

Mauritian Bus License Training Guide  
Oral/Theory Examination

[ English Version ]



PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

**This Training Guide is in no way a substitute for any official and/or commercial versions available; it is based on past experiences and drivers who undergone the examination. Bold and/or underlined items are recurrent and more likely to be asked. Furthermore, this guide may not fully reflect the actual examination available at the Traffic Branch. This guide is provided free and as is, we have no plans to update it. Failing at the Bus License examination is your own doing – not any training guides’.**

## **In Mauritius you could be booked if your bus:**

- ✓ Is not covered by a valid Insurance, Road Worthy Certificate and the National Transport Authority's (NTA) Motor Vehicle Licence (Declaration).
- ✓ Bus Permit (Condition) delivered by NTA is expired or you are not carrying it.
- ✓ You do not have an emergency Red Flag.
- ✓ Fire extinguisher missing.
- ✓ Hazards Triangle indicator damaged or missing.
- ✓ Oil Leaks.
- ✓ Fuel Leaks.
- ✓ Worn Tyres.
- ✓ Missing spare tyre, wheel brace and jack.
- ✓ Rear Axle differential is not painted white.
- ✓ Rocks are left trapped in between the double rear wheels.
- ✓ Over speed (See Bus Speed Limits).
- ✓ Take more passengers than authorised.
- ✓ Embark passenger other than at designated areas ('Bus Stop').
- ✓ Driver not wearing NTA badge.
- ✓ Signs showing wrong destination and wrong tariffs applied.
- ✓ Smoke whilst driving.
- ✓ Faulty door or door left open whilst bus in running.
- ✓ Lights are faulty or burnt.
- ✓ Faulty horn.
- ✓ Engine must not be left running (idle) without driver behind the wheels.
- ✓ Broken rear view mirrors or cracked windshield.
- ✓ Seats broken or torn.
- ✓ No litter box available.
- ✓ Faulty or broken destination sign.
- ✓ Bus anti slip floor worn or not tidy.
- ✓ Dirty bus body.
- ✓ Driving in neutral.

## **Basic checks to be performed before bus leave depot.**

- ✓ Insurance, Road Worthy Certificate and NTA's Motor Vehicle Licence are in conformity with the Road Traffic Act.
- ✓ Good condition fire extinguisher.
- ✓ Radiator is properly filled.
- ✓ Emergency Red Flag is available.
- ✓ Proper oil level in engine.
- ✓ Sufficient fuel level.
- ✓ Brake fluid at safe level.
- ✓ Lights (direction indicators) are working.
- ✓ Windscreen washer working.
- ✓ Horn working.
- ✓ Jack, spare tyre and wheel brace are in good condition.
- ✓ Seats are in good condition and clean.
- ✓ Destination signs properly showing.
- ✓ Registration number plate clearly visible.

## **Bus Speed Limits**

- 65 Km/h (40 mph) on motorway.
- 50 Km/h (31 mph) in city or villages.

## **The following are prohibited on motorway:**

- ✓ Stop.
- ✓ Park.
- ✓ Overtake on the left.
- ✓ U Turn.
- ✓ Drive in neutral.
- ✓ Speeding.
- ✓ Drive in Reverse.
- ✓ Zigzagging.
- ✓ Drive in against traffic flow.
- ✓ Drive with a learner's license.

### **The use of full beam is prohibited when:**

- ✓ You are following a vehicle.
- ✓ There are upcoming vehicles.
- ✓ You are driving up or down a hill.
- ✓ Negotiating turns.
- ✓ In well lighted places.

### **Situations where overtaking is not allowed:**

- ✓ In turns.
- ✓ When driving up a hill.
- ✓ When there is a continuous white line.
- ✓ In narrow roads.
- ✓ On narrow bridges.
- ✓ When negotiating a round about.
- ✓ Where pedestrian crossings are present.

### **Places where the use of horns is prohibited:**

- ✓ Near Hospitals
- ✓ Church
- ✓ Parliament
- ✓ Courts of Justice
- ✓ Herds of animal
- ✓ Funeral procession
- ✓ School
- ✓ Anywhere in the perimeter of the Police Headquarters
- ✓ When a preceding vehicle bear the “ L ” sign.

## **Places where it is prohibited to park your vehicle:**

- ✓ At intersections
- ✓ Around About
- ✓ On an ascending roads
- ✓ In turns
- ✓ Narrow roads
- ✓ At Bus Stops
- ✓ On yellow box
- ✓ Anywhere the No Parking signs are affixed.
- ✓ On Double yellow lines.

## **The emergency red flag dimension:**

- Length of handle = 18 inches (1.5 feet)
- Length of flag = 1 sq/ft (929 cm<sup>2</sup>)

## **A typical bus dimension:**

- Length = 33 Feet (10.1m)
- Width = 8 Feet (2.4 m)
- Height = 10 Feet (3 m)

## **Typical Type Pressure:**

- 1000 x 20 = 90 lbs
- 900 x 20 = 80 lbs
- 825 x 20 = 70 lbs

## It is prohibited to do on or near a Pedestrian Crossing:

- ✓ Park
- ✓ Reverse driving
- ✓ U turn
- ✓ Overtake
- ✓ Speeding
- ✓ Use of horn
- ✓ Embark or let off passengers

## Types of Brakes on a (Diesel) heavy vehicle:

- ✓ Hydraulic brake (Lockheed or Girling): brake fluid under pressure are transferred from the master cylinder to the wheel cylinders, in turn are transferred to the brake shoes/pads to stop the wheels.
- ✓ Servo: a combination of both pneumatic and hydraulic braking system.
- ✓ Parking brake: some works with cable to activate pads or shoes to hold the propeller shaft. Most uses the pneumatic system.
- ✓ Exhaust Brake: a flap in the exhaust manifold shut the way of the escaping burnt gases; slowing down the engine hence the vehicle.
- ✓ Pneumatic: air brake; the engine compresses air into a tank to be distributed in the braking system. A vehicle equipped with such a system will have a manometer to monitor air pressure, the wheels will remain locked until the pressure in the system reaches 6 to 8 bar.

**Security:** you know a vehicle has no brake when the wheels remain locked after you have started the engine to fill the air tank. Furthermore, while driving if you notice the air level is dropping on the manometer, pull over in a lay by since the wheels will be locked soon!

However, on new vehicles there are new safety measures to prevent this situation, auxiliary tanks and lines are available to prevent systems failure.

## Gear to use when bus is in full passenger's capacity:

First or Second Gear. (1 or 2)

## **Gear to use when driving down a hill:**

First or Second Gear (1 – 2)

## **Public line Bus General Condition to be observed:**

- ✓ The NTA's bus license must be clearly visible in the bus and must be shown to police or NTA officers upon request.
- ✓ Bus must be in good condition and tidy.
- ✓ The wheel brace and jack must be in good condition.
- ✓ The fire extinguisher must be in good condition and within the driver's reach.
- ✓ Passenger's capacity must be observed.
- ✓ No goods or materials are to be carried in a bus.
- ✓ Driver must wear uniform and badge.
- ✓ Smoking is prohibited for the driver while carrying passengers.
- ✓ A bin must be provided inside the bus. Dimension = 6" X 10".
- ✓ A notice to give priority to older or disabled persons must be clearly visible.
- ✓ Bus must follow NTA's allocated route.

## **Contract or special route bus:**

1. Before setting on its route, the bus owner must fill its notebook where the date, name of client(s) to be picked up/work for, the route taken, time of departure and arrival appear in triplicate.
2. Bus owner must have a garage and an office with phone number.
3. A first aid box is mandatory.
4. License delivered by the NTA must be adhered to.