



Driver Education Program News

ODOT - Transportation Safety Division

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The Driver Education Program Team

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Driver Education Program Update

William A. Warner, Manager
ODOT-TSD Driver Education



As I am approaching my five year "work-iversary", I thought I would take a minute and look back at my first Christmas at ODOT-TSD's **Driver Education newsletter**. We had just finished over 1200 hours preparing for and achieving our national assessment, sponsored by NHTSA. I think we grew as much through the preparation as we did with the findings, which catapulted our state into the national lime-light as a continued ground breaker in driver education. Since then I have traveled out East and participated as a NHTSA assessment team member, which was also very educational (and fun!).

We were talking about using those foil seals correctly, remember? We had such issues with spelling of names, misuse of the actual seals (which were sent out by the dozens) and overall chaos with teen verification of actual program completion. Since then we have moved to paper certificates that were issued by the state then to the plastic "ID Type" student completion card that can be used to waive the drive test at DMV. We have certainly come a long way! Occasionally, however, we have completion cards lost in the mail when providers mail them to the teen at the completion of the course. Since this wasn't considered when we moved to the new system we continue to face challenges.



WISH LIST FOR 2016: Move to a direct access system for "SDES entered" teens to automatically show as a "W" at DMV upon successful completion of an approved course. The "W" is what DMV uses now on their customer screen to show that the teen used a "waiver" (for the driving skills test) or, in other words, took driver education. This means that eventually, our office won't need to issue anything for completion of the approved program; the system will automatically know. ☺ The downside... this could take years since it involves a joint venture between DMV and TSD. ❖

Staffing Change at the Driver Education Office



**Happy Holidays from the TSD
Driver Education Team**

Remember this from the December 2010 Newsletter?... We certainly do! In fact, after this greeting card, Shari continued providing caricatures of the DE staff through several holiday costumes and even physical changes as we changed.

Well, one change in our office staffing will definitely change the "look" of the driver education program. Shari Davis, our administrative support is moving onward and upward to a new position within the TSD as she prepares to provide support to the Office of Employee Safety, a group that recently moved over under Troy Costales' oversight. While she will be available for limited assignments, we won't be able to just "load her up" when we need to. ☺

So, for now, be sure to send your email that you would normally send to Shari to: ODOTDEMail@odot.state.or.us and Mary and I both monitor that general mailbox. Mary's phone number remains the same (503.986.6642) and mine (503.986.4413) is also available for questions. Congrats to Shari as she pursues this new venture! ☺

Note: make sure you download forms directly from our website as these are changing as well. ❖

Chemeketa Continuing Education Courses

Playbook Prep: REGISTER NOW! You will have two weeks from the day you start to complete the course materials.

The new Playbook Interface is a totally different way to deliver driver education. As you work through the presentations and activities see how the concepts are connected and how each concept builds on the last. See how the delivery strategy now uses less direct lecture from PowerPoint presentations and how the Playbook Interface uses various activities to engage the learner in ways that are more relevant.

You must have access and capability to use the Playbook interface to take this course. Please contact the office if you have questions regarding materials needed.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Pacific NW Driver and Traffic Safety Conference
February 27-28 and March 1, 2015
Red Lion on the River, Jantzen Beach



2014's Preliminary Stats for Driver Education

Aaron East (WOU) tells me that there are 273 approved instructors on the books as of today; they will be adding 14 more this month with our pending graduates, thus making a total of 287 active instructors. This sounds like a lot of instructors but the reality is that we have also lost around 40 instructors this year due to promotions, moving away, career changes, etc.

As of this newsletter we have 7600+ teens completed through the program with some schools still reporting in. This is **good news** because it means we have finally reversed the downtrend of students taking driver education! ☺

Finally, the numbers are in for actual student educational costs as reported by all providers all over the state. This year the total cost to train a student averages out to \$512.90, down from \$540.16 last year. This is due, in part, to the state providing the Playbook® to Providers. The numbers below are also an average from every Provider's report over 2014 and represent what it cost per student for each line item on the reimbursement request:

All costs are "per student"

Cost of a Classroom Teacher	\$58.94	Cost of an In-car Teacher	\$166.58
Cost of Administration	\$107.29	Vehicle Lease/Rental	\$14.68
Auto Insurance	\$16.29	Vehicle Depreciation	\$10.45
Auto Operating (Oil, Gas)	\$27.15	Auto Operating (Maint, Repair)	\$18.70
Instructional Equip	\$8.38	Non-Salary Admin.*	\$84.42
Tuition Collected from Students	\$272.18	Additional Fees Collected	\$6.01
Total Cost Minus Tuition Received	\$234.70	Remaining Cost after Subsidy	\$24.70

**We are watching the non-salary administrative costs trying to figure out why they are so high per student.*



And last but not least...

December 22, 2014 to January 3, 2015 the driver education staff will be out of the office for the holidays. Feel free to leave messages or in an emergency (crash with injuries, etc.) call Bill direct on his cell phone @ 971.301.9117.

