



Program Manager Update Guide for
**Oregon Transportation Safety
Committee (OTSC)**
DRIVER EDUCATION

Funding - Revenue for 2021

Section 402

- PacNW Conference - \$15,000
- Trauma Nurses Talk Tough Train the Trainer - \$15,000

State Funds

- Bus & Safety Patrol Training - \$46,330

Student Driving Training Fund

- Reimbursement - \$2,260,000
- Foster Youth - \$50,000
- GDL Implementation – Information & Education – \$465,336
- Statewide Services – \$258,692
- Region 2 Adaptive Strategies - \$107,216
- Region 5 Adaptive Strategies - \$15,000

Transportation Operating Fund

- Think First - \$47,500
- Trauma Nurses Talk Tough - \$47,500

What - Primary Focus (From HSP)

- Reduce the number of drivers age 15-20 involved in fatal and serious injury crashes.
- Increase the number of students completing driver education.
- Increase the number of DMV certified drive schools participating in the TSD-Approved program.
- Increase the number of students exposed to “pre-driver education” formational training.

How - Strategies Put into Play (From HSP)

- Continue implementation of a marketing plan to increase access and completion of quality driver education.
- Continue implementation of statewide curriculum standards and instructor training.
- Develop web tools that integrate DMV licensing information into course completion tracking for students of schools involved in the reimbursement process; track private provider driver education student participants.
- Continue work with NHTSA, ODOT Research Division, and other groups to evaluate elements of the DE program and other ways to effectively teach Oregon youth.
- Maintain the centralized instructor certification process and improve efficiencies within established systems.

Who - Projects Started (From HSP)

- Gard has developed an updated website for Why Drive with Ed. Content was developed with ODOT TSD in partnership with ODOT DMV Call Centers and addresses FAQs received during pandemic.

- Media funds are also being used to continue recruitment efforts for more instructors.
- Curriculum review and revision continues. Final draft anticipated by end of grant year.
- Improvements on the RAPID portal continue with monthly check in meetings to address needs and bug fixes.
- The DE program continues to work with Western Oregon University as they streamline the instructor certification process. ODOT is also working internally on an update to the Student Driver Education System database.

Status - Progress of Strategies so Far

- Provider closures related to the pandemic created a large backlog of students.
- As of 09.30, only 58% of providers were open and offering courses. Many public providers and community colleges are not and may not open again until all in-person learning is available across their campuses. Closures continue to impact the ability of students to get into programs. In addition, some students don't learn as well using the e-learning format and are electing to wait until in-person is available or deciding not to enroll at all.
- As of 09.30, the driver education program has issued 39.3% fewer completion certificates than the previous five years' average.
- It is anticipated that the DE program will not meet its goals of increasing the number of students completing driver education during the grant year.
- Pre-Driver Education formational training has been impacted by e-learning. ThinkFirst and Trauma Nurses Talk Tough have both done a great job of adapting to e-learning. However, schools and teachers are challenged with providing instructional training to meet state standards. Extra activities such as those offered by these two organizations are harder to fit in during the pandemic.