



Program Manager Update Guide for
**Oregon Transportation Safety
Committee (OTSC)**
DRIVER EDUCATION – April 2021

Funding - Revenue for 2021

Section 402

- PacNW Conference - \$15,000 – **Not Funded In 2021**
- Trauma Nurses Talk Tough Train the Trainer - \$15,000

Student Driving Training Fund

- Bus & Safety Patrol Training – \$46,330
- Reimbursement - \$2,260,000
- Foster Youth - \$50,000
- GDL Implementation – Information & Education – \$465,336
- Oregon DE Curriculum - \$167,972
- Statewide Services – \$258,682
- 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)

- A search optimization update was planned for this year's media dollars. The SEO would be used to improve Oregon DE programs placement in Google searches. ODOT is working with GARD Communications to improve the current Why Drive with Ed website.
- A curriculum review & revision continues with plans to move toward increased adoption of national standards and terminology. The curriculum is projected to be finished during this grant year with a new teacher edition, updated videos, interactive components and graphics. A final draft is expected by the end of the grant year.

Status – Progress of Strategies so Far

- Why Drive with Ed website update is complete and continues to be updated as new providers are added and existing providers come back online.
- Continuing to work with DMV on streamlining process that would allow providers to submit completion information directly to DMV, eliminating need for completion certificates – saving time & funds.
- Improvements on the RAPID portal continue with monthly check in meetings to address needs and bug fixes.
- SDES database entry process updated to use multi-factor authentication.
- The DE program continues to work with Western Oregon University as they streamline the instructor certification process. ODOT is also working internally to improve the Student Driver Education System database. There are two hybrid instructor courses in session now with 10 candidates in each.
- Restarting our OAR review process – potentially incorporating online classroom delivery, cleaning up language, etc.
- PacNW Conference was successfully held virtually March 5-7. Over 200 participants – went very well, great feedback.
- OHSU's ThinkFirst Oregon team was chosen by ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation for the Community Involvement Award for their outreach efforts during the pandemic. Kayt Zundel, the Program Director, worked with her team and community partners to transition to virtual education beginning in March 2020. They provide curriculum, virtual presentations and webinars free to the public. *See attached announcement.*
- Currently have 46 approved driver education providers. 16 Commercial (all open); 24 SD/ESDs (11 open); 6 CCs (3 open (Rogue, Umpqua, Linn-Benton) with an additional opening this summer - CCC)
- 30% decrease in number of new instructors
- Continuing downward trend in number of students who are taking DE. However, only a 2.7% decrease over last year.
- Delays in curriculum revision due to COVID-19 and ToTs schedules. Final draft has been delayed to early Fall rather than the end of this grant cycle. WOU has a ToT Retreat scheduled mid/late April and a new timeline should come out of that.