

The annual School Bus Driver of the Year Award is intended to recognize a school bus driver for their dedication. Please nominate a deserving driver for this honor by completing the form below.



DUTCHESS & ULSTER COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARDS

2026 “School Bus Driver of the Year” Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: () _____ E-mail: _____

School District/Contractor _____

Address: _____

Phone number: () _____ E-mail: _____

Name of Supervisor Submitting Nomination: _____

Please complete the following information, attach, and forward application/Nomination to:

*William C. Johnson, Awards Chairperson
626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
E-Mail: Trafficsafety@dutchessny.gov*

Deadline for Applications/Nominations is Friday MAY 1st 2026

Eligibility requirements:

- Candidate must possess a valid CDL, with passenger endorsement, school bus endorsement (when applicable) and no points on their driving record.
- Candidate must not have been charged with a preventable/chargeable accident in the 12 months prior to the date of this Application/Nomination.
- If operation has more than one terminal, one driver from each terminal may be nominated.
- The nominee must have been employed for at least two full years with the employer submitting the nomination.
- At least 1 Photo of Nominee (in front/within a bus)

_____ # Years of School Bus Driving Experience (including as a sub driver).

_____ #Years driving a school bus without a preventable/chargeable accident

***Attach an Abstract** (within the 12 months prior to the date of this Application/Nomination)

Additional/Optional: Supervisor may attach any additional information which may help qualify the candidate and assist the Committee in making a sound decision (i.e. any Safety awards, outstanding achievements, number of consecutive years w/o chargeable accident, specialized training, Community/School involvement, participation in regional/state School Bus Safety Rodeos, letters of support/testimonials from Administrators, peers and/or parents).

- ✓ Overall Excellence Demonstrated- Reasons, observations, opinion for Driver's nomination including *special involvement with students, and exemplary or complimentary actions taken by driver and relative to rider safety.*

- ✓ Safety Training/Competitions- describe *training/preparations above and beyond requirements* that stand out as preparing them to be a better/safer school bus driver (first-aid, CPR, defensive driving course, handling the special education and medically fragile student, etc.)
Please provide documentation.

- ✓ Driver's involvement in structured/training or mentoring others that makes them stand out.

- ✓ Participation/involvement Community/School events- how it has contributed to their excellence as a driver and their nomination for this Award.

- ✓ A statement may also accompany each application from the driver explaining how they feel about their job.

Signature of Supervisor

Date

➤ **NOTE:** The Dutchess & Ulster award presentations will be scheduled and conducted during National School Bus Safety Week, October 20 -24th, 2026