

# School Bus Safety Features

With the start of a new school year, First Student would like all parents to know that your children are in good hands each time they ride on a First Student bus. The safety of the children we transport is at the forefront of all we do.

**Riding a bus is the safest way for children to get to and from school.**

It's safer than walking, riding a bike or even riding in the family car. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that buses are 13 times safer than passenger cars.

**First Student school buses are packed with state-of-the-art safety features to protect our riders.**

- High-definition GPS systems are on most First Student buses, providing exact location and speed of a school bus at any time.
- Child Check-Mate is an on-board electronic reminder system that reminds drivers to check for sleeping children before leaving the bus.
- Flashing lights and extended stop arms warn motorists that children are boarding or unloading.
- Well-anchored seats with high backs and heavy padding create a protective seating area.
- Smaller buses for preschool children and special needs students utilize car seats or specialized restraint systems. Many of these buses have an assistant on board.

**First Student buses operate under stringent safety protocols.**

- Preventive maintenance inspections are conducted by certified mechanics, ensuring buses run at peak performance.
- Vehicle safety checks are performed before each route.
- Our strict no-idling policy reduces school bus emissions.

**First Student drivers must meet extensive safety and training requirements.**

- A comprehensive background check as well as a drug and alcohol screenings.
- A Department of Transportation physical exam.
- More than 50 hours of classroom and behind-the-wheel training.
- Safety and training meetings.
- Regular driving history checks and random drug and alcohol screens.

**Safety is a core value at First Student.**

We pride ourselves on our safety record, dedicated personnel and overall performance. Safely transporting the six million children entrusted to us on our buses each day is a responsibility we take very seriously.

For more information, visit [www.firststudentinc.com](http://www.firststudentinc.com).

