All special autobus-type recreational vehicles operated by private operators shall receive an in-terminal inspection at six-month intervals; once by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel during the first six months, and then a self-inspection by the private operator once during the second six-month period. A record of each six-month certification inspection shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(j) New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall perform unannounced audit inspections of self-inspected special autobus-type recreational vehicles to insure compliance with the self-inspection program.

As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.  
 See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.24 Identification**

(a) A special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall not be operated unless it displays on each side of its exterior the exact name of the operator in clearly visible letters at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background.

(b) Every special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be assigned an identification number by the operator. This number shall be displayed on the interior front, and on the front, rear, and both sides of the exterior. Interior and exterior numbers shall be at least three inches high and of a sharply contrasting color from the background.

(c) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall display on the right-hand side thereof the number of the New Jersey Department of Transportation's certificate of compliance and the charter number, if applicable, in letters and numbers three inches high in the following style: NJDOT 12345 and/or NJDOT 123C.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
 See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).  
 Added the display of charter number if applicable.  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.25 Window openings**

(a) Each window opening, other than the driver's window, shall be restricted to a maximum of six inches.

(b) Open-air special autobus-type recreational vehicles shall meet the following requirements:

1. The vertical distance between a seat-bottom and any opening shall be a minimum of 16 inches. Vehicles not meeting this requirement shall have protective bars extending from the front to the rear of the opening. Bars shall be spaced no more than six inches apart, and the distance from the seat-bottom to the top of the highest bar shall be a minimum of 16 inches.

New Rule, R.1993 d.191, effective May 3, 1993.  
 See: 24 N.J.R. 4500(a), 25 N.J.R. 1885(b).  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 In (a), substituted "Each window opening, other than the driver's window," for "Window opening".

**16:53-7.26 Platforms**

(a) Special autobus-type recreational vehicles designed and/or constructed with platforms attached to the rear of the vehicle shall meet the following requirements:

1. No person shall be permitted to stand or ride on the platform.
2. Any door leading to the platform from the interior of the vehicle shall display a sign, in letters at least three inches high, indicating "EMERGENCY EXIT ONLY" and shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 (49 CFR § 571.217), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.
3. The door shall not be locked while the vehicle is in operation.

New Rule, R.1993 d.191, effective May 3, 1993.  
 See: 24 N.J.R. 4500(a), 25 N.J.R. 1885(b).  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote (a)2.

**16:53-7.27 Curtains**

Curtains are permitted to be used while a special autobus-type recreational vehicle is in operation, during times of inclement weather only, provided the requirements pertaining to emergency egress as defined in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 (49 CFR § 571.217), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, are met.

New Rule, R.1993 d.191, effective May 3, 1993.  
 See: 24 N.J.R. 4500(a), 25 N.J.R. 1885(b).  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**16:53-7.28 Heating; ventilation; air conditioning**

(a) A heating system capable of heating the passenger compartment to a temperature of at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit shall be provided.

(b) Heating systems using exhaust gas to heat air carried within the passenger compartment or exhaust gas passing through conductors within the passenger compartment are prohibited.

(c) Heating devices using gasoline or other fuel shall be of a type approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. and conform to 49 CFR § 393.77, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and shall be located outside of the passenger compartment.

(d) Every special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with a system of ventilation capable of distributing an adequate supply of fresh air throughout the passenger compartment.

(e) Every special autobus-type recreational vehicle equipped with at least 50 percent non-operational passenger windows as originally designed by the manufacturer shall be equipped with an air conditioner that is in proper operating condition during the period between May 1 and October 1 of each year.

(f) Each special autobus-type recreational vehicle shall be equipped with a windshield defroster in proper operating condition.

New Rule. R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

## SUBCHAPTER 8. SPECIFICATIONS FOR SEDAN-TYPE AUTOBUSES

### 16:53-8.1 Scope

(a) The specifications set forth in this subchapter shall apply to sedan-type autobuses used on a regular route in interstate or intrastate common carrier service that are subject to the New Jersey Department of Transportation's jurisdiction.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, the New Jersey Department of Transportation hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the rules pertaining to the safety of equipment promulgated by the United States Department of Transportation set forth in 49 CFR Part 393, as amended and supplemented. A copy of 49 CFR Part 393 may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 783-3238.

(c) Any sedan-type autobus in operation or acquired prior to September 1, 2002, and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has issued a certificate of compliance, may continue in service as presently designed, constructed, and equipped. Any sedan-type autobus in operation in a foreign jurisdiction or acquired prior to September 1, 2002 and for which the New Jersey Department of Transportation has not issued a certificate of compliance shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002. Any sedan-type autobus for which a contract of sale or purchase order has been entered into before September 1, 2002, and any new sedan-type autobus that is in manufacturer or dealer inventory before September 1, 2002, shall be certified in accordance with the specifications in effect prior to September 1, 2002.

(d) For purposes of this subchapter, a sedan-type autobus shall be defined as a motor vehicle having a capacity of 12 or less passengers, including the driver, having construction characteristics commonly referred to as a sedan with seats extending across the body and having a door at each side of the vehicle at each row of seats.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Date changed from January 2, 1983 to June 1, 1989.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), deleted "following" preceding "specifications"; inserted "set forth in this subchapter shall" preceding "apply to" and inserted "used on a regular route" following "autobuses"; rewrote (b); in (c), changed date from June 1, 1989 to September 1, 2002; added (d).

### 16:53-8.2 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Section was "Definition".

### 16:53-8.3 Dimensions

(a) The overall length of a sedan-type autobus, including the bumpers, shall not exceed 300 inches.

(b) The overall width of a sedan-type autobus shall not exceed 84 inches measured at the widest point of the body. Mirrors, fender moldings, and other similar accessories shall not be included in determining body width.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Substituted "a sedan-type autobus" for "vehicle" throughout; in (b), deleted ", excluding mirrors." following ", point of the body."

### 16:53-8.4 Seating

(a) A transverse seat space of not less than 15 inches shall be provided for each passenger.

(b) Portable seats shall not be permitted.

(c) The front seat shall not be occupied by more than one passenger, excluding the driver.

(d) The total number of passengers being transported shall not exceed the seating capacity of the sedan-type autobus.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote (b); in (c), substituted ", excluding" for "besides" preceding "the driver"; rewrote (d).

### 16:53-8.5 Doors

(a) A door shall be provided on each side of the sedan-type autobus at each cross seat.

(b) On each sedan-type autobus having a standard chassis that has been altered, doors located to the rear of the driver shall be equipped with an audible or visible signal indicating to the driver when the door is not completely closed.

(c) Doors shall be constructed and maintained so as to be readily opened from both inside and outside of the sedan-type autobus.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "shall" for "must" and substituted "sedan-type autobus" for "vehicle"; rewrote (b) and (c).

**16:53-8.6 Fire extinguisher**

(a) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with at least one fire extinguisher having an Underwriters' Laboratories rating of 5BC or more, as provided in 49 CFR § 393.95, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. The use of a vaporizing liquid-type fire extinguisher is prohibited.

(b) Fire extinguishers shall be located in the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote (a); in (b), substituted "shall" for "are to".

**16:53-8.7 Lights**

(a) Interior lights, under the control of the driver, shall be sufficient in number to provide proper illumination at each row of seats.

(b) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with front and rear lights in accordance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(c) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with at least two rear red reflectors, at least one on each side, in accordance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
In (a), inserted "the" preceding "control" and substituted "provide proper" for "give adequate"; rewrote (b) and (c).

**16:53-8.8 Chassis and body construction**

(a) The chassis and body, or the complete sedan-type autobus unit, shall be so designed and constructed that it will properly and safely support the gross weight of the sedan-type autobus, including the maximum passenger capacity thereof. The gross vehicle weight rating shall not exceed 10,000 pounds.

(b) No extensions of the manufacturer's standard chassis frame will be permitted except as set forth in (c) below.

(c) Alteration of the wheelbase or the standard chassis frame shall be permitted when such alteration is performed by the chassis or unit manufacturer or by others provided that a certification of approval has been issued by the original chassis or unit manufacturer. An extension may be installed at the rear end of the original chassis frame by the chassis manufacturer or by others provided that a certification of approval has been issued by the original chassis manufacturer. Such certification shall contain a detailed description of the alteration or extension.

(d) The gross vehicle weight rating certified by the manufacturer and the gross vehicle axle weight shall be set forth on a data plate that is affixed to the sedan-type autobus in a location that is readily visible for inspection. At no time shall the gross vehicle weight rating be exceeded.

(e) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with front and rear bumpers attached to the main frame of the chassis.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-8.9 Brakes**

(a) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with two brake systems operating independently of each other and conforming to the following standards of construction and maintenance:

1. Service (foot) brakes shall be power-actuated and shall operate on all wheels;
2. Service (foot) brakes equipped with a hydraulic system shall be of a dual-type, split to the front and rear wheels;
3. Service (foot) brakes shall be constructed and maintained to stop the sedan-type autobus in 25 feet or less from a speed of 20 miles per hour;
4. If a sedan-type autobus is equipped with a mechanical parking brake, such parking brake shall be constructed and maintained to hold the sedan-type autobus in a stopped position with the transmission in a forward gear while the parking brake is applied;
5. Brake stopping distances shall be measured by means of an instrument or machine of the decelerometer-type capable of being read in feet:
  - i. Each sedan-type autobus shall meet the brake stop test requirement on an approved decelerometer that has been calibrated for accuracy.
  - ii. Brake stop test equipment shall be owned by the operator, or arrangements shall be made for its use by the operator, or such equipment shall be provided to the operator by others, or the operator may choose to have such testing performed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.2.
  - iii. The brake stop test shall be performed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification.
6. Brake drums and rotors shall be permanently and plainly marked and shall clearly indicate the maximum safe diameter of the drum or the minimum safe thickness of the rotor as determined by the manufacturer of the drum or rotor. A drum or rotor worn beyond the maximum safe diameter or minimum safe thickness as prescribed by industry standards shall be discarded; and

7. Brake linings and pads shall meet the manufacturer's specifications for minimum thickness.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
See: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

Added i.-iv. at (a)5.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-8.10 Mirrors

Inside and outside mirrors shall be provided to insure clear vision of traffic to the sides and rear of the sedan-type autobus.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Substituted "sedan-type autobus" for "vehicle".

#### 16:53-8.11 Tires and wheels

(a) A sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with tires and wheels of proper size and construction as recommended by the manufacturer to meet the gross vehicle weight rating of the sedan-type autobus, in accordance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109 and 110 (49 CFR § 571.109 and § 571.110), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) A sedan-type autobus shall not be operated on any tire having exposed fabric on the tread or sidewall.

(c) A sedan-type autobus shall not be operated with recapped, regrooved, or retread tires on any wheel.

(d) The front and rear tires of a sedan-type autobus shall have a minimum tread groove of 2/32 inches. Measurements shall be made at any point on a major tread groove except where tie bars, humps, or fillets are located.

(e) A sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with tires that are matched in size designation, construction, and profile. Radial tires shall not be mixed with other types of tires on the same axle.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-8.12 Windshield wipers and washers

(a) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with windshield wipers and washers sufficient in size and power and maintained so as to provide the driver with clear forward vision. Windshield wipers shall be located and shall operate in accordance with the original equipment manufacturer's specifications.

(b) Windshield wipers shall be of variable speed and electrically-operated.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-8.13 Heaters and defrosters

(a) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with a heating and defrosting system maintained in proper operating condition.

(b) Exhaust gases shall not be used to heat the air within the passenger compartment.

(c) Heating devices using gasoline or other fuel shall be of a type approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. and conform to 49 CFR § 393.77, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, and shall be located entirely outside of the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "sedan-type autobus" for "vehicle" and deleted "suitable and efficient" preceding "heating"; rewrote (c).

#### 16:53-8.14 Fuel tanks and fuel systems

(a) Fuel tanks and systems shall meet all applicable Federal requirements as set forth in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 301 (49 CFR § 571.301), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

(b) Fuel tanks and filler pipes shall be located wholly outside of the body to the rear of the line of the windshield and shall be properly insulated to prevent fire.

(c) Fuel tanks shall be constructed and located in a manner that will permit the filling and draining thereof only from the outside of the sedan-type autobus.

(d) The filler cap shall be non-detachable, leakproof, and spillproof.

(e) Fuel and any other combustible material or compressed gas, other than compressed gas contained in fire extinguishers, shall not be carried or stored in the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

#### 16:53-8.15 Exhaust system

(a) The exhaust system shall vent to the rear of the rear wheels. The exhaust system shall not discharge below or forward of any operable window.

(b) All parts of the exhaust system shall be securely installed entirely outside of the vehicle body. Flexible pipe or tubing is prohibited in the exhaust system.

(c) The engine shall be maintained in proper operating condition so as to prevent the discharge of excessive smoke or other air contaminants. Sedan-type autobuses shall meet the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection motor vehicle emission inspection standards applicable to the type of engine installed.

1. Each exhaust emission system shall be inspected utilizing equipment approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

2. Inspection of the exhaust emission system may be conducted by the operator, by a person designated by the operator, or by the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 16:53-10.1.

3. Each sedan-type autobus shall be inspected every six months by a person qualified to conduct emission testing. Self-inspection emission testing shall be completed within 20 days prior to self-inspection certification. Inspections performed by any person other than New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall require a certification from the individual conducting such inspection indicating his or her qualifications to conduct such a test and the type of equipment used.

(d) No portion of the exhaust system shall be located in a manner that could result in the burning or damaging of electrical wiring, fuel system components, or any combustible part of the sedan-type autobus.

(e) Engine covers shall be properly sealed and shall not permit any engine compartment vapors to enter the passenger compartment.

Amended by R.1989 d.392, effective July 17, 1989.  
Sec: 21 N.J.R. 1098(a), 21 N.J.R. 2051(b).

At (c) added 1.-4. regarding exhaust emission system inspections.  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
Sec: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-8.16 Drive shaft**

Any drive shaft extending lengthwise under the floor of the passenger compartment of a sedan-type autobus, except sedan-type autobuses having a seating capacity of five or less passengers, shall be protected by means of at least one guard or bracket at that end of the drive shaft which is provided with a sliding connection (spline or other such device) to prevent the whipping of the shaft in the event of failure thereof or of any of its component parts. A shaft contained within a torque tube shall not require any such device.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
Sec: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Substituted references to "sedan-type autobuses" for "limousine" throughout and inserted "drive" preceding "shaft".

**16:53-8.17 Glazing**

All glazing shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 205 (49 CFR § 571.205), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
Sec: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

**16:53-8.18 Directional signals**

Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with directional signals that conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 (49 CFR § 571.108), incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
Sec: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-8.19 Horn**

Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with a horn in proper operating condition to give reasonable warning to others of the approach of the vehicle.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
Sec: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Substituted "sedan-type autobus" for "vehicle", "in proper operating condition" for "or other signaling device" and "others" for "users of the highway" and deleted "users of the highway" following "warning to others."

**16:53-8.20 Speedometer; odometer**

(a) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with a speedometer in proper operating condition capable of indicating the speed of the vehicle in miles per hour and readily visible to the driver.

(b) Each sedan-type autobus shall be equipped with an odometer in proper operating condition capable of recording accumulated miles.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
Sec: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote existing paragraph and designated as (a); added (b).

**16:53-8.21 Identification**

A sedan-type autobus shall not be operated unless it displays under the hood on the right front wheel well an identification number assigned to the vehicle by the operator and the New Jersey Department of Transportation's certificate of compliance number in the following style: NJDOT 12345.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
Sec: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

**16:53-8.22 Certification of inspection**

(a) An authorized New Jersey Department of Transportation official or company official (private operator) shall affix a certificate of inspection (inspection sticker) to a sedan-type autobus at the completion of each six-month certification inspection.

(b) A certificate of inspection shall not be issued without certification by the person authorized to inspect the sedan-type autobus verifying that the vehicle was inspected, is in proper and safe condition, and complies with all requirements of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The required certification shall be made on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(c) A sedan-type autobus shall not be operated unless it prominently displays on the lower right-hand corner of the windshield, visible from the exterior, an unexpired certificate of inspection issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(d) Each sedan-type autobus operating in the State shall be subject to on-road and in-terminal inspections. Such inspections shall be conducted at the New Jersey Department of Transportation's option as to location and frequency.

(e) Any person who issues a certificate of inspection or submits a certification to the New Jersey Department of Transportation without the required inspection and repair having been performed shall be deemed to be a disorderly person in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:4-2.1(a).

(f) A notice of discontinuance shall be affixed to any sedan-type autobus that fails the required inspection.

(g) A certificate of inspection or compliance shall not be issued if payment of a statutory or regulatory fee remains outstanding to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.  
See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).  
Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-8.23 Trailers

The use of any type of trailer is prohibited.

### 16:53-8.24 Baggage racks

Exterior baggage racks shall be constructed so that all baggage is held in a secure manner under all conditions of operation.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
Deleted designation, substituted "shall" for "will" following "racks", deleted "permitted only if they are", substituted "is" for "will be" following "baggage", deleted ", safe" and inserted "under all conditions of operation".

### 16:53-8.25 Maintenance and inspection

(a) The body, chassis, engine and all equipment shall be maintained in proper adjustment and safe operating condition.

(b) All equipment shall receive a specification inspection by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel in order to insure compliance with all of the Department's specifications. All sedan-type autobuses that meet New Jersey Department of Transportation specifications shall be issued a certificate of compliance.

(c) All sedan-type autobuses for which certificates of compliance have been issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall receive a certification inspection at least twice annually. Nothing herein shall limit the New Jersey Department of Transportation's authority to require more frequent certification inspections of such vehicles by Department personnel when the safety of the public so requires.

(d) A systematic maintenance record shall be kept for each sedan-type autobus showing the vehicle identification number, driver, dates of breakdowns, defects reported, and corrective measures taken. The records shall be retained by the operator for at least 12 months and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(e) Each sedan-type autobus shall receive a complete inspection at regular time and/or mileage intervals for mechanical or structural defects. All necessary repairs shall be completed and a certificate of inspection affixed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 16:53-8.22 before the sedan-type autobus is returned to service. An itemized record of each inspection showing the date, vehicle identification number, lubrication record, repairs and adjustments, and signed by the person making such inspection, shall be available at the inspection site at the time of inspection and for at least 12 months thereafter, and shall be available for review by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(f) The maintenance facilities shall be adequate to assure compliance with specifications herein and shall include either a suitable pit or lift or an arrangement for the use of such facilities.

(g) The entire sedan-type autobus shall be kept clean and sanitary.

(h) The self-inspection certification does not apply to sedan-type autobuses certified for school use. Such vehicles shall be inspected biannually by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel.

(i) All sedan-type autobuses directly operated by the New Jersey Transit Corporation shall be on a six-month full New Jersey Department of Transportation inspection program in accordance with the August 2000 Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the New Jersey Transit Corporation and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The Memorandum of Understanding is available for inspection at the Office of the Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, 225 East State Street, 9th Floor, Trenton, New Jersey. All sedan-type autobuses operated by private operators shall receive an in-terminal inspection at six-month intervals; once by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel during the first six months, and then a self-inspection by the private operator once during the second six-month period. A record of each six-month certification inspection shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on the maintenance inspection report (MC-26) as set forth in chapter Appendix A, incorporated herein by reference.

(j) New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel shall perform unannounced audit inspections of self-inspected sedan-type autobuses to insure compliance with the self-inspection program.

As amended, R.1983 d.445, effective October 17, 1983.  
 See: 15 N.J.R. 877(b), 15 N.J.R. 1771(a).  
 Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote (b) through (e) and (g) through (i); added (j).  
 Administrative correction.  
 See: 35 N.J.R. 1688(c).

**16:53-8.26 Inspection and certificate of inspection**

(a) All sedan-type autobuses for which certificates of compliance have been issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall be inspected at least twice annually. Nothing herein shall limit the New Jersey Department of Transportation’s authority to require more frequent inspections of such vehicles when the safety of the public so requires.

(b) A sedan-type autobus shall not be operated unless it prominently displays an unexpired certificate of inspection issued by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, visible from the exterior on the lower right corner of the windshield.

(c) Sedan-type autobuses having an altered chassis shall be subject to quarterly inspection by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel.

(d) Each sedan-type autobus operating in the State shall be subject to on-road and in-terminal inspections. Such inspections shall be conducted at the New Jersey Department of Transportation’s option as to location and frequency.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.  
 See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).  
 Rewrote the section.

**SUBCHAPTER 9. PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**

**16:53-9.1 Certificate of insurance or evidence of self-insurance**

(a) An operator of an autobus carrying passengers for hire in accordance with Title 48 of the Revised Statutes or 49 CFR Part 393 shall file with the New Jersey Department of Transportation three copies of a certificate of insurance or evidence of self-insurance, which shall be in the form set forth in (i) below, designated “Form E—Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Certificate of Insurance” and “Form F—Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Insurance Endorsement.”

(b) Such certificate or evidence shall be signed by the issuing insurance company or, in the case of a self-insurer, by an officer or agent thereof, and shall state that autobuses are

insured in compliance with either Title 48 of the Revised Statutes or 49 CFR Part 387, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, whichever is applicable.

(c) Every certificate of insurance shall contain a provision for continuing liability and shall provide that cancellation thereof shall not be effective unless at least 30 days’ notice in writing of intention to cancel has been delivered to the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(d) Certificates of insurance that have been accepted by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation in accordance with this section may be replaced by other certificates of insurance. The liability of the retiring insurer under such certificates of insurance shall be considered as having been terminated as of the effective date of the replacement certificate of insurance.

(e) Every certificate of insurance shall contain a provision for a continuing liability notwithstanding any recovery thereunder.

(f) Every certificate of insurance shall provide that cancellation thereof shall not be effective until at least 30 days’ notice in writing of intention to cancel has been delivered to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation; such cancellation notice shall be in the form set forth in (i) below, designated “Form K—Uniform Notice of Cancellation of Motor Carrier Insurance Policies.” If such cancelled insurance policy is reinstated, a new certificate, in the form set forth in (i) below, designated “Form E—Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Certificate of Insurance” and “Form F—Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Insurance Endorsement,” shall be filed with the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(g) Certificates of insurance shall be in accordance with the forms set forth in (i) below, designated “Form E—Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Certificate of Insurance.”

(h) When a certificate of insurance is filed as provided in (i) below, there shall be attached to the original certificate of insurance (“Form E—Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Certificate of Insurance”), an endorsement designated “Form F—Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Insurance Endorsement.”

(i) All insurance filings in accordance with Title 48 of the Revised Statutes shall be made with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Commercial Bus Inspection Unit, PO Box 177, Trenton, New Jersey 08666-0177, on the insurance industry forms specified below:

1. Form E—“Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Certificate of Insurance,” together with Form F below;

2. Form F—"Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Insurance Endorsement";

3. Form K—"Uniform Notice of Cancellation of Motor Carrier Insurance Policies."

(j) The Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall consider applications for permission to establish insurance funds in lieu of the filing of certificates of insurance. Until such permission is granted by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation, certificates of insurance shall be filed. Until otherwise ordered, all orders and certificates of the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation authorizing or directing bus lines and street railway corporations operating buses to establish and maintain self-insurance funds shall continue in full force and effect insofar as said orders or certificates authorize the carriers therein named to be self-insurers. Every person, firm, association, and corporation that maintains a self-insurance fund pursuant to authority granted by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation shall procure, maintain, and file with the Commissioner a policy of insurance to cover the difference between the amounts such carrier is authorized to self-insure and the amounts specified in Title 48 of the Revised Statutes or 49 CFR Part 387, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, whichever is applicable.

(k) A certificate of insurance shall not be filed with the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation unless a direct contractual relationship exists between the operator and the insurance company making the filing.

(l) All filings shall be executed in triplicate on the proper form as specified in (i) above. The Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation may refuse to accept a certificate of insurance if in his or her judgment it does not provide adequate protection for the public.

(m) No certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be issued nor shall any previously issued certificate remain in force, unless all of the foregoing provisions are complied with.

Emergency Amendment, R.1985 d.445, effective August 8, 1985 (expires October 7, 1985).

See: 17 N.J.R. 2149(a).

Added (d)4 and (n).

Amended by R.1985 d.574, effective November 18, 1985.

See: 17 N.J.R. 2149(a), 17 N.J.R. 2783(a).

(d)4 and (n) added.

Amended by R.1986 d.216, effective June 16, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 626(a), 18 N.J.R. 1310(b).

Substituted "AIP Designation Notice Card" for "binder".

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-9.2 Buses

(a) All buses shall be insured covering their operations in the State of New Jersey in the business of their operators

and/or others, and whether in regular or other service, and whether on or off their regular routes.

(b) The driver of each bus shall at all times when such bus is in operation exhibit a certificate showing that the bus is insured in conformity with Title 48 of the Revised Statutes or 49 CFR Part 387, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented, whichever is applicable. Such certificate shall contain the name of the company by which the bus is insured, the insurance policy number or, in the case of a self-insurer, a certificate signed by an officer or agent that it has qualified as a self-insurer, the manufacturer, year, vehicle identification number, and rated seating capacity of the bus. Such certificate shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the bus on the right-hand side of the driver above the windshield.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

In (a), substituted "covering their operations" for "covering operation" and substituted "operators" for "owners"; rewrote (b).

## SUBCHAPTER 10. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEES FOR AUTOBUS INSPECTIONS

### 16:53-10.1 Emission inspection

The fee charged for an emission inspection performed by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel in conjunction with a self-inspection certification shall be \$45.00 per vehicle.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

### 16:53-10.2 Brake inspection

The fee charged for a brake inspection performed by New Jersey Department of Transportation personnel in conjunction with a self-inspection certification shall be \$45.00 per vehicle.

Amended by R.2002 d.295, effective September 3, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1327(b), 34 N.J.R. 3099(a).

Rewrote the section.

## SUBCHAPTER 11. INSPECTION AND VERIFICATION OF BEST AVAILABLE RETROFIT TECHNOLOGY DEVICE INSTALLATION ON REGULATED DIESEL COMMERCIAL BUSES

### 16:53-11.1 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“Diesel commercial bus” means a diesel bus as defined pursuant to section 2 of P.L. 1995, c. 157 (N.J.S.A. 39:8-60), except that “diesel commercial bus” shall include only diesel commercial buses with a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of 14,000 pounds, and shall not include school buses.

“Private regulated commercial bus” means any diesel commercial bus not owned by the New Jersey Transit Corporation, and any diesel commercial bus owned by the New Jersey Transit Corporation but leased or operated by a provider of diesel commercial bus service other than the New Jersey Transit Corporation.

“Public regulated commercial bus” means any diesel commercial bus owned and operated by the New Jersey Transit Corporation.

“Regulated commercial bus” means any diesel commercial bus registered and operating in the State.

**16:53-11.2 Inspection and verification of installation of best available retrofit technology device(s)**

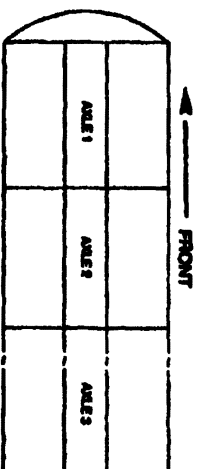
The owner or lessee of a regulated diesel commercial bus, as defined in N.J.S.A. 26:2C-8.27 and this subchapter, who is

required to install a best available retrofit technology device(s) pursuant to a Notice of Intent to Comply, a regulated fleet retrofit plan, combined regulated fleet retrofit plan, fleet averaging plan, or combined fleet averaging plan in accordance with N.J.S.A. 26:2C-8.26 et al. shall present his or her regulated diesel commercial bus to the Motor Vehicle Commission’s Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit for a compliance inspection. Verification of the installation shall be provided on the form issued by the Department of Environmental Protection for the vehicle pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:2C-8.31, 8.32, 8.41, or 8.42. The inspection shall be performed in accordance with the procedures established by the Department of Environmental Protection at N.J.A.C. 7:27-14.5(f), 7:27-32.21, and 7:27B-4.4(c). Compliance with the requirements of this section shall mean that the diesel commercial bus has been inspected by the Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit and that such Unit has confirmed and verified that the retrofit device(s) has been installed on such regulated diesel commercial bus. The regulated diesel commercial bus shall be presented for inspection to the Commercial Bus Inspection and Investigation Unit at the time of the next biannual periodic certification inspection following the installation of the best available retrofit technology device(s) on such regulated diesel commercial bus.

Form MD-88 1/88

APPENDIX A  
AUTOBUS MAINTENANCE INSPECTION

TYPE OF INSPECTION: 1. DOT <input type="checkbox"/> 1A. SELF <input type="checkbox"/> 1B. AUDIT <input type="checkbox"/>										A. EXPIRATION DATE: _____			
2. OWNER: _____					D. OWNER: _____		3. REG / /			B. INVESTIGATOR CODE: _____			
2A. OPERATOR: _____					E. OPER: _____		5. REG / /			C. TERRITORY CODE: _____			
2B. OPERATOR'S ADDRESS: _____					F. GAR. _____		6. REG / /			8. 1ST	9. 2ND	10. DOT NUMBER	
7. APP / /													
11. BUS#	12. MAKE	13. MODEL	14. YEAR	15. SERIAL NUMBER			16. SEATS		17. REGISTRATION			APP/REG	
SCHOOL SERVICE: 18. YES 19. NO 20. SIGNS 21. LIGHTS 22. HND 23. 1ST AID 24. CHAINS 25. BAR 26. CONVEX MIRROR													
27. LIGHTS			28. STEP		29. BASH		30. INSIDE		31. HEAD LAMP		32. ALIGNMENT		33. TAIL
34. MARKER			35. CLUSTER		36. STOP		37. DIRECTIONAL		38. BACK-UP		39. REFLECTOR		
EMERGENCY EXIT: 40. DOOR 40a. HATCH 41. WINDOW				42. READILY OPENED		43. PUSH		44. KICK		45. SIGNAL		46. SIGN	
COMPRESSION PERF: 47. TIME				48. 4 STOPS /		49. GAUGE		50. LOW AIR SIGN.		51. ALD.		52. VIS.	
53. STEERING					53a. STEERING WHEEL PLAY:					54. AIR LEAKS			
55. BRAKES:			56. TAPLEY READING TAKEN BY:			57. FOOT		58. HAND		59. ICC		60. 003/121	
61. SERIES _____				62. C/GATE		63. PARTITION-RAIL			64. CURTAIN				
65. NUMBER _____				66. WINDSHIELD WIPER		67. WASHER		68. ARM		69. BLADE			
MIRRORS:				70. IN		71. OUT		72. RIGHT		73. LEFT			
74. SPEEDOMETER				75. LIGHT				76. MUDSPLOMETER					
77. HORN				78. PASSENGER SIGNAL				79. FIRE EXTINGUISHER					
80. FLOOR				81. STEPS				82. WHEEL HOUSING					
83. SEATS			84. HANDLES		85. HEATING		86. VENTILATING		87. AC				
88. SENSITIVE EDGE				89. INTERLOCK				90. SIGNAL					
CLEANLINESS:				91. IN				92. OUT					
SIGNS:				93. FRONT				94. NO-SMOKING					
BUMPERS:				95. FRONT				96. REAR					
97. WHEELS				98. STUDS				99. TIRES					
SUSPENSION:				100. TORSION		101. SPRING/SHOCK		102. AIR					
103. EXHAUST				104. SHAFT GUARD		105. GROUND STRAP							
106. FUEL TANK				107. LEAKS		108. FIRE HAZARD							
109. INSURANCE				110. NAME		111. BUS NO.		112. CHARTER NO.					
113. EMERGENCY WARNING EQUIP.						114. DRIVERS SEAT BELT							
115. EMISSIONS TESTED BY:				115A. READINGS:				AVG.					
116. BODY			116 A. NISC.		117. GLASS		118. WHEEL CHAIR LIFT/RAMP						
DEFECT CARDS:		110. <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		120. <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		REMOVED FROM SERVICE							
REPAIRS MADE:		121. <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		122. <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		123. DATE:		124. TIME:		AM - PM			
DATES EXAMINED:		FROM:		127. TO:		125. PASTER NO.							
I CERTIFY THAT THE REQUIRED CERTIFICATION INSPECTION AND THE REQUIRED REPAIRS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NJAC 16:53 AND N.J.S.A. 16:27-2.1(a)													
SIGNATURE _____				INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE _____									



REJECTIONS AND REPAIRS MADE

1. REJECTION:	
REPAIR MADE:	
2. REJECTION:	
REPAIR MADE:	
3. REJECTION:	
REPAIR MADE:	
4. REJECTION:	
REPAIR MADE:	
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