

## **UNIT FOUR – SKILLS TRAINING**

Basic skills training will provide the new trainee with some of the basic skills required to control the vehicle and know where it is in relationship to objects outside the vehicle. These skills will help the driver understand the use of the mirrors and reference points, and provide the driver with a better understanding of how the vehicle responds to driver input. The skills developed through these maneuvers will help each driver with the basic control skills that are required in everyday driving.

All of the skills must be performed with the crossover mirrors covered. While performing each of the skills, drivers are allowed to get out one time to look at vehicle position. The training should be provided without the trainee knowing this will be an option of testing. However, drivers should always be trained to get out of the bus and look prior to any backing. This also applies if there is any question concerning objects around the bus.

While performing the skills testing for the CDL, there are a couple of things the driver should know. The object of the skills test is not to score any points. In this case, zeros are good.

- If the driver stops and changes direction (pull-up), the tester will add a point.
- Any portion of the vehicle (mirrors included) that encroaches over a boundary line is scored as two points. It is better to do a pull-up rather than go over a boundary line.
- The entire vehicle must be inside the box, and the entire bumper must be inside the bumper box on some skills in order to get zero points.