

## Bus safety inspections

The excerpt from the BSA and BSR are as follows:

### **BSA - Division 3—Bus inspections and safety audits**

#### **19 Bus safety inspections**

(1) An accredited bus operator must ensure that each bus used to provide a bus service undergoes a safety inspection in accordance with the regulations—

- (a) annually; or
- (b) at prescribed intervals.

(1A) If a bus is required under subsection (1) to undergo an annual bus safety inspection, each annual inspection must be conducted not earlier than 14 days before, and not later than 14 days after, the anniversary of the date on which the first inspection is conducted.

(1B) For the purposes of subsection (1A), the first inspection of the bus is the first inspection following the accreditation of the bus operator or, if the bus is acquired after that accreditation, the first inspection following its acquisition.

(3) An accredited bus operator must arrange a safety inspection of each bus used to provide the bus service operated by the operator if the Safety Director directs that a safety inspection be conducted in respect of the bus service operated by the operator.

### **BSR - Part 7—Bus safety inspections**

#### **35 Bus safety inspections—accredited bus operator**

(1) For the purposes of section 19(1) of the Act, a bus safety inspection must be conducted by a licensed bus tester.

(2) For the purposes of section 19(1)(b) of the Act, the prescribed intervals are the intervals notified to the accredited bus operator by the Safety Director in accordance with subregulation (3).

(3) For the purposes of subregulation (2), if the Safety Director considers that it is reasonably necessary or desirable to ensure safety, the Safety Director may, by written notice given to an accredited bus operator—

- (a) fix intervals at which the bus operator must ensure a licensed bus tester conducts bus safety inspections; and
- (b) specify the period for which the notice applies; and
- (c) specify the number of days from receipt of the notice, or from acquisition of a bus, in which the first bus safety inspection of a bus must take place.

(4) If an accredited bus operator is given a notice under subregulation (3)—

- (a) the first inspection of a bus must take place within the time period specified by the Safety Director in accordance with subregulation (3)(c); and
- (b) a subsequent inspection of a bus must be conducted not earlier than 7 days before, and not later than 7 days after, the date determined by reference to the fixed interval specified in the notice.

## **BSR Sch 4.6 Bus safety inspections**

Systems and processes to ensure bus safety inspections are completed as required by the Act and these Regulations.

### **What does this mean – what do you need to do?**

The operator is required to ensure that they engage a licenced bus tester to conduct the annual or at prescribed intervals bus safety inspection on their bus. This needs to be completed annually within 14 days either side of the anniversary date. If you complete the inspection before the anniversary date, then this date becomes the new anniversary date. If you complete the inspection after the anniversary date, the next annual inspection must coincide with the original anniversary date.

The anniversary date is determined by the date located on the initial roadworthy certificate when you applied for accreditation.

If you were a previously registered bus operator and now automatically transferred to an Accredited Bus Operator from 1 March 2022, then the anniversary date of your annual bus safety inspection does not change.

If you are applying for bus operator accreditation for the first time, you will be asked to provide a current roadworthy certificate which is less than 30 days old for the bus or buses you own. Should accreditation be granted, then the date of the roadworthy certificate will become your anniversary date for the said bus.

If you are purchasing a brand-new bus, the anniversary date is the date listed on your tax invoice.