



# Explore a Career as a **BUS DRIVER**

## Target Occupation Profile

### What do Bus Drivers do?

Bus drivers are a key factor in a city's transit system or a school district's transportation system. They are responsible for transporting the general public or students from one place to another. Some drive regular routes and others transport passengers on chartered trips or sightseeing tours. They drive a range of vehicles, from 15-passenger buses to 60-foot articulated buses (with two connected sections) that can carry more than 100 passengers. Bus drivers have the primary responsibility of ensuring the safety and welfare of passengers during transportation. They often arrange for and ensure completion of routine maintenance. Overall, passengers rely on bus drivers for safe and dependable transportation.

### Bus Drivers are in demand in **Cook County!**

Cook County employment of bus drivers is expected to increase through the year 2020.

### Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a bus driver once you've earned a high school diploma and a CDL. Earning a CDL allows you to operate a vehicle holding 16 or more passengers. Bus drivers often need to be certified in first aid and CPR. A bus driver must possess a clean driving record and often may be required to pass a background check. They also must meet physical, hearing and vision requirements.

### As a Bus Driver you will:

- Ensure the safety and well-being of all passengers
- Follow all road and safety regulations
- In case of accidents and emergencies evacuate passengers according to written and practiced procedures
- Routinely inventory bus emergency and first aid supplies and equipment
- Transport passengers on scheduled service

# Bus Driver

## Training Providers

There are many training providers available in Cook County to supply you with the training you need for a career as a bus driver.

To access a list of training providers for this occupation and many more, please visit [Illinoisworknet.com](http://Illinoisworknet.com) and select the 'Training and Credentials' menu option to view 'WIOA Approved Training Programs.'



## Types of Employers

There are many different types of employers of bus drivers in Cook County, including:

- City transportation authorities
- Private transportation companies
- School districts
- Tour bus companies



## Wages & Openings

### Bus Driver Employment Data for Cook County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$11.05
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$20.53
Average Annual Job Openings Cook County	249
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	114

\*Source: Emsi, 2017.2

## Opportunities

Opportunities for specialization and advancement for bus drivers include higher pay and more responsibilities. Some opportunities include:

- Bus Supervision Manager
- Bus Operations Manager
- Charter Bus Driver
- Dispatcher
- Paratransit Driver
- Safety Manager
- Supervisor
- Transportation Manager



Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

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