

The Oregon T2 Center's *Roads Scholar* Program provides up-to-date road maintenance and safety related training for local government personnel. All courses are free.

The *Roads Scholar* Program is designed to acknowledge local agency maintenance personnel who are committed to learning new skills and expanding their knowledge of road maintenance technology.



Oregon T2 Center's *Roads Scholar* Program



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Oregon Technology Transfer Center

Helping to Expand Knowledge and Improve Skills in Roadway Maintenance

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP_T2/

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Roads Scholar Program Overview

Program Description

Local governments in the state of Oregon are responsible for maintaining over 33,000 miles of roads and streets (60% of the total public road mileage in the state). As Oregon grows and traffic increases, more diverse skills are needed for roadway maintenance activities.

The Oregon *Roads Scholar* Program provides local agency transportation workers with the latest information on road maintenance procedures and technologies. Through the *Roads Scholar* Program, local government personnel can enhance their maintenance skills and expand their knowledge by attending training sessions on current procedures and the latest technologies.

Roads Scholar classes are offered on a regular basis at convenient locations throughout Oregon. Courses are taught by training specialists who are well versed in the latest developments and technologies. The T2 Center provides this training free of charge to local government agencies.

Program Requirements

The Oregon *Roads Scholar* Program consists of ten (10) core classes and four (4) electives. Classes are offered regularly by the Oregon T2 Center each year at convenient locations throughout Oregon. Classes are also presented at the biannual APWA and Oregon T2 Center *Street Maintenance and Collection Systems Schools*.



To become an Oregon *Roads Scholar* and receive a certificate, participants must complete ten core and four elective classes. Elective classes must be four hours in length and approved through the T2 Center. Participants will be allowed five years to complete the program.

Upon completion of the program requirements, graduates receive *Roads Scholar* certificates to document their continuing education and professional development. Sponsoring agencies will also receive a plaque listing their employees who have successfully completed the program.



Roads Scholar Core Classes

RS-1 Basics of a Good Road An introduction to the *Roads Scholar* Program, this class provides a general overview of the topics of traffic, road geometrics, drainage, materials, and pavements.

RS-2 Drainage: Key to Roads that Last Examines the effects of water on roadways. Participants will learn how water enters the roadway, the types of drainage systems that work, maintenance and repair techniques.

RS-3 Paving Materials Introduces the key properties of the aggregates and binders required for good paving materials. Includes a discussion of binders, including asphalt, cement, and emulsions.

RS-4 Environmental BMPs 1 An overview of best management practices (BMPs) designed to minimize the impact of road maintenance activities on water quality. The class will focus on the impact of road maintenance on fish and fish habitat.

RS-5 Asphalt Pavement Maint. 1 Reviews the types of asphalt pavements and the causes of pavement distress. Participants will learn the best practices for pavement corrective maintenance, including inlay, blade, machine patching, and crack filling.

RS-6 Asphalt Pavement Maint. 2 Reviews the types of asphalt pavements and causes of pavement distress. Presents pavement preventive maintenance alternatives such as fog seals, slurry, and chip seals.

RS-7 Effective Communication Skills Participants will learn how to improve their listening, speaking, and writing skills for more effective communication.

RS-8 Environmental BMPs 2 This class presents an overview of erosion control and vegetation management methods that are environmentally friendly.

RS-9 Maintenance Math A refresher and beginning class for public works employees. Participants will learn how to calculate areas, volumes, rates, and costs to solve common maintenance problems encountered in the field.

RS-10 Introduction to Survey and Grade Checking Introduces basic surveying techniques, including how to measure a slope and calculate an elevation. Field work allows participants to use basic surveying instruments.

