

# MINNESOTA STATE REGISTER

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

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PAGES 505 - 544



# Minnesota State Register

## Judicial Notice Shall Be Taken of Material Published in the Minnesota State Register

The Minnesota State Register is the official publication of the State of Minnesota's Executive Branch of government, published weekly to fulfill the legislative mandate set forth in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14, and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 1400. It contains:

- Proposed Rules
- Adopted Rules
- Exempt Rules
- Expedited Rules
- Withdrawn Rules
- Executive Orders of the Governor
- Appointments
- Proclamations
- Vetoed Rules
- Commissioners' Orders
- Revenue Notices
- Official Notices
- State Grants and Loans
- Contracts for Professional, Technical and Consulting Services
- Non-State Public Bids, Contracts and Grants

## Printing Schedule and Submission Deadlines

| Vol. 51<br>Issue<br>Number | Publish Date       | Deadline for: all Short Rules, Executive and<br>Commissioner's Orders, Revenue and Official Notices,<br>State Grants, Professional-Technical- Consulting<br>Contracts, Non-State Bids and Public Contracts | Deadline for LONG, Complicated<br>Rules (contact the editor to<br>negotiate a deadline) |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| #17                        | Monday 26 October  | Noon Tuesday 20 October                                                                                                                                                                                    | Noon Thursday 15 October                                                                |
| #18                        | Monday 2 November  | Noon Tuesday 27 October                                                                                                                                                                                    | Noon Thursday 22 October                                                                |
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| #20                        | Monday 16 November | Noon Tuesday 10 November                                                                                                                                                                                   | Noon Thursday 5 November                                                                |

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## Minnesota Legislative Information

### Senate Public Information Office

(651) 296-0504  
State Capitol, Room 231, St. Paul, MN 55155  
<https://www.senate.mn/>

### Minnesota State Court System

Court Information Office (651) 296-6043  
MN Judicial Center, Rm. 135,  
25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155  
<http://www.mncourts.gov>

### House Public Information Services

(651) 296-2146  
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<https://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/hinfo.asp>

### Federal Register

Office of the Federal Register (202) 512-1530; or (888) 293-6498  
U.S. Government Printing Office – Fax: (202) 512-1262  
<https://www.federalregister.gov/>

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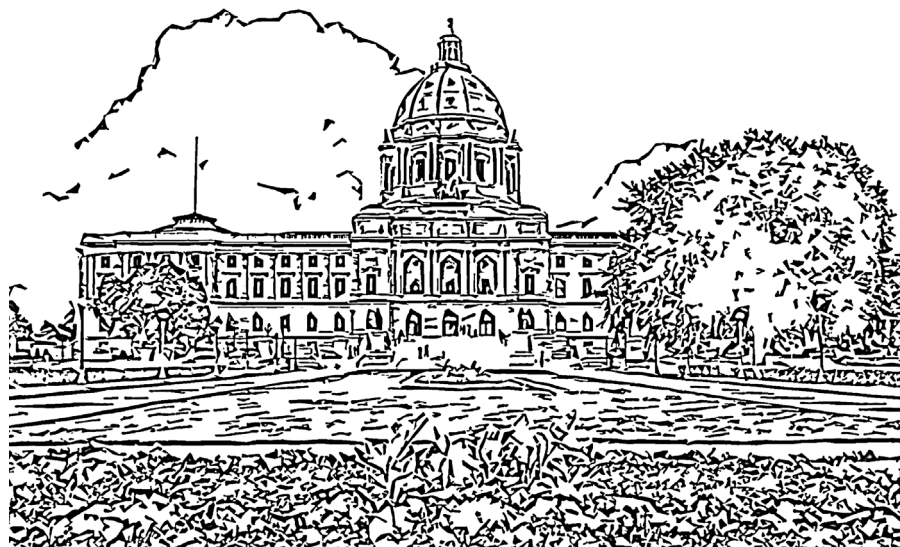
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**Front Cover Artwork:** *A weathered wooden dock extends out into Roby Lake on a crisp fall day, near Laporte, Minn.*  
*Photo by Sean Plemmons*



# Minnesota Rules: Amendments and Additions

## NOTICE: How to Follow State Agency Rulemaking in the State Register

The State Register is the official source, and only complete listing, for all state agency rulemaking in its various stages. State agencies are required to publish notice of their rulemaking action in the State Register. Published every Monday, the State Register makes it easy to follow and participate in the important rulemaking process. Approximately 80 state agencies have the authority to issue rules. Each agency is assigned specific Minnesota Rule chapter numbers. Every odd-numbered year the Minnesota Rules are published. Supplements are published to update this set of rules. Generally speaking, proposed and adopted exempt rules do not appear in this set because of their short-term nature, but are published in the State Register.

An agency must first solicit Comments on Planned Rules or Comments on Planned Rule Amendments from the public on the subject matter of a possible rulemaking proposal under active consideration within the agency (Minnesota Statutes §§ 14.101). It does this by publishing a notice in the State Register at least 60 days before publication of a notice to adopt or a notice of hearing, or within 60 days of the effective date of any new statutory grant of required rulemaking.

When rules are first drafted, state agencies publish them as Proposed Rules, along with a notice of hearing, or a notice of intent to adopt rules without a hearing in the case of noncontroversial rules. This notice asks for comment on the rules as proposed. Proposed emergency rules, and withdrawn proposed rules, are also published in the State Register. After proposed rules have gone through the comment period, and have been rewritten into their final form, they again appear in the State Register as Adopted Rules. These final adopted rules are not printed in their entirety, but only the changes made since their publication as Proposed Rules. To see the full rule, as adopted and in effect, a person simply needs two issues of the State Register, the issue the rule appeared in as proposed, and later as adopted.

The State Register features partial and cumulative listings of rules in this section on the following schedule: issues #1-26 inclusive (issue #26 cumulative for issues #1-26); issues #27-52 inclusive (issue #52, cumulative for issues #27-52 or #53 in some years). A subject matter index is updated weekly and is available upon request from the editor. For copies or subscriptions to the State Register, contact the editor at 651-201-3204 or email at sean.plemmons@state.mn.us

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# Proposed Rules

**Comments on Planned Rules or Rule Amendments.** An agency must first solicit Comments on Planned Rules or Comments on Planned Rule Amendments from the public on the subject matter of a possible rulemaking proposal under active consideration within the agency (*Minnesota Statutes* §§ 14.101). It does this by publishing a notice in the *State Register* at least 60 days before publication of a notice to adopt or a notice of hearing, and within 60 days of the effective date of any new statutory grant of required rulemaking.

**Rules to be Adopted After a Hearing.** After receiving comments and deciding to hold a public hearing on the rule, an agency drafts its rule. It then publishes its rules with a notice of hearing. All persons wishing to make a statement must register at the hearing. Anyone who wishes to submit written comments may do so at the hearing, or within five working days of the close of the hearing. Administrative law judges may, during the hearing, extend the period for receiving comments up to 20 calendar days. For five business days after the submission period the agency and interested persons may respond to any new information submitted during the written submission period and the record then is closed. The administrative law judge prepares a report within 30 days, stating findings of fact, conclusions and recommendations. After receiving the report, the agency decides whether to adopt, withdraw or modify the proposed rule based on consideration of the comments made during the rule hearing procedure and the report of the administrative law judge. The agency must wait five days after receiving the report before taking any action.

**Rules to be Adopted Without a Hearing.** Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* § 14.22, an agency may propose to adopt, amend, suspend or repeal rules without first holding a public hearing. An agency must first solicit **Comments on Planned Rules** or **Comments on Planned Rule Amendments** from the public. The agency then publishes a notice of intent to adopt rules without a public hearing, together with the proposed rules, in the *State Register*. If, during the 30-day comment period, 25 or more persons submit to the agency a written request for a hearing of the proposed rules, the agency must proceed under the provisions of §§ 14.1414.20, which state that if an agency decides to hold a public hearing, it must publish a notice of intent in the *State Register*.

**KEY: Proposed Rules** - Underlining indicates additions to existing rule language. ~~Strikeouts~~ indicate deletions from existing rule language. If a proposed rule is totally new, it is designated “all new material.” **Adopted Rules** - Underlining indicates additions to proposed rule language. ~~Strikeout~~ indicates deletions from proposed rule language.

## Minnesota Department of Health

### Environmental Health Division

#### Proposed Permanent Rules Repealing Health Risk Values For Air; Notice of Intent to Repeal Obsolete Rules

**Proposed Repeal of Obsolete Rules Relating to Health Risk Values, *Minnesota Rules*, 4717.8000 to 4717.8600; Revisor’s ID Number 4988; CAH Docket Number 459000-41962**

*4717.8000 Purpose and Scope.*

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*4717.8250 Table of mHRVs for Multimedia Exposure to Air Toxics*

*4717.8300 Equations of Calculations of HRVs for Noncarcinogenic Effects of Toxicants*

# Proposed Rules

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*4717.8350 Equation for Calculation of mHRVs for Noncarcinogenic Effects of Toxicants.*

*4717.8400 Equation for Calculation of HRVs for Carcinogens.*

*4717.8450 Equation for Calculation of mHRVs for Carcinogens.*

*4717.8500 Equations for Calculation of HRVs for Acute Toxicity.*

*4717.8550 Procedure for Determining Cancer Index for Simultaneous Exposure to Multiple Carcinogens.*

*4717.8600 Procedure for Determining Hazard Index for Assessing Simultaneous Exposure to Multiple Toxicants with Noncarcinogenic Effects.*

**Introduction.** The Minnesota Department of Health intends to repeal obsolete rules under the rulemaking process in the Administrative Procedure Act, *Minnesota Statutes*, section 14.3895. You may submit written comments on the proposed repeal of obsolete rules until **4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2026**.

**Subject of Rules.** The proposed obsolete rules are the 2002 Health Risk Values (HRVs) – Minnesota Rules 4717.8000 to 4717.8600 – for chemicals in ambient air. These values were meant to help evaluate potential health risks from air pollution. The HRVs have not been updated with current methods or toxicological data. MDH is no longer recommending the use of the HRVs, and in some cases, newer air guidance values have been developed. The existence of outdated values in rule complicates MDH's ability to provide the most up-to-date guidance available.

**Statutory Authority.** The department identified the proposed obsolete rules to be repealed in its annual obsolete rules report under Minnesota Statutes section 14.05, subdivision 5. The statutory authority to repeal the obsolete rules is found in Minnesota Statutes, section 14.3895. The initial statutory authority under which these rules were created is found in Minnesota Statutes, section 144.12(13) *Regulation, Enforcement, License, Fees* which gives the Commissioner of the Department of Health the authority to make rules “*for the preservation of public health [including for] ... atmospheric pollution which may be injurious or detrimental to public health[.]*”

**Publication of Proposed Rules.** A copy of the proposed obsolete rules to be repealed will be published in the *State Register*. The proposed obsolete rules to be repealed may be viewed at: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/risk/rules/air.html>. A free copy of the rules is available upon request from the department contact person listed below.

**Department Contact Person.** The department contact person is Emily Hansen at Minnesota Department of Health, 625 N. Robert St. St. Paul, MN 55155, phone: 651-201-4602, fax: 651-201-4606, email: [emily.hansen@state.mn.us](mailto:emily.hansen@state.mn.us). You may contact the department contact person with questions about the rules.

**Public Comment.** You have until **4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2026**, to submit written comment in support of or in opposition to the proposed repeal of obsolete rules and any part or subpart of the repeal.

Your comment must be in writing and received by the eComments website (see below) by the due date. Your comment should identify the portion of the proposed obsolete rules to be repealed and the reason for the comment. In addition, you are encouraged to object to the repeal of any part or subpart. You must also make any comments that you have on the legality of the proposed rules during this comment period. If the proposed repeal of obsolete rules affects you in any way, the department encourages you to participate in the rulemaking process.

Submit written comments via the *Court of Administrative Hearings Rulemaking eComments website* (<https://mn.gov/oah/forms-and-filing/ecomments/>), or by U.S. Mail delivered to the Court of Administrative Hearings, 600 North Robert Street, P.O. Box 64620, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620, or by fax (651) 539-0310.

All comments or responses received are public data and will be available for review on the eComments website.

**Request for Hearing.** In addition to submitting comments, you may also request that the department hold a

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# Proposed Rules

public hearing on the rules. You must make your request for a public hearing in writing, as described above for public comments, by **4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2026**. You must include your name and address in your written request for hearing. You must identify the portion of the proposed repealed rules that you object to or state that you oppose the entire set of rules. You are also encouraged to state the reason for the request and any changes you want made to the proposed rules. Any request that does not comply with these requirements is not valid and the department cannot count it for determining whether it must hold a public hearing.

**Effect of Requests.** If 25 or more people submit a written request, the department will have to meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, sections 14.131 to 14.20 for rules adopted after a hearing or the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, sections 14.22 to 14.28 for rules adopted without a hearing, including the preparation of a statement of need and reasonableness and the opportunity for a hearing.

**Modifications.** The department might modify its choice of these designated rules or parts proposed for repeal (for example, fixing a typo or deciding not to repeal a rule because the rule is discovered not to be obsolete), based on comments and information submitted to the department. If the final rules are identical to the rules originally published in the *State Register*, the department will publish a notice of adopting the repealer(s) in the *State Register*. If the final rules are different from the rules originally published in the *State Register*, the department must publish a copy of the changes in the *State Register*.

**Repeal and Review of Obsolete Rules.** If no hearing is required, the department may repeal the obsolete rules after the end of the comment period. The department will submit the rules and supporting documents to the Court of Administrative Hearings for a legal review. You may ask to be notified of the date the rules are submitted to the office. If you want to receive notice of this, to receive a copy of the repealed obsolete rules, or to register with the department to receive notice of future rule proceedings, submit your request to the department contact person listed above.

Date: September 18, 2026

Myra Kunas  
Assistant Commissioner

**REPEALER.** Minnesota Rules, parts 4717.8000, subparts 1 and 2; 4717.8050, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43; 4717.8100; 4717.8150; 4717.8200; 4717.8250; 4717.8300, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; 4717.8350, subparts 1 and 2; 4717.8400, subparts 1 and 2; 4717.8450, subparts 1 and 2; 4717.8500, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; 4717.8550, subparts 1, 2, and 3; and 4717.8600, subparts 1, 2, and 3, are repealed.

## Minnesota Department of Public Safety

### Minnesota State Patrol

#### Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to School Bus Safety; Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules Without a Public Hearing

**In the Matter of the Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to School Bus Safety; Revisor's ID No. R-4241; CAH Docket No. 65-9018-41903**

**Introduction.** The Department of Public Safety intends to adopt rules without a public hearing under Minnesota Rules, parts 1400.2300 to 1400.2310, and Minnesota Statutes, sections 14.22 to 14.28. By 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 20, 2026, you may submit written comments on the proposed rules and may also submit a written request that a hearing be held on the rules.

**Agency contact person.** Please send questions to Ian Lewenstein, [dps.rulemaking@state.mn.us](mailto:dps.rulemaking@state.mn.us), 651-201-7180, or the Department of Public Safety, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.

**Subject of rules and statutory authority.** The proposed rules amend requirements for school-bus drivers when

# Proposed Rules

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transporting students to or from school or a school-related trip or activity. These requirements are enforced by the State Patrol, which regulates school buses operating on public streets or highways. Within the State Patrol, the Office of Pupil Transportation Safety oversees all department-related activities for school-bus safety.

The rules on school-bus safety haven't been amended in over 20 years, so the department updates requirements to reflect statutory changes and to incorporate best practices in school-bus safety developed by the National Congress on School Transportation. To conform with these best practices, the department—among other proposed rule changes—updates various safety practices such as what a school-bus driver should do when approaching a railroad-grade crossing or when a school-bus driver can back a school bus.

The department also clarifies requirements for transporting students with disabilities for consistency with state and federal requirements and to provide more-detailed guidance for school-bus drivers.

The statutory authority to adopt the rules is under Minnesota Statutes, sections 168.102 and 169.449.

A free copy of the proposed rules is published in the *State Register* and is available on the department's rulemaking web page (<https://dps.mn.gov/about-dps/programs-and-legislative-requirements/rulemaking>) or upon request to Ian Lewenstein.

You may also review the proposed rules and submit written comments via the Court of Administrative Hearings' public comment portal (<https://mn.gov/cah/media/rulemaking.jsp>).

**Comments.** You have until 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 20, 2026, to comment—supporting or opposing—on the proposed rules, including any specific rule part. **Comments on the rule or requests for a public hearing must be submitted via the Court of Administrative Hearings' public comment portal** (<https://mn.gov/cah/media/rulemaking.jsp>). If you cannot use the Court of Administrative Hearings' public comment portal, you may submit comments in person, via US mail, or by facsimile addressed to Judge O'Reilly at the Court of Administrative Hearings, 600 Robert Street North, PO Box 64620, St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620, or fax (651) 539-0310.

The department strongly encourages public comment—especially if the proposed rules affect you—and your comments should identify which rule part you are commenting on, the reason for the comment, and any proposed change. Any comments that you have about the legality of the proposed rules must also be made during the comment period.

**Requesting public hearing.** In addition to submitting comments, you may also request that the department hold a hearing on the rules. You must make your request for a public hearing by 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 20, 2026. You must include your name and address in your request and identify the portion of the proposed rules that you object to or state that you oppose the entire rule. Any request that does not comply with these requirements is invalid and does not count as a hearing request.

You are also encouraged to state why you are requesting a hearing and any changes that you want made to the proposed rules.

**Holding public hearing.** If 25 or more people submit a written request for a public hearing before the comment period ends, the department must hold a public hearing. The department will then proceed according to Minnesota Statutes, sections 14.131 to 14.20, and must publish a notice of the public hearing in the *State Register* and notify people who submitted a written request for the public hearing.

**Withdrawing requests for public hearing.** If enough requests for a hearing are withdrawn to reduce the number of hearing requests below 25, the department must give written notice to all persons who requested a hearing and explain that enough persons have withdrawn their hearing requests. The department's notice on withdrawing requests must comply with additional requirements under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.25, subdivision 2.

**Modifications.** The department may modify the proposed rules because of public comment or as otherwise needed

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# Proposed Rules

to comply with the Administrative Procedure Act. The department must support modifications with information or evidence, including public comments sent to the department. Unless the department follows the procedure under Minnesota Rules, part 1400.2110, the adopted rules may not be substantially different than the proposed rules.

**Statement of Need and Reasonableness.** In the Statement of Need and Reasonableness (SONAR), the department justifies why the proposed rules are needed to establish safe school-bus operational practices and why the department's proposed rules are reasonable.

The department also describes who the rules will affect and estimates the rules' probable cost. The SONAR is now available upon request to Ian Lewenstein and is also available on the department's rulemaking web page (<https://dps.mn.gov/about-dps/programs-and-legislative-requirements/rulemaking>). You may review the SONAR or get a copy by contacting Ian Lewenstein.

**Lobbyist registration.** A lobbyist must register with the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (see Minnesota Statutes, chapter 10A). You may ask questions about this requirement by contacting the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board at 190 Centennial Office Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155, telephone (651) 539-1180 or 1-800-657-3889.

**Adopting and reviewing rules.** If a hearing isn't required, the department may adopt the rules after the comment period ends. The department will then submit the rules and supporting documents to the Court of Administrative Hearings to review for legality. Please contact Ian Lewenstein if you want to:

1. be notified when the department submits the rules to the court;
2. receive a copy of the adopted rules; or
3. register with the department to receive notice of future rule proceedings.

**Alternative format.** Upon request, the information in this notice can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or audio. To make a request, please contact Ian Lewenstein.

Date: October 15, 2026

Bob Jacobson, Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety

## 7470.0100 DEFINITIONS.

Subpart 1. **Scope.** For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms ~~shall used~~ have the meanings given ~~them in~~ this part and, except as provided in this part, Minnesota Statutes, section 169.011.

Subp. 2. [See repealer.]

Subp. 3. [See repealer.]

Subp. 4. [See repealer.]

Subp. 5. [See repealer.]

Subp. 6. **Authorized individual.** "Authorized individual" includes a school district's superintendent or a charter school director, a school's transportation safety director, an individual in charge of school bus transportation for a nonpublic school, and a school bus contractor. Authorized individual includes a designee.

Subp. 7. **Parent or guardian.** "Parent" or "guardian" has the meaning given in part 7414.0100, subpart 9.

Subp. 8. **School.** "School" includes a public school, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.05, subdivisions

# Proposed Rules

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9, 11, 13, and 17, and a nonpublic school.

Subp. 9. **School bus assistant.** “School bus assistant” means an adult assigned to assist a school bus driver.

Subp. 10. **School bus driver.** “School bus driver” means a driver operating a school bus.

Subp. 11. **School-related trip or activity or trip.** “School-related trip or activity” or “trip” has the meaning given in part 7414.0100, subpart 14.

Subp. 12. **Special equipment.** “Special equipment” means assistive or adaptive devices used for or by a student with a disability to access school transportation.

Subp. 13. **Student.** “Student” has the meaning given to “school children” or “pupil” in part 7414.0100, subpart 13, except as provided in part 7470.0200, subpart 2.

Subp. 14. **Student with a disability.** “Student with a disability” means a child under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.02.

## **7470.0200 PURPOSE, SCOPE, AND AUTHORITY APPLICABILITY.**

Subpart 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to establish rules in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.449, governing the issuance and display operation of school bus inspection certificates, consistent with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 169.451, and to establish a point system to evaluate the effect on safety operation of any variance from law detected during school bus inspection, consistent with the mandate of the legislature, buses used for transporting students.

Subp. 2. **Scope and applicability.** This chapter governs the operation of school buses used for transporting students to or from school or a school-related trip or activity. This chapter does not apply to home schools except when a homeschooled student is receiving transportation as a related service through a school under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

## **7470.1000 OPERATION OF TYPE A, B, C, D, AND MULTIFUNCTIONAL OPERATING SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUSES.**

Subpart 1. [See repealer.]

Subp. 2. **Transportation of pupils Transporting students.** A school bus driver:

A. ~~Pupils are not to be evicted~~ must not evict a student from the a school bus along the school bus route for a breach of discipline; or trip;

B. ~~must report to an authorized individual all breaches of discipline must be reported by the bus driver to the authorized person;~~ student violations of a school’s discipline policy under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.91, subdivision 1, clause (5);

C. ~~The entrance door must be~~ must ensure that all doors are closed at all times when transporting pupils and while the school bus is in motion;

All buses must load and unload in the right lane of the roadway, at pupil stops on bus routes approved by the authorized person. Loading or unloading in a designated turn lane or in a lane immediately adjacent to a designated right-hand turn lane is prohibited unless the turn lane is a designated school bus stop at which pupils are not required to cross the road. Under these circumstances, the bus must stop at the extreme right-hand side of the turn lane and the eight-light system and stop arm should not be used. Loading and unloading pupils within an intersection is prohibited.

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D. No pupils may be must ensure that a student is not in the school bus while the fuel tank is being filled; and

E. On leaving the vehicle when pupils are in the bus, the driver shall must stop the motor, remove the ignition key, set the brakes, and otherwise render the school bus immobile when the school bus driver leaves a school bus occupied by a student.

**Subp. 2a. Dangerous weapons, hazardous materials, and animals prohibited.**

A. The authorized person shall see To the extent known by or observable to a school bus driver, the school bus driver must ensure that no materials, including none of the following are transported in a school bus while a student is being transported:

(1) guns, loaded or unloaded a dangerous weapon, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 609.02, subdivision 6, except when transported for an activity under Minnesota Statutes, section 609.66, subdivision 1d, paragraph (f); or

(2) gasoline cans, empty or full; animals, except companion animals accompanying persons with disabilities; or any other object of a dangerous or objectionable nature are transported in the school bus when pupils are being transported hazardous materials, as defined under Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, section 171.8, except light cleaning solutions used to clean a school bus before, between, or after school bus routes or trips.

B. An animal must not be transported in a school bus except for a service animal, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 343.20, subdivision 7, accompanying an individual with a disability.

C. Nothing in this subpart requires a school bus driver to inspect a student's personal belongings.

Subp. 2b. Loose items; unobstructed aisles and exits. To comply with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.447, subdivision 4, a school bus driver must ensure that any loose item, luggage, or equipment is secured or held to prevent the item, luggage, or equipment from falling or moving into the aisle and emergency exits.

**Subp. 3. Driving on school grounds Backing a school bus.**

A. Buses must not be run backwards on the school grounds or at any other point if it can be avoided. If necessary to run a bus backwards, A school bus driver may back a school bus only if:

(1) the school bus driver should have adequate visibility to determine if any moving vehicles are within 500 feet in either direction, when on roadways;

(a) when on a roadway, has an unobstructed view of the roadway in all directions and can determine that an approaching vehicle will be unaffected by the maneuver; or

(b) when not on a roadway, can safely complete the maneuver; and

(2) When there is a pupil pick-up or unloading at a backing point, the driver shall always load before backing and unload after backing. No pupils may be a student who is outside the bus when it is backing is at least 50 feet away from the school bus.

B. Notwithstanding item A, subitem (2), a school bus driver may back a school bus if an adult is supervising a student who is outside and within 50 feet of the school bus.

**Subp. 3a. Approaching railroad grade crossing.**

A. This subpart applies when a school bus driver of a type A, B, C, or D school bus or multifunction school

# Proposed Rules

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activity bus approaches a railroad grade crossing.

B. A school bus driver must activate the school bus's four-way hazard warning lights at least 100 feet from the nearest rail and stop the school bus according to Minnesota Statutes, section 169.28.

C. Immediately after stopping the school bus, the school bus driver must:

(1) silence all heaters, fans, and electronic devices within the school bus driver's control, not including the two-way voice communications system; or

(2) use a noise-suppression switch.

D. While stopped to look and listen along the track as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 169.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), the school bus driver must:

(1) fully open both the school bus driver's window and service door; and

(2) proceed according to Minnesota Statutes, section 169.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a).

E. The school bus's four-way hazard warning lights must remain activated until the entire school bus has cleared the farthest rail. At a railroad grade crossing, a school bus driver must not use:

(1) the eight-lamp prewarning alternately flashing amber signals; or

(2) flashing red stop signals.

F. On a multilane road, a school bus driver must stop in the rightmost lane unless the school bus driver must make a left turn immediately after crossing a railroad track.

Subp. 4. ~~In case of accidents~~ **Supervising students after collisions.** ~~In case of an accident or breakdown of the~~ If a school bus the is involved in a collision, the school bus driver shall must not leave the bus, but shall send two of the patrol or other responsible pupils to the nearest house to summon help a student unsupervised.

Subp. 5. **Reporting collisions.**

A. ~~Immediate reports of all accidents, however slight, involving the school bus must be made by the~~ A school bus driver must immediately report a collision to the an authorized person individual and to any other authorities as person required by law, rule, or regulation under Minnesota Statutes, section 169.09.

B. The school bus driver shall must prepare and keep all records and reports required under Minnesota Statutes, section 169.09, and any other reports required by the authorized person a school or school bus contractor.

Subp. 6. **Breakdowns.** If a school bus breaks down, the school bus driver:

A. must immediately notify an authorized individual; and

B. must not leave a student unsupervised.

## 7470.1100 ~~DRIVER OF TYPE A, B, C, OR D, OR MULTIFUNCTIONAL SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUS;~~ **LOADING AND UNLOADING.**

Subpart 1. **Applicability.** The driver of a type A, B, C, D, or multifunctional school activity bus shall: This part applies to a school bus driver of a type A, B, C, or D school bus.

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Subp. 2. **School bus stops.** A school bus driver must load or unload a student at a school bus stop approved by a school district. If the school bus driver must deviate from the approved school bus stop, the school bus driver must first receive an authorized individual's approval.

Subp. 3. **Multidirectional roadway.** A school bus on a multidirectional roadway must be loaded or unloaded in the right lane unless operating in a manner consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.18, subdivision 7, clause (4); or 169.443, subdivision 2, paragraph (c), or 3.

Subp. 4. **Intersections and adjacent traffic lanes.** A school bus driver must not:

A. load or unload a student:

(1) in an intersection; or

(2) within 50 feet of an intersection unless the school bus is on a through highway; or

B. unload a student into an adjacent traffic lane.

Subp. 5. **Multilane one-way roadways.** A school bus on a multilane one-way roadway must be loaded or unloaded in the right lane, but a school bus equipped with a left-side passenger entrance door may load or unload in the farthest-left portion of a one-way roadway.

Subp. 6. **Stopping school bus.**

~~A. Bring the~~ Before loading or unloading a student, a school bus driver must stop the school bus to a full stop and disengage gears by shifting into neutral or park before loading and unloading pupils; and place the transmission in park or neutral.

Subp. 7. **Using four-way hazard warning lights.**

B. use the prewarning amber flashing signals, flashing red signals, and stop signal arm, if equipped, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.443; When loading or unloading a student as permitted under Minnesota Statutes, section 169.443, subdivision 3, the school bus's four-way hazard warning lights must be used.

C. maintain at least a 50-foot interval when following another bus entering or leaving the school ground, and at least 500 feet when traveling on the highway, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.18, subdivision 8, paragraph (b);

Subp. 8. **Unobstructed view required; exception.**

~~D. A.~~ A school bus driver may load or unload pupils students only where if the view is unobstructed to the motorist school bus driver or another driver for at least:

(1) 500 feet in either direction on a roadway with a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or greater; and where the view is unobstructed for at least

(2) 100 feet in either direction where the speed limit is less than 35 miles per hour;

B. When the conditions in item A, subitem (1), are not met, a school bus driver may load or unload students if a sign is posted in accordance with the Department of Transportation Traffic Engineering Manual indicating that a school bus stop is ahead.

Subp. 9. **Crossing highway.**

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~~E. be~~ A school bus driver is responsible for safely delivering the pupils a student who must cross the highway to the left side of the road by one of the following methods:

A. the pupil shall student must pass around in front of the vehicle school bus and cross the road only upon receiving word or signal from the school bus driver that it is safe to cross; or

B. the pupil shall student must pass around in front of the school bus and be conducted escorted across the road by the a school bus safety patrol or the bus monitor; or the driver shall personally conduct the pupils across the road; and, the school bus driver, or a school bus assistant.

~~F. stop at all railroad crossings whether carrying passengers or not in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.28. The driver shall activate the four-way hazard warning lights not less than 100 feet from the nearest rail, and stop not less than ten feet from the nearest rail. While so stopped, the driver shall open the driver's window and service door to look and listen in both directions along the track for any approaching train. Eight-lamp prewarning alternately flashing amber signals and flashing red stop signals must not be used at railroad crossings. Hazard warning signals should be used.~~

## 7470.1300 EQUIPMENT; INSPECTION AND USE.

### Subpart 1. Pretrip inspection; required equipment.

A. No A school bus shall must not be driven operated unless the a school bus driver or other a designated person individual trained to inspect school buses has inspected the vehicle conducted a pretrip inspection to ensure that; at a minimum; the following school bus parts and accessories are in good working order:

- (1) service brakes; including trailer brake connections;
- (2) parking (hand) brakes;
- (3) steering mechanism;
- (4) lighting devices and reflectors;
- (5) tires, wheels, and rims;
- (6) fluid levels;
- (7) horn;
- (8) windshield wiper or wipers and washing system;
- (9) rear-vision and crossover mirrors, including their proper adjustment;
- (10) instrument panel and controls;
- (11) heaters and defrosters;
- (12) if equipped, eight-lamp system; and stop
- (13) if equipped, stop-signal arm. A copy of the current daily pretrip inspection report must be carried in the bus; and crossing control arm;
- (14) exhaust system;

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(15) emergency equipment, including fire extinguisher, emergency triangles, emergency exits, and buzzers or alarms;

(16) seats;

(17) first-aid kit and body-fluid cleanup kit;

(18) special equipment;

(19) if equipped, wheelchair securement devices and wheelchair lift; and

(20) if equipped, seat belts or a child passenger restraint system.

B. In accordance with item A, subitem (20), a school bus driver or a designated individual trained to inspect school buses must ensure that seat belts or a child passenger restraint system are in working order and available for use by visually or physically inspecting the seat belts or child passenger restraint system.

**Subp. 2. Pretrip inspection; towing trailer.**

A. This subpart applies when a trailer is towed behind a school bus.

B. As part of a pretrip inspection, a school bus driver or a designated individual trained to inspect school buses must ensure that the following trailer parts and accessories are in working order:

(1) tires, wheels, and rims;

(2) service brakes, when applicable;

(3) breakaway or emergency brake, when applicable;

(4) safety chains or cables;

(5) hitch connection;

(6) lighting devices;

(7) wiring connection; and

(8) reflectors.

Subp. 3. **Pretrip inspection report.** After conducting a pretrip inspection under subpart 1 or 2, or both, a school bus driver or a designated individual trained to inspect school buses must complete a pretrip inspection report. A copy of the signed or electronically completed pretrip inspection report must be:

A. maintained in the school bus for the day of operation; and

B. made available upon request by a member of the State Patrol under Minnesota Statutes, section 299D.06, or any other law enforcement agency.

**Subp. 4. Posttrip inspection.**

A. After a school bus route, series of routes, or trip is completed and before leaving the school bus's immediate vicinity, a school bus driver must inspect the school bus's interior to ensure that no one remains in the school bus. A posttrip inspection need not occur at a school.

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B. For purposes of this subpart, “immediate vicinity” means an area within 50 feet of a school bus and within a school bus driver’s direct, unobstructed line of sight.

## **7470.1400 ~~OPERATION OF~~ OPERATING TYPE III VEHICLES AND MULTIFUNCTION SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUSES.**

Subpart 1. **Applicability.** ~~The operating rules in Parts 7470.1000 to 7470.1500 and 7470.1300 to 7470.1700 govern the operation of type III vehicles and multifunction school activity buses used for transporting pupils~~ students when:

A. leased, rented, or owned by and operated by a school district or nonpublic school; or

B. privately leased, rented, or owned and operated under an agreement with a school district or nonpublic school. ~~Type III vehicles are restricted to automobiles, station wagons, and other vehicles having a manufacturer’s rated seating capacity of ten or fewer people including the driver, and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less.~~

Subp. 2. **Multifunction school activity buses.** A multifunction school activity bus must not be used to conduct home-to-school or school-to-home transportation.

## **7470.1500 DRIVER OF TYPE III VEHICLES AND MULTIFUNCTION SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUSES.**

Subpart 1. **Applicability.** This part applies only to a school bus driver of a type III vehicle or a multifunction school activity bus.

Subp. 2. **Stopping traffic prohibited.** ~~The A school bus driver of a Type III vehicle shall must not: stop traffic.~~

A. ~~operate the vehicle as a Type A, B, C, or D school bus;~~

B. ~~stop traffic;~~

Subp. 3. **Loading and unloading in traffic lane prohibited.**

C. ~~A school bus driver must not load or unload a student in a vehicular traffic lane or on the shoulder, but is restricted a school bus driver may load or unload a student~~ to curb, nontraffic side (normal parking lane), off-street loading areas, driveways, yard service, and other areas as needed to avoid any hazardous conditions;

D. ~~load or unload in the right-hand lane of the roadway, designated turn lane, or lane immediately adjacent to a designated right-hand turn lane;~~

Subp. 4. **Escorting student across road.**

E. ~~A. load or unload so that a pupil has to If a student must cross the a road, except where not possible or impractical, then the a school bus driver or aide shall personally school bus assistant must escort the pupil student across the road;~~

F. ~~B. A school bus driver must not escort a pupil student across the road under item E unless the motor is stopped, the ignition key is removed, the brakes are set, and the vehicle school bus is otherwise rendered immobile; or.~~

Subp. 5. **Loading and unloading.**

G. ~~A school bus driver must not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into a student until the school bus driver stops the school bus and places the transmission in park or neutral or park.~~

Subp. 6. **Training for type III drivers; documenting training.**

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A. Before operating a school bus, a school bus driver of a type III vehicle must complete one hour of training on seat belts and child passenger restraint systems under Minnesota Statutes, sections 169.685 and 169.686. The training must be provided annually by:

(1) an individual who is certified and approved by the Office of Traffic Safety in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.51, subdivision 2, paragraph (d);

(2) a nonprofit company that has a stated mission of providing training on child passenger safety; or

(3) a nationally certified child passenger safety technician.

B. A school bus driver under this part must document the completed training under item A, as applicable; part 7470.1700, subpart 1a; and Minnesota Statutes, section 171.02, subdivision 2a or 2b, in a format prescribed by the commissioner of public safety.

## **7470.1600 TRANSPORTING ~~PUPILS~~ STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY.**

Subpart 1. **Services provided.** ~~Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.03 to 125A.24, requires school districts to provide special education and services for a school age resident with a disability. Accordingly, free transportation services must be provided to any child with a disability who requires special transportation services because of the child's disabling conditions or special program needs.~~

A. ~~Parts 7470.1600 and 7470.1700 apply to transportation of~~ transporting a child student with a disability, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section ~~125A.02~~; when:

(1) ~~the disabling conditions of the child are such that student's disability prevents the child cannot be student from being~~ safely transported on the regular school bus route; ~~or when~~

(2) ~~the child student~~ is transported on a special route ~~for the purpose of attending to attend~~ an approved special education program.

B. ~~Parts 7470.1600 and 7470.1700 are not applicable do not apply to parents or guardians who transport their own child under contract an agreement with a school district or nonpublic school.~~

Subp. 2. **Appeal process.** Any parent or guardian of a child student with a disability who believes that the transportation services provided for ~~that child the student~~ are not in compliance with parts 7470.1600 and 7470.1700 may utilize use the due process procedures ~~provided for in under~~ Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.03 to 125A.24.

Subp. 3. **Length of transit time.** The length of time that a pupil student with a disability is transported must be appropriate to the student's physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the pupil. ~~In general, a pupil with a disability should not spend more time in transit than a pupil without a disability except as may be required because of the unique location of the pupil's educational program. A determination under this subpart must be:~~

A. made by the student's individualized education program team in consultation with the school and the student's parents or guardians; and

B. communicated to the school bus contractor in accordance with part 7470.1700, subpart 2.

Subp. 4. **Type of ~~vehicle~~ school bus.** ~~The school district shall determine~~ The type of vehicle school bus used to transport pupils a student with a disability must be determined on the basis of the disabling conditions of those pupils student's disability. ~~These vehicles must comply with Minnesota Statutes, section 169.4504. The determination must be made by the school in consultation with the school bus contractor, the student's parents or guardians, and the student's individualized education program team.~~

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## Subp. 5. ~~Additional assistance; determination~~ Two-way voice communications system; school bus assistant.

A. Vehicles Each school bus used to transport pupils a student with a disability must be equipped with a two-way voice communications system or have a responsible aide, or both, to provide necessary assistance and supervision that cannot safely be provided by the driver another electronic means of communication.

B. A school district may student's individualized education program team must determine that an aide whether a school bus assistant is required needed to assist and supervise the student and must consult with the school, the student's parents or guardians, and the school bus contractor. The determination of whether an aide is required must reflect the student's needs of the pupils and be based on such factors as and be based on an evaluation of:

(1) disabilities of pupils transported, the student's disability;

(2) the distance traveled, density of population, terrain; and

(3) any other factors that may affect the safety of the pupil passengers all students transported. Exceptions to this subpart may be made upon mutual agreement between the parents and the school district.

## Subp. 6. Providing and selecting special equipment.

A. Specially adapted seats, support, or protective devices Special equipment must be provided for all pupils students who require the devices to ensure their safe transportation. These devices equipment. The special equipment must be selected;

(1) by the school district student's individualized education program team in consultation with the pupil's school bus contractor, the student's parents or guardians, and the school; and

(2) on the basis of the specific student's needs of the individual pupil with a disability.

B. A school must notify the school bus contractor of the needed special equipment in accordance with part 7470.1700, subpart 2.

## Subp. 7. Wheelchair securement equipment.

A. A school bus used to transport pupils in wheelchairs a student who uses a wheelchair must be equipped with fastening devices that will hold the wheelchairs securely in a fixed position. securement devices, seat belts, and lifts or ramps that:

(1) comply with Minnesota Statutes, sections 299A.12 and 299A.13, subdivisions 1 and 3; and

(2) are installed, maintained, and used according to manufacturer instructions.

B. Any special equipment that a student needs while being transported must be secured during transportation.

## Subp. 8. Emergency evacuation plan.

A. For each student being transported under this part, a student's individualized education program team, in consultation with the student's parents or guardians and the school, must develop a written emergency evacuation plan that details procedures for evacuating the student from a school bus if the student cannot be safely evacuated under the school's emergency evacuation plan for all students.

B. An emergency evacuation plan must be:

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- (1) updated as needed to reflect changes in a student's disability or needed special or medical equipment; and
- (2) communicated to the school bus contractor in accordance with part 7470.1700, subpart 2.

Subp. 9. **Exception to consultation and communication requirements.** A person does not need to consult or communicate with a school bus contractor under parts 7470.1600 and 7470.1700 if a school does not contract with a school bus contractor for student transportation under this chapter.

## **7470.1700 DRIVERS AND ~~AIDES~~ SCHOOL BUS ASSISTANTS FOR ~~PUPILS~~ STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY.**

Subpart 1. **Drivers generally Assigning drivers and school bus assistants.** Each school bus driver of a vehicle for pupils and school bus assistant transporting a student with a disability shall be carefully selected to assure the driver can must be able to perform the requirements of the job duties and responsibilities of their respective positions. Drivers A school bus driver and school bus assistant must be assigned to each the same daily route on a regular basis whenever possible.

Subp. 1a. **Training.** Before being assigned to a school bus that is transporting a student with a disability, each school bus driver and school bus assistant must receive training in:

- A. first aid;
- B. meeting the needs of any student with a disability as prescribed under subpart 2, item A, subitems (2) and (3);
- C. inspecting, maintaining, and using any special equipment needed by a student;
- D. emergency evacuations, including student-specific procedures under a student's written emergency evacuation plan in part 7470.1600, subpart 8, if any; and
- E. the confidentiality requirements relating to a student's disability under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

Subp. 1b. **Driver and school bus assistant responsibilities.** A school bus driver or school bus assistant must:

- A. ensure that any special equipment is installed, maintained, and used according to manufacturer instructions;
- B. assist a student with a disability to enter and exit the school bus when needed for the student to safely enter and exit the school bus;
- C. ensure that no one stands on the wheelchair lift during lift operations; and
- D. follow the confidentiality requirements relating to a student's disability under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

Subp. 2. **Student information necessary.**

A. Each school bus driver and aide assigned to a vehicle school bus assistant transporting pupils a student with a disability shall have available to them must be able to access the following information in hard copy either a printed or electronic format or immediately accessible through a two-way communication voice communications system:

- A. (1) the pupil's student's name and address;

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~~B. (2) the nature of the pupil's disabilities; student's disability and any other information on the student's:~~

~~(a) special or medical equipment;~~

~~(b) behavioral or health conditions that may affect the ability to safely transport the student; and~~

~~(c) restrictions or medical care necessary to safely transport the student;~~

~~C. (3) emergency health care information on the student's transportation needs under the student's individualized education program; and~~

~~D. (4) the names and telephone numbers of the pupil's physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the pupil's parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an student's emergency contacts; and~~

~~(5) the student's written emergency evacuation plan under part 7470.1600, subpart 8, if any.~~

B. A school must:

(1) maintain the information in this subpart and provide the information and any changes to a school bus driver, school bus assistant, and school bus contractor before transportation; and

(2) provide to a school bus driver, school bus assistant, and school bus contractor only the information on a student's disability and the other information under item A that is needed for the school bus driver, school bus assistant, and school bus contractor to provide transportation services according to the student's individualized education program.

Subp. 3. [See repealer.]

**RENUMBERING INSTRUCTION.** Each part of Minnesota Rules listed in column A is renumbered with the number listed in column B. Cross-reference changes consistent with the renumbering are made.

| Column A                     | Column B                     |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 1</u>  | <u>7470.2010, subpart 1</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 6</u>  | <u>7470.2010, subpart 2</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 7</u>  | <u>7470.2010, subpart 3</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 8</u>  | <u>7470.2010, subpart 4</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 9</u>  | <u>7470.2010, subpart 5</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 10</u> | <u>7470.2010, subpart 6</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 11</u> | <u>7470.2010, subpart 7</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 12</u> | <u>7470.2010, subpart 8</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 13</u> | <u>7470.2010, subpart 9</u>  |
| <u>7470.0100, subpart 14</u> | <u>7470.2010, subpart 10</u> |
| <u>7470.0200</u>             | <u>7470.2000</u>             |
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 2</u>  | <u>7470.2020, subpart 1</u>  |
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 2a</u> | <u>7470.2020, subpart 2</u>  |
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 2b</u> | <u>7470.2020, subpart 3</u>  |
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 3</u>  | <u>7470.2020, subpart 4</u>  |
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 3a</u> | <u>7470.2020, subpart 5</u>  |

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| <u>Column A</u>              | <u>Column B</u>             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 4</u>  | <u>7470.2020, subpart 6</u> |
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 5</u>  | <u>7470.2020, subpart 7</u> |
| <u>7470.1000, subpart 6</u>  | <u>7470.2020, subpart 8</u> |
| <u>7470.1100</u>             | <u>7470.2030</u>            |
| <u>7470.1300</u>             | <u>7470.2040</u>            |
| <u>7470.1400</u>             | <u>7470.2050</u>            |
| <u>7470.1500</u>             | <u>7470.2060</u>            |
| <u>7470.1600</u>             | <u>7470.2070</u>            |
| <u>7470.1700, subpart 1</u>  | <u>7470.2080, subpart 1</u> |
| <u>7470.1700, subpart 1a</u> | <u>7470.2080, subpart 2</u> |
| <u>7470.1700, subpart 1b</u> | <u>7470.2080, subpart 3</u> |
| <u>7470.1700, subpart 2</u>  | <u>7470.2080, subpart 4</u> |

**REPEALER.** Minnesota Rules, parts 7470.0100, subparts 2, 3, 4, and 5; 7470.1000, subpart 1; 7470.1200; and 7470.1700, subpart 3, are repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Minnesota Rules, parts 7470.0100 to 7470.1700, and the repealer are effective August 1, 2027.

# Exempt Rules

Exempt rules are excluded from the normal rulemaking procedures (*Minnesota Statutes* §§ 14.386 and 14.388). They are most often of two kinds. One kind is specifically exempted by the Legislature from rulemaking procedures, but approved for form by the Revisor of Statutes, reviewed for legality by the Office of Administrative Hearings, and then published in the State Register. These exempt rules are effective for two years only.

The second kind of exempt rule is one adopted where an agency for good cause finds that the rulemaking provisions of *Minnesota Statutes*, Chapter 14 are unnecessary, impracticable, or contrary to the public interest.

This exemption can be used only where the rules:

- (1) address a serious and immediate threat to the public health, safety, or welfare, or
- (2) comply with a court order or a requirement in federal law in a manner that does not allow for compliance with *Minnesota Statutes* Sections 14.14-14.28, or
- (3) incorporate specific changes set forth in applicable statutes when no interpretation of law is required, or
- (4) make changes that do not alter the sense, meaning, or effect of the rules.

These exempt rules are also reviewed for form by the Revisor of Statutes, for legality by the Office of Administrative Hearings and then published in the *State Register*. In addition, the Office of Administrative Hearings must determine whether the agency has provided adequate justification for the use of this exemption. Rules adopted under clauses (1) or (2) above are effective for two years only. The Legislature may also exempt an agency from the normal rulemaking procedures and establish other procedural and substantive requirements unique to that exemption.

**KEY: Proposed Rules** - Underlining indicates additions to existing rule language. ~~Strikeouts~~ indicate deletions from existing rule language. If a proposed rule is totally new, it is designated “all new material.”

**Adopted Rules** - Underlining indicates additions to proposed rule language. ~~Strikeout~~ indicates deletions from proposed rule language.

## Department of Labor and Industry

### Adopted Exempt Permanent Rules Adopting Federal Occupational Safety and Health Standards by Reference

The rules proposed and published at State Register, Volume 51, Number 7, pages 203-205, August 17, 2026 (51 SR 203), are adopted as proposed.

# Expedited Rules

The Minnesota Legislature allows for some agencies to use an expedited rulemaking process. Expedited rulemaking allows state agencies to adopt, amend or repeal rules faster than the standard process, generally without a public hearing. The agency must publish notice of the proposed rule in the State Register and must mail the notice by United States mail or electronic mail to persons who have registered with the agency to receive mailed notices (*Minnesota Statutes §14.389*). There must be a 30-day comment period after the notice is published in the *State Register*.

Before publication of the final rule in the *State Register*, the agency must submit the rule to an administrative law judge in the Court of Administrative Hearings. The administrative law judge shall within 14 days approve or disapprove the rule as to its legality and its form to the extent the form relates to legality. If the final rule is approved by the administrative law judge, it can then be published in the *State Register*. The rule is effective upon publication in the *State Register* (*Minnesota Statutes §14.389*).

**KEY: Proposed Rules** - Underlining indicates additions to existing rule language. ~~Strikeouts~~ indicate deletions from existing rule language. If a proposed rule is totally new, it is designated “all new material.”  
**Adopted Rules** - Underlining indicates additions to proposed rule language. ~~Strikeout~~ indicates deletions from proposed rule language.

## Board of Pharmacy

### Adopted Expedited Permanent Rules Relating to Prescription Label Information

The rules proposed and published at State Register, Volume 50, Number 26, pages 645-647, December 29, 2025 (50 SR 645), are adopted as proposed.

# Revenue Notices

The Department of Revenue began issuing Revenue Notices in July of 1991. Revenue Notices are statements of policy made by the department that provide interpretation, detail, or supplementary information concerning a particular statute, rule, or departmental practice. The authority to issue Revenue Notices is found in *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 270C.07.

**KEY:** Underlining indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strikeouts~~ indicate deletions from existing language.

## Minnesota Department of Revenue

### Revenue Notice #26-03: Sales & Use Tax – Telecommunications Services – Revocation and Replacement of Revenue Notice #03-10

This revenue notice replaces Revenue Notice #03-10, which is hereby revoked.

#### Introduction:

This revenue notice sets forth the department’s position on the following:

- (1) examples of services included under the term “telecommunications services;”
- (2) including in the sales price charges for telecommunications services and charges for ancillary services associated with telecommunications services;

# Revenue Notices

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- (3) when exemptions apply for charges to consumers for access to the Internet and for charges to Internet service providers for telecommunications services;
- (4) charges to guests by lodging establishments for access to a telephone service;
- (5) bundling of charges where one or more of the products is a telecommunications service, ancillary service, Internet access, or audio or video programming service; and
- (6) exemptions for certain equipment used by a telecommunications or pay television service provider.

## **Statutory Authority:**

The sale and purchase of telecommunications services, ancillary services associated with telecommunications services, and pay television services are taxable under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 3(i). The definitions of these service categories are found in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61.

*Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 24 defines “telecommunications services.” Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 3(i), “telecommunications services” specifically includes air-to-ground radiotelephone service, mobile telecommunications services, postpaid calling service, prepaid calling service, prepaid wireless calling service, and private communications services. Each of these services is defined under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.669.

The *Internet Tax Freedom Act (ITFA)*, 47 U.S.C. section 151 note, prohibits charging sales tax on costs for telephone line access purchased by consumers solely to acquire access to the Internet. The *ITFA* became permanent on February 24, 2016.

*Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 38, defines a “bundled transaction.” *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 4(m) provides that a sale of a bundled transaction is a retail sale, except that “if one of the products is a telecommunication service, ancillary service, Internet access, [or] audio or video programming service...and the seller has maintained books and records identifying through reasonable and verifiable standards the portions of the price that are attributable to the distinct and separately identifiable products, then the products are not considered part of a bundled transaction.”

## **Telecommunications Services:**

The following are services that are included under the term “telecommunications services:” facsimile (fax), telegraph, teletype, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), a digital subscriber line (dsl), and telecommunications services provided by means of coin-operated telephones or similar devices.

## **Sales Price:**

All charges for telecommunications services, and for ancillary services associated with telecommunications services, must be included in the sales price.

Sales price does not include separately stated charges for:

- (1) the 911 emergency system;
- (2) telecommunications access Minnesota fees (TAM);
- (3) 988 fees;
- (4) telephone assistance plan (TAP);
- (5) telecommunications access for communications impaired persons (TACIP); and

(6) federal excise tax imposed directly on the consumer.

## **Internet:**

If a consumer purchases telephone line access for any telecommunications purpose other than to acquire access to the Internet, the telephone line access charges are not Internet access charges that Minnesota is precluded from taxing under the *ITFA*. If the provider charges the consumer for access to one telephone line, and that line will be used for both telecommunications services and to acquire access to the Internet, the following applies:

- (1) if the provider separately states the access charges for each on the invoice or billing statement, Minnesota is precluded from taxing access to the Internet under the *ITFA*;
- (2) if the provider aggregates the access charges for each on the invoice or billing statement, the entire access charge is subject to sales and use tax.

However, see the “Bundled Services” section below for an exception regarding aggregated charges when the Internet service provider maintains certain books and records.

The charges for telecommunications services purchased by an Internet service provider to provide Internet service to subscribers are exempt from sales and use tax.

## **Hotel/Motel Telephone Charges:**

Charges by hotels and other lodging establishments to guests for access to telephone services are subject to sales tax as part of the sale and purchase of lodging services under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 3(g)(2).

Charges to a hotel or motel guest, for the actual cost of telephone services, rather than for access to those services, are not taxable if the charges are separately stated on the guest’s bill.

## **Bundled Services:**

Even though a seller has books and records which identify each portion of the price that is attributable to a distinct and separately identifiable product such that the products are not considered part of a bundled transaction under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 4(m), each portion of the price that is attributable to a taxable product is subject to sales and use tax.

Under the *ITFA*, when an Internet access charge is aggregated and not separately stated from telecommunications services charges in a consumer invoice or billing statement, the Internet access charge is not subject to taxation if the Internet service provider can reasonably identify the charges for Internet access from its books and records kept in the regular course of business.

If an Internet access charge is aggregated with charges for telecommunications services as well as other charges, and the Internet access charge is the only charge that can be identified from books and records, then the aggregated transaction would be a bundled transaction, as provided in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 4(m). If the aggregated transaction is a bundled transaction, then the total price of the bundled transaction, minus the portion of the price that is attributable to the Internet access charge, is the sales price subject to sales and use tax.

## **Telecommunications and Pay Television Services Equipment:**

*Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.68, subdivision 35a, provides an exemption for telecommunications and pay television services machinery and equipment purchased or leased for use directly by a telecommunications or pay television provider primarily in the provision of telecommunications or pay television services that are ultimately to be sold at retail.

- Telecommunications and pay television providers generally qualify for the exemption if they sell their services

# Revenue Notices

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- at retail.
- Radio and television stations, and others that provide free telecommunications or pay television services, do not qualify for this exemption because they are not selling their services at retail.
- Hotels, motels, and other establishments that do not primarily provide telecommunications or pay television services do not qualify for the exemption.
- The exemption generally does not apply to the purchase of machinery and equipment by an Internet service provider, but this equipment may qualify for the capital equipment exemption for online data retrieval provided for in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.68, subdivision 5, paragraph (a).

## **Revocation of Previous Notice:**

This revenue notice revokes and replaces Revenue Notice #03-10.

Publication Date: October 19, 2026

Terese Mitchell, General Counsel  
Minnesota Department of Revenue

## **Minnesota Department of Revenue**

### **Revenue Notice #26-04: Sales & Use Tax – Telecommunications Services – Exemption for Purchase of Telecommunications Equipment – Voice over Internet Protocol Services and Internet Service Providers – Revocation and Replacement of Revenue Notices #02-14 and #05-03**

#### **Introduction:**

*Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 3(i), provides that the furnishing for a consideration of telecommunications services constitutes a sale or purchase for purposes of Minnesota sales and use tax. *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 24(a), provides that “telecommunication services” means “the electronic transmission, conveyance, or routing of voice, data, audio, video, or any other information or signals to a point, or between or among points.”

*Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 24(b), provides that telecommunications services “include transmission, conveyance, or routing in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, code, or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission, conveyance, or routing without regard to whether the service is referred to as Voice over Internet Protocol services or is classified by the Federal Communications Commission as enhanced or value added.”

*Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 24(c) provides that telecommunications services **do not** include “Internet access service,” or “data processing and information services that allow data to be generated, acquired, stored, processed or retrieved and delivered by an electronic transmission to a purchaser when the purchasers’ primary purpose for the underlying transaction is the processed data or information.”

*Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.68, subdivision 35a, provides a sales tax exemption for purchases of machinery and equipment. For the exemption to apply, the machinery and equipment must be used “directly by a telecommunications or pay television services provider primarily in the provision of telecommunications or pay television services that are ultimately to be sold at retail.”

#### **Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)**

VoIP is a telecommunications service as defined in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61, subdivision 24, that is subject to the Minnesota sales and use tax. For purposes of the Minnesota sales and use tax, VoIP is not an exempt information service since it uses computer processing applications solely for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications system or for the management of a telecommunications service. Although VoIP uses Internet protocol that allows the transmission of packeted data across a network, it primarily serves to address and route the

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voice, data, or audio. The primary purpose of VoIP is not the processing of data or information.

As a provider of telecommunications services, a VoIP provider qualifies for the sales tax exemption in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.68, subdivision 35a, when it purchases machinery and equipment.

## **Internet Service Providers (ISPs)**

Telecommunications services is defined for sales tax purposes in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.61. Pursuant to subdivision 24(c)(6), “[t]elecommunications services do not include...Internet access service.” As such, ISPs that only provide Internet access services are not providing a telecommunications service for the purpose of Minnesota sales tax.

Further, since Internet access services are specifically excluded from the definition of “telecommunications services,” ISPs that only provide Internet access services and/or are purchasing equipment to be used principally in the furnishing of Internet access do not qualify for the telecommunications equipment exemption found in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.68, subdivision 35a.

Entities that provide both Internet access services and other telecommunications services should review the “Multiuse Equipment” section to determine whether the telecommunications equipment exemption applies to their purchases.

## **Multiuse Equipment: Telecommunications and Internet Access**

Some entities provide both telecommunications services and Internet access. These entities may purchase equipment that is used to provide both taxable telecommunications services and non-taxable Internet access. *Minnesota Statutes*, section 297A.68, subdivision 35a requires equipment to be used “primarily in the provision of telecommunications or pay television services that are ultimately to be sold at retail.” To receive the exemption, a provider must demonstrate, through books, records, or other relevant documentation, that the equipment purchased is to be used primarily to provide telecommunications or pay television services. If the equipment is to be used primarily to provide Internet access, then the exemption does not apply. Finally, if a provider cannot provide sufficient documentation to support the use of its claimed equipment, the exemption will not apply.

## **Revocation of Previous Notices:**

This revenue notice revokes and replaces Revenue Notices #02-14 and #05-03.

Publication Date: October 19, 2026

Terese Mitchell, General Counsel  
Minnesota Department of Revenue

# Official Notices

Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* §§ 14.101, an agency must first solicit comments from the public on the subject matter of a possible rulemaking proposal under active consideration within the agency by publishing a notice in the *State Register* at least 60 days before publication of a notice to adopt or a notice of hearing, and within 60 days of the effective date of any new statutory grant of required rulemaking.

The *State Register* also publishes other official notices of state agencies and non-state agencies, including notices of meetings and matters of public interest.

## Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

### State Services for the Blind

#### Request for Comments for Possible Amendment to Rules and Repeal of Rules Relating to Rehabilitation; Visually Impaired, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 3325; Revisor's ID Number R-04930

**Subject of Rules.** The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) requests comments on its possible amendment to rules and repeal of rules governing Rehabilitation; Visually Impaired. DEED is considering rule amendments and repealing rules as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 248.07, subdivision 14a. This request for comments is the first of several opportunities for public comment and input on this rulemaking. At this stage, DEED does not have draft rules. DEED is seeking feedback about the following potential topics for amended rules and repeal of rules for Rehabilitation; Visually Impaired:

1. Ensure alignment with federal laws, including the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) (Public Law 113-128) and implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. §§ 361, 363, 397), and the Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. § 200).
2. Incorporate WIOA requirements related to the provision of pre-employment transition services for youth with disabilities.
3. Update the eligibility criteria for SSB's Vocational Rehabilitation program so eligibility is based on an applicant's barriers to employment, not medical definitions of whether the applicant has a disability.
4. Refine rules related to SSB's support for maintenance. Maintenance is monetary support for food, housing, transportation, and other services needed by an SSB customer to support the customer's vocational rehabilitation services and that are beyond the customer's normal expenses.
5. Revise rules related to SSB's support for post-secondary training.
6. Modify rules related to the scope of services provided by SSB's Senior Services/Independent Living program services, including eliminating the maximum number of hours of rehabilitation technology training and broadening the types of assistive technology that SSB may provide.
7. Remove unnecessary administrative burdens that prevent SSB from providing, and customers from receiving, quality vocational rehabilitation services.
8. Remove and replace outdated requirements and terminology, such as replacing the term "visually impaired" with "low vision."
9. Refine rules related to qualifications for SSB community rehabilitation programs and community partners, including but not limited to, comprehensive training centers and individuals providing rehabilitation teaching services, orientation and mobility services, and rehabilitation technology-assistive technology services.
10. Revise rules using plain language, so rules are clear to all readers.
11. Ensure SSB's procurement requirements are in alignment with federal law and informed choice.

As time permits, DEED may consider adopting other new rules or amending rules identified in the rule review process.

**Persons Affected.** The amendment to the rules and repeal of rules would likely affect applicants, potentially eligible students, and eligible individuals receiving rehabilitation services from SSB and their designated representatives or legal representatives. The amendment to the rules and repeal of rules would also likely affect SSB staff, as well as community rehabilitation programs and independent contractors that provide services to SSB customers.

**Statutory Authority.** DEED's statutory authority for these rules is as follows: *Minnesota Statutes*, section 248.07, subd. 14a, requires the department to adopt rules to set standards for the provision of rehabilitation services, including program definitions; basic eligibility; financial need; definition of legal blindness; formal rehabilitation plans; placement in training programs; tools and equipment; and for appeals including timely agency response.

**Public Comment.** Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rules in writing until 4:30 p.m. on December 18, 2026. DEED will not publish a notice of intent to adopt the rules until more than 60 days have elapsed from the date of this request for comments.

During the public comment period, submit written comments or information to:

1) Court of Administrative Hearings (CAH) Rulemaking eComments website at <https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions>; or

2) CAH Attn: William Moore, CAH, P.O. Box 64620, St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620 or fax 651-539-0310 or email [William.T.Moore@state.mn.us](mailto:William.T.Moore@state.mn.us).

You may view frequently asked questions about the CAH Rulemaking eComments website at [https://mn.gov/oah/assets/ecomments-faq\\_tcm19-82012.pdf](https://mn.gov/oah/assets/ecomments-faq_tcm19-82012.pdf). Any questions about submitting comments via the Rulemaking eComments website should be directed to William Moore of the CAH at 651-361-7900 or by email at [William.T.Moore@state.mn.us](mailto:William.T.Moore@state.mn.us).

Comments received are public and will be available for review at the CAH Rulemaking eComments website at <https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions> and at the CAH at the address listed above.

DEED plans to appoint an advisory committee to comment on the possible rules. An advisory committee comprised of SSB staff and stakeholders will offer non-binding recommendations to the agency. The advisory committee will provide specialized expertise and a broad range of perspectives and experiences.

This public comment opportunity is associated with the development of possible rules. Comments received in response to this notice will not be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the Administrative Law Judge if and when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The Department is required to submit to the judge only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submit comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the Administrative Law Judge reviews the comments, you must resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

**Rules Drafts.** DEED has not yet drafted the possible rules amendments and rules repeal. DEED will make the draft rules amendments and rules repeal available upon completion.

**DEED Contact Person.** Submit written comments via the CAH Rulemaking eComments website at <https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions> as described above in the Comments section.

Submit clarification questions and requests for additional information to Courtney Wanek:

# Official Notices

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Courtney Wanek  
2200 University Ave W Suite 240  
St. Paul, MN 55114  
Email: [courtney.wanek@state.mn.us](mailto:courtney.wanek@state.mn.us)  
Phone: 651-539-2355

Submit questions about the rulemaking process to Kristina Petronko:

Kristina Petronko  
Great Northern Building,  
180 E 5th St, Suite 1200,  
St. Paul, MN 55101-1678  
Email: [Kristina.Petronko@state.mn.us](mailto:Kristina.Petronko@state.mn.us)  
Phone: 651-396-7424

**Alternative Format.** Upon request, this information can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or audio. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above or use your preferred relay service.

Dated: October 19, 2026

Evan Rowe, Deputy Commissioner  
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

### Watershed Division

### Notice of Availability of the Draft Church and South Lundsten Lakes Total Maximum Daily Load Report and Request for Comment

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) produced this report to set pollution reduction goals and strategies for two lakes in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed, and is requesting written comments during the public comment period:

- Public comment period begins: October 19, 2026
- Public comment period ends: November 18, 2026

Comments may be submitted to the MPCA by the two methods below:

1. Online at [www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments)
2. U.S. Mail to the following address:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
c/o Amy Timm  
520 Lafayette Rd N  
Saint Paul, MN 55155-4102

The draft report is available for review on the *MPCA's Public Notice Page*

## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

### Watershed Division

#### Notice of Availability of the Draft Nemadji River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) Report Update 2026 and Request for Comment

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) produced this report to set pollution reduction goals and strategies for the watershed, and is requesting written comments during the public comment period:

- Public comment period begins: October 19, 2026
- Public comment period ends: November 18, 2018

Comments may be submitted to the MPCA by the two methods below:

1. Online at [www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments)
2. U.S. Mail to the following address:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
c/o Lindsey Krumrie  
525 S Lake Ave, Ste 400  
Duluth, MN 55802-2362

The draft report is available for review on the *MPCA's Public Notice Page*

## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

### Public Notice of Intent to Reissue Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit MNR040000

#### General information

|                                        |                   |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Public comment period begins:</b>   | October 19, 2026  |
| <b>Public comment period ends:</b>     | November 19, 2026 |
| <b>Current permit issued:</b>          | November 16, 2020 |
| <b>Current permit expiration date:</b> | November 15, 2025 |

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to reissue this permit for a term of approximately five (5) years.

# Official Notices

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| Name and address of Permittee: | Facility name and location:                                                | MPCA contact person:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Multiple                       | Municipal Separate Storm<br>Sewer System (MS4) General<br>Permit MNR040000 | Cole Landgraf<br>Municipal Division<br>Minnesota Pollution Control Agency<br>520 Lafayette Road North<br>St. Paul, MN 55155<br>Phone: 651-757-2880<br>Email: <a href="mailto:cole.landgraf@state.mn.us">cole.landgraf@state.mn.us</a><br><br>File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or<br>844-828-0942 |

A draft permit and fact sheet are available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mPCA/contact-us>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and U.S. Mail comments must be received by 4:30 p.m.

## Description of permitted activity

This general permit will provide coverage for approximately 226 existing entities, which includes cities, townships, counties, watershed districts, colleges and universities, correctional facilities, department of transportation, and a hospital, that own and/or operate a small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) in Minnesota. Additional entities that own and/or operate a small MS4 may be designated in the future by the MPCA under Minn. R. 7090. The general permit provides a mechanism to regulate discharges of stormwater from small MS4s. Like the previous permit, this general permit will require permittees to develop and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) to reduce the discharge of pollutants from their storm sewer system. To obtain coverage under the proposed permit, all current regulated small MS4s are required to submit a complete application in accordance with the schedule identified in the permit. Any additional designated small MS4s will be required to submit an application by the date specified in the MPCA Commissioner's designation determination.

The preliminary determination to reissue this MS4 permit is tentative.

## Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- 1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- 2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- 3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

## Submitting written comments

Comments may be submitted:

1. Online at <https://comment.pca.state.mn.us>; or
2. By U.S. postal mail to the following address:

Cole Landgraf  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Submitted comments or petitions must state:

- 1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- 2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- 3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

### **Public informational meeting**

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

The MPCA has scheduled a webinar on **Wednesday, October 28, 2026, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM** (Central time). The webinar will provide an overview of the MS4 permit, highlight major changes, and include time for a question-and-answer session. The webinar will be recorded and made available to anyone interested. For more information, please visit <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/ms4-general-permit>.

### **Contested Case Hearing**

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.

# State Grants & Loans

In addition to requests by state agencies for technical/professional services (published in the State Contracts Section), the *State Register* also publishes notices about grants and loans available through any agency or branch of state government. Although some grant and loan programs specifically require printing in a statewide publication such as the State Register, there is no requirement for publication in the *State Register* itself. Agencies are encouraged to publish grant and loan notices, and to provide financial estimates as well as sufficient time for interested parties to respond.

SEE ALSO: Office of Grants Management (OGM) at: <https://mn.gov/admin/citizen/grants/>

## Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority (MnCIFA) Notice of Call for Financing Applications

MnCIFA has issued a new round for our 2026 Call for Applications for projects based in Minnesota. We are seeking to deploy up to \$50 million in financing for clean energy projects in Minnesota. Objectives for this Call for Applications are to:

- Make energy more affordable and reliable for Minnesotans
- Bring clean energy innovation to Minnesota
- Expand clean energy opportunities in Tribal or Greater Minnesota communities

Products offered in this Call for Applications include two new offerings in addition to direct loans:

- MnCIFA Community Loan Fund
- MnCIFA Loan Loss Reserve

For more details and steps to apply, visit MnCIFA's Call for Applications page: [mncifa.mn.gov/call-for-applications](https://mncifa.mn.gov/call-for-applications).

*This request does not obligate the State, and the State reserves the right to adapt or cancel this Call for Applications. All expenses incurred in responding to this notice are solely the responsibility of the responder.*

## Department of Commerce

### Division of Energy Resources

#### Request for Proposals for Electric School Buses: Application for Equipment – COMM-ESB06-20261019

The Minnesota Department of Commerce ("Commerce") seeks proposals to purchase electric school buses from eligible School Districts throughout Minnesota, and other eligible applicants on their behalf. Funds may also be used to install necessary charging infrastructure.

The State Legislature allocated a total of \$13 million to accelerate School Districts' adoption of electric school buses and to encourage schools to use vehicle electrification as a teaching tool that can be integrated into the school's curriculum (*Minn. Stat. §216C.374*). Public School Districts, Tribal contract schools, as well as eligible applicants representing them may apply for funding, which will be awarded based on financial need and prioritization criteria. This RFP will provide funding to pay for the procurement of electric school buses and other related equipment.

Activities funded under this grant award include:

- The purchase of up to three electric school buses per applicant, or the conversion of up to three fossil-fuel powered school buses to be powered by electricity.

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# State Grants & Loans

- Administrative work to support the purchase of electric school buses, or support the conversion or repowering of fossil-fuel-powered school buses to electricity;
- Deployment, on the School District or transportation service provider's real property, of infrastructure required to operate electric school buses, such as charging stations. This grant will cover up to one level 2 alternating current (AC) charger per electric school bus, or one direct current (DC) fast charger per application.

The RFP will be posted publicly online on Commerce's RFP page (found at <https://mn.gov/commerce/business/rfp.jsp>) beginning on **Monday, October 19, 2026, and will close Thursday, December 31, 2026 at 5:00pm CST.**

Two rounds of this program are currently open for applications, this Application for Equipment, and an Application for Planning and Technical Assistance. Commerce has up to \$1.7M available for applicants to both rounds. If the funding available is insufficient to make awards to all eligible applicants across both rounds, Commerce may make its final award decisions based on the prioritization and scoring criteria as described in the requests for proposals, as well as consideration of factors such as geographic distribution, services to special populations, and the applicant's capacity to perform the work. The amount of funding available for this round of the program is subject to change based on various factors.

All responses to this RFP need to be submitted through a single responder user account via the grant portal. Applications must be submitted by the deadline of each respective round. **Late proposals will not be considered.** Instructions and links for submitting bids are detailed in the RFP and attachments.

This request does not obligate the State to complete the work contemplated in this notice. The State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation. All expenses incurred in responding to this notice are solely the responsibility of the responder.

## Department of Commerce

### Division of Energy Resources

#### Request for Proposals for Electric School Buses: Application for Planning and Technical Assistance – COMM-ESB07-20261019

The Minnesota Department of Commerce ("Commerce") seeks proposals from eligible applicants for funding to seek technical assistance related to planning for electric school bus adoption and applying to federal funding opportunities.

The State Legislature allocated a total of \$13 million to accelerate School Districts' adoption of electric school buses and to encourage schools to use vehicle electrification as a teaching tool that can be integrated into the school's curriculum (*Minn. Stat. §216C.374*). School districts, as well as eligible applicants representing them, may apply for funding, which will be awarded based on financial need and the proposed activities to be performed under this grant.

This grant funds two types of activities:

1. Planning Activities
2. Federal Application Assistance

The RFP will be posted publicly online on Commerce's RFP page (found at <https://mn.gov/commerce/business/rfp.jsp>) beginning on **Monday, October 19, 2026, and will close Thursday, December 31, 2026, at 5:00pm CST.**

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# State Grants & Loans

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factors. All responses to this RFP need to be submitted through a single responder user account via the grant portal. Applications must be submitted by the deadline of each respective round. **Late proposals will not be considered.** Instructions and links for submitting bids are detailed in the RFP and attachments.

This request does not obligate the State to complete the work contemplated in this notice. The State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation. All expenses incurred in responding to this notice are solely the responsibility of the responder.

## Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Notice of Grant Opportunity

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) places notice of any available grant opportunities online at <https://mn.gov/deed/about/contracts/open-rfp.jsp>

## Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Request for Proposals for the Capacity Building Grant Program

Minnesota Housing announces the availability of up to approximately \$2 million to strengthen organizations and communities as they work to improve the housing system and build thriving communities. This grant program prioritizes community-driven work, innovation, and initiatives that have a system-level impact. The funds are available through the Capacity Building Grant Program and will be awarded through a competitive request for proposals process to selected applicants over a two-year grant term that runs from approximately August 2, 2027 - October 31, 2029. The amount of available funding may be adjusted.

Phase One applications are due to Minnesota Housing by **12 p.m. (noon) Central time on Thursday, December 10, 2026.**

More program information and application materials are available on Minnesota Housing's *Capacity Building Program webpage*.

Questions about the program should be directed to Alyssa Wetzels-Moore at [CommunityDevelopment.MHFA@state.mn.us](mailto:CommunityDevelopment.MHFA@state.mn.us).

This request does not obligate the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to award a contract or complete the proposed program, and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency reserves the right to cancel this solicitation if it is considered in its best interest. All expenses incurred in responding to this solicitation are solely the responsibility of the responder.

## Minnesota Department of Human Services Notice of Grant Opportunities

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) places notice of any available grant opportunities on the DHS Grant Requests for Proposals website: *Open grants, RFPs and RFIs*.

# State Contracts

**Informal Solicitations:** Informal solicitations for professional/technical (consultant) contracts valued at over \$5,000 through \$50,000, may either be published in the *State Register* or posted on the Department of Administration, Office of State Procurement (OSP) Website. Interested vendors are encouraged to monitor the P/T Contract Section of the OSP Website at <https://mn.gov/admin/osp> for informal solicitation announcements.

**Formal Solicitations:** Department of Administration procedures require that formal solicitations (announcements for contracts with an estimated value over \$50,000) for professional/technical contracts must be published in the *State Register*. Certain quasi-state agency and Minnesota State College and University institutions are exempt from these requirements.

**Requirements:** There are no statutes or rules requiring contracts to be advertised for any specific length of time, but the Office of State Procurement strongly recommends meeting the following requirements: \$0 - \$5000 does not need to be advertised; \$5,000 - \$25,000 should be advertised in the *State Register* for a period of at least seven calendar days; \$25,000 - \$50,000 should be advertised in the *State Register* for a period of at least 14 calendar days; and anything above \$50,000 should be advertised in the *State Register* for a minimum of at least 21 calendar days.

Contact the Office of State Procurement at: (651) 296-2600

## Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (Minnesota State)

### Notice of Bid and Contracting Opportunities

Minnesota State advertises contract opportunities for goods and services on its Vendor and Supplier Opportunities website (<https://www.minnstate.edu/vendors/index.html>). New notices may be added daily and will remain posted for the duration specified in each individual notice. For questions or to report any issues viewing the information on the website, please email Minnesota State at [Sourcing@MinnState.edu](mailto:Sourcing@MinnState.edu).

## Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (Minnesota State)

### Minnesota West Community & Technical College

### Notice of Request for Track Dozer

The State of Minnesota, acting through its Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, on behalf of Minnesota West Community and Technical College, is requesting proposals for a **Track Dozer. Preferred John Deere or Caterpillar.**

Delivery to MN West Community Technical College, Canby, MN required by December 31, 2026.

#### Preferred criteria:

- 2022 or newer model year
- 650 series equivalent or larger
- Dual path hydro static, fully integrated into the monitor for calibrations and adjustments.
- 4.5 liter wet sleeve engine or larger.
- Joystick steering with speed in grip
- Dozer control with integrated gps control.
- Electric blade angle for less wrist fatigue.
- Econo mode
- Decel option, engine and transmission or just transmission.
- Adjustments on the fly for reverse speed for less track wear.
- Factory sealed and a/c cab.
- Topcon integrated into the machine control.
- Automatic reversing fan on the radiator that cycle time can be adjusted from the monitor.

# State Contracts

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- Rear ripper
- Air suspension seat
- JD link for machine reports, codes, and location
- Front mounted radiator.
- Less than 5500 hours
- All Manuals- Operator, Service, Parts, Troubleshooting
- Trading in 2006 550J John Deere 4522 Hrs

For questions, please contact Andrew Hoffmann: [Andrew.hoffmann@mnwest.edu](mailto:Andrew.hoffmann@mnwest.edu) or (507) 223-1343.

Proposals must be sealed with a notation on the outside of the envelope stating: Bid for Vehicle, DELIVER IMMEDIATELY.

**Mail or delivered** (faxes and email will not be accepted) sealed paper proposals must be delivered no later than October 22, 2026 by 12:00 p.m.:

Minnesota West Community & Technical College  
Attn: Andy Hoffmann  
1011 1<sup>st</sup> st West  
Canby, MN 56220

PROPOSAL CLOSE DATE is October 22, 2026, at 12:00 pm CST

## Minnesota Competency Attainment Board Request for Proposal for Forensic Navigator Case Management System

The Minnesota Competency Attainment Board (MNCAB), an agency of the Minnesota Judicial Branch, is using a competitive selection process to provide a fully functional case management system.

The forensic navigator case management system will be utilized for statewide case intake & tracking, communications, document management, secure access control, robust reporting, dashboards, workflows, high availability and compatibility with non-proprietary data exchange API's and should be proposed as such.

The request for proposal does not obligate MNCAB to award a contract or complete the project, and MNCAB reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest.

Submissions must be in writing and received by MNCAB no later than 11:59 p.m., CST, November 15, 2026. A complete copy of the Request for Proposal may be found on the Minnesota Competency Attainment Board website at <https://mn.gov/cab/>.

### *Read the Request for Proposal*

Vendor Questions Due: **11:59 p.m., CST, October 19, 2026**

Proposal Submission Due: **11:59 p.m., CST, November 15, 2026.**

## Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS)

### Request for Proposals for Professional Services for Minnesota History Center Facility Assessment

The Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) is soliciting proposals from qualified consultants (Consultant) to work collaboratively with MNHS to prepare a facility assessment for the Minnesota History Center (Site).

The Consultant will review existing information regarding the building, assess current conditions through a site walk, identify expected useful remaining life and develop a report that will serve as a long-term capital budget planning tool for the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) as it relates to the capital needs of the Minnesota History Center (MHC). The study will create a prioritized schedule of future repair and replacement projects over the next 30 years so that MNHS may develop a stable funding plan for the Site.

The Request for proposal and any other documents are available by contacting Mary Green Toussaint, Contract and Purchasing Manager, Minnesota Historical Society, by email only: [mary.green-toussaint@mnhs.org](mailto:mary.green-toussaint@mnhs.org)

There will be a **MANDATORY** pre-bid meeting for all interested parties on **Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 9:00am. Local Time** at the MHC, 345 Kellogg Blvd West, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

All bids must be received by Mary Green Toussaint, Contract and Purchasing Manager, [mary.green-toussaint@mnhs.org](mailto:mary.green-toussaint@mnhs.org), no later than **2 p.m. Local Time Thursday, November 19, 2026 at 2:00pm CST**.

There will be no public bid opening. Late bids will not be considered.

## Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)

### Engineering Services Division

#### Notices Regarding Professional/Technical (P/T) Contracting

**P/T Contracting Opportunities:** MnDOT is now placing additional public notices for P/T contract opportunities on the MnDOT's Consultant Services website. New public notices may be added to the website on a daily basis and be available for the time period as indicated within the public notice.

**Taxpayers' Transportation Accountability Act (TTAA) Notices:** MnDOT is posting notices as required by the TTAA on the MnDOT Consultant Services website.

**MnDOT's Prequalification Program:** MnDOT maintains a Pre-Qualification Program in order to streamline the process of contracting for highway related P/T services. Program information, application requirements, application forms and contact information can be found on MnDOT's Consultant Services website. Applications may be submitted at any time for this Program.

**MnDOT Consultant Services website:** [www.dot.state.mn.us/consult](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/consult)

If you have any questions regarding this notice, or are having problems viewing the information on the Consultant Services website, please email the Consultant Services Helpline at [ptconsultantserviceshelpline.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:ptconsultantserviceshelpline.dot@state.mn.us).

