

SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM SYSTEM

ITEM AND METHOD OF INSPECTION	POINT VALUE	REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION
		(#) Designates points to be deducted
X. Stop Arm System Buses after 12/31/94	(25)	The stop arm must be installed on the left outside of the body near the front. It shall meet the requirements of FMVSS 131. Arm shall be on an octagonal shape with white letters and border and red background and may be reflective meeting U.S. DOT FHWA FP-85 Type 2a or Type 3A. Flashing lamps (incandescent or strobe) shall be connected to alternately red flashing lamps. The stop arm shall be vacuum, electric or air operated. M.S. 169.4501
Buses before 1/1/95	(25)	The stop arm must be of an automatic type. It must extend and retract automatically in conjunction with the alternately flashing red signal lights and must be activated and deactivated by the entrance door switch.
Design Information	(10)	*For school buses made after 7/1/78, the reflective material shall be of a honeycomb design.
	(25)	*For school buses made after 7/1/89, reflective material is optional and alternately flashing red lamps are required on stop arms. *Option: All school buses may use alternately flashing red lamps instead of reflective material on stop arms. M.S. 169.442 *For school buses made before 1/1/95 the stop arms shall be installed on the left side of the bus, next to the driver, and just below window height and it shall be octagonal. It shall have a red background and carry the word "STOP" in white or silver-white

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letters at least 1/3 the height of the signal. The stop signal is to be in accordance with the design of the stop sign as set forth in the "Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways of the State of Minnesota" as adopted by the Commissioner of Transportation. Stop arms must be either 18 or 24 inches in height.

A. Reflective Material
Defective

(5) A. A school bus stop arm where reflectorized material is required (i.e. not have alternately flashing red lamps) and has a defective area more than 2 sq. inches per side of arm.

B. Optional Lamps on Stop Arm

(2)B. 1. If a school bus stop arm is equipped with optional alternately flashing red lamps, and the lamps are inoperable.

2. Required Lamps on
Stop Arm

(25) 2. If a school bus stop arm is required to have the alternately flashing red lamps and the lamps are inoperable.

C. Stop Arm Inoperable
Not Octagonal

(25) C. A school bus stop arm shall be shaped, operate, and kept in working order as outlined in this section.

M.S. 169.442

*Option: School bus may be equipped with a stop arm mounted on the left rear corner of the school bus if it complies with applicable FMVSS