

CHECKLIST | TRANSPORTATION: REDUCING RISKS FOR AGRICULTURAL

Presented by Evergreen Insurance LLC

Date:

Review conducted by:

Agricultural employers, farming contractors and agricultural associations who transport migrant or seasonal agricultural workers must ensure that their transporting vehicles conform to rigid safety standards. These entities are ultimately responsible for ensuring that drivers have a valid driver's permit or license to operate the vehicle. In addition, any vehicle used must have a current state vehicle inspection sticker. Beyond that, the Department of Labor (DOL) established the following regulations for passenger automobiles and station wagons used to transport 75 miles or less. Use this checklist to ensure that you are abiding by DOL guidelines for transporting your workers.

EMPLOYER CONSIDERATIONS	COMPLETE	COMMENTS
External lights, headlights, taillights, brake lights, backup lights, turn signals and hazard warning lights must be functional.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Operational breaks must be free of leaks when stopping and holding on an incline.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Tires must have at least 2/32 tread depth, free of cracks and defects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Drivers must be able to accurately steer the vehicle.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Horn must be functional.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mirrors must provide full vision from the sides and rear of the vehicle.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Windshield wipers must work and the windshield must be free of obstructions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fuel system should not leak and should be secured with a fill cap.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Exhaust systems should not leak and should discharge away from the passenger compartment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Windows should operate properly to provide adequate ventilation for passengers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do not overload the vehicle with passengers and do not exceed the manufacturer's vehicle weight rating.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
All passengers must have a seat that is securely fastened to the vehicle, unless they are traveling less than 10 miles on primarily farm roads from one farm to another owned by the same employer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vehicle should have handles for use to exit the vehicle safely.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The passenger seating area should be free of rust, open areas or other problematic conditions that could pose a danger or cause injury.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vehicles must be equipped with a fire extinguisher and road warning devices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

This checklist is merely a guideline. It is neither meant to be exhaustive nor meant to be construed as legal advice. It does not address all potential compliance issues with federal, state or local standards. Consult your licensed commercial property and casualty representative at Evergreen Insurance LLC or legal counsel to address possible compliance requirements. © 2008, 2019 Zywave, Inc. All rights reserved.

DRIVER PARAMETERS		
According to the DOL, drivers may not operate a farming labor transport vehicle unless they meet the following minimum requirements	COMPLETE	COMMENTS
Have all of their feet, arms, legs, fingers and hands.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do not possess a mental illness that can interfere with safe driving.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do not have an impairment interfering with the use of their feet, arms, legs, fingers and hands.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Possess a visual acuity of 20/40 without glasses or wear glasses to have 20/40 vision.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Must possess at least 10/20 hearing in their good ear.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cannot be addicted to liquor, narcotics or drugs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Passed initial and periodic physical examinations, and obtained certification to verify such.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Must be 21 years old.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Must have experience driving a motor vehicle for at least one year, through all four seasons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Must be familiar with the rules and regulations applicable to driving a motor vehicle.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Possess knowledge of the English language sufficient enough to read signs and respond to directions and official inquiries properly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

EMPLOYER CONSIDERATIONS		
	COMPLETE	COMMENTS
Vehicles must make a full stop at least 15 feet before railroad gate crossings, except when the crossing is marked as abandoned or is directed by a police officer or signal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Loads, tailgates and doors must be secure.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Drivers must have an easily accessible exit that is free from obstructions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The amount of passengers in the vehicle cannot exceed the seating capacity of the vehicle.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Workers cannot drive more than 10 hours in a 24-hour period.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Floors must be smooth and free of protruding objects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sides and walls of the vehicle must be at least 60 inches high.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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Vehicles should have roofs at least 80 inches from the floor to protect workers from inclement weather. Vehicles that have permanent roofs must have at least one emergency exit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The passenger compartment should be free of protruding nails, screws or splinters.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Passengers must be able to communicate with drivers easily.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vehicles must protect passengers from the cold without using exhaust heaters, unenclosed flame heaters or heaters permitting fuel leakage or air contamination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Insurance Needs

Farm labor contractors, employers and agricultural associations may not transport employees without the proper automobile insurance coverage to thwart against liability. Contact Evergreen Insurance LLC to learn about the coverages that are right for your establishment.