



2026 Fleet Conference, Trade Show, and Technician's Workshop

Agenda

The Georgia Association for Pupil Transportation (GAPT) is proud to continue our partnership with the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) for this year's conference. GaDOE staff members—Robert Waters, John Osborne, and Ken Johnson—will provide daily orientations, directions, and instructions to ensure a seamless experience. We invite you to join us for each meal, where you'll enjoy not only great food but also important announcements and daily updates. Additionally, don't miss our Trade Show, featuring prize drawings and opportunities to connect with industry leaders. Each classroom session at the 2026 Fleet Conference and Technician's Workshop is designed to last 3.5 hours. Participants are encouraged to select and attend one morning session and one afternoon session each day to maximize their learning experience.

Monday, June 1

- 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.** Registration and Continental Breakfast
7:35 a.m. – 7:55 a.m. Orientation
8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Morning Classroom Sessions **
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.** **Lunch**
- 12:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.** Afternoon Classroom Sessions **
- 3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.** *Tradeshow*
- 5:00 p.m. – 8:00p.m** **Dinner and Tour at Savoy Automotive Museum**

Tuesday, June 2

- 7:00 a.m. – 7:55 a.m.** **Breakfast**
8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Morning Classroom Sessions **
11:35 a.m. - 12:25 p.m. **Lunch**
- 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Afternoon Classroom Sessions **
12:30 p.m.- **Technician of the Year Test (Carter Hall)**
**Technicians that are participating in this session need to sign up at the registration desk on Monday



Wednesday, June 3

7:00 a.m. – 7:55 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 pm Group Presentation *Carter Hall* For technicians not participating in the hands-on portion of the Inspector Class, we offer a comprehensive session focused on the annual inspection of school buses, presented by Motor Carrier Compliance. This session will cover:

- 2026 Out of Service Criteria
- Trends in Defects and Out of Service Items
- The Technician's Role in the Inspection Process
- Additional topics include:
 - Updates on the National School Bus Specifications and their impact on Georgia's standards
 - Advancements in Bus Technology
 - Special Needs Equipment
 - Electric Vehicle Safety
 - Recognition of the Technician of the Year

This session aims to enhance your knowledge and skills in maintaining and inspecting school buses, ensuring safety and compliance with the latest standards.

Class Descriptions **

Thomas Chassis/Body (Etowah 2)

Familiarization with advanced chassis and body, chassis electronics, multiplex wiring, and EPA engine maintenance. Hands-on and classroom instruction. *(8-hour class, Monday & Tuesday)*

Blue Bird Chassis/Body (Etowah 1)

Covers multiplex wiring, electrical systems, troubleshooting, and operation. Hands-on and classroom instruction. Hosted by Yancey Bus Sales and Service. *(8-hour class, Monday & Tuesday)*

IC Bus Chassis/Body (Stilesboro 1)

Focuses on wiring, electrical systems, diagnostics, and troubleshooting. Hosted by Rush Truck Center of Atlanta. Hands-on and classroom instruction. *(8-hour class, Monday & Tuesday)*

****Note: The afternoon session will be a hands-on portion at the Bartow County Bus Shop****

GAPT Inspector/Program Managers Certification Class (Carter Hall)

For bus inspectors and program managers. Includes classroom training and an exam. Successful candidates (80% score) will participate in hands-on inspections on Tuesday or Wednesday. Managers are exempt from hands-on portions but must pass the exam. *(Monday & Tuesday sessions)*



Class Descriptions continued **

Wheelchair Lift Maintenance/Diagnostics (Cartersville Bus Shop) *(Monday p.m. & Tuesday p.m. only)*

Maintenance, troubleshooting electrical and hydraulic systems of wheelchair lifts.

This class will be limited to 30 people for each session

A/C Repair Maintenance/Diagnostics (Cartersville Bus Shop) *Monday a.m. & Tuesday a.m. only*

Covers routine inspections and diagnosing system failures for efficient operation.

This class will be limited to 30 people for each session

Cummins Engines (Stilesboro 2) This will be an 8-hour class on Monday & Tuesday

Bendix Brake Systems (Connessa) Monday a.m. & Tuesday p.m. only

Includes Foundation Brakes, collision avoidance, lane departure, and emerging safety technologies.

Gatekeeper (Video Systems) (Connessa) Monday p.m. & Tuesday a.m. only

Operation and maintenance of Gatekeeper video systems to ensure daily functionality.

Fleet Management - (Pine Log) this will be a series of presentations that are designed to assist Leaders that manage the Fleet and Maintenance of school buses. It will include:

- GaDOE Reporting/Specifications/Warranty-GaDOE Staff
- Utilizing Fleet software-presented by Cobb County Staff
- Managing the MCCD inspection portal- presented by MCCD
- Utilizing the Statewide contract for school bus purchases-presented by DOAS
- Using CoPart to surplus vehicles
- Leading for Success-GaDOE Staff