



## DRIVER EDUCATION & SAFETY AT A GLANCE

**Statutes:** Chapter 1001, Education Code

**Rules:** Title 16 T.A.C. Chapter 84

**Practice Act?** Yes

**Title Act?** Yes

**Inspections?** Yes

**Facilities?** Yes

**Individuals?** Yes

**Webpage:** [www.tdlr.texas.gov/driver](http://www.tdlr.texas.gov/driver)

**Number of Licensees:** 3,427 (FY 25)

**Driver Education Instructor:** 2,505

**Driver Education Provider—Primary:** 434

**Driver Education Provider—Branch:** 114

**Driving Safety Provider:** 317

**Online Only Driver Education Provider:** 19

**Parent-Taught Driver Education Provider:** 38

### Overview:

Anyone between the ages of 14 and 25 who wants to apply for a driver license in Texas must complete a driver education course before receiving a license. Students have three options for completing a driver education course:

- Enrolling in a driver education school
- Enrolling in a parent taught course
- Completing driver education at a public school, education service center, college, or university.

TDLR maintains a list of driver education providers: [Driver Education Provider Search](#) (texas.gov).

### Instruction

The **classroom** phase of a driver education course is at least 24 hours. The **in-car** phase consists of 7 hours of behind-the-wheel driving, 7 hours of in-car observation, and an additional 30 hours of behind-the-wheel driving (10 of these hours must be done at night). The additional 30 hours of **behind-the-wheel** driving is monitored by the parent or guardian and is not required to be provided by a licensed driver education provider. However, the hours must be completed in the presence of an adult who holds a valid license, is 21 or older, has at least one year of driving experience, and occupies the seat next to the driver.

- To obtain a **Learner License**, a student must be 15 years of age or older; have completed the first 6 hours of driver education or all 24 hours of classroom instruction; and have received a Texas driver education certificate of completion (DE-964).
- To obtain a **Provisional License**, a student must have held the learner license for at least 6 months, be 16 years old or older, have completed all driver education hours (24 classroom and 44 in-car hours) and pass the driving exam. Once the driving exam is successfully completed, the Texas Department of Public Safety will issue a driver license.

### Curriculum

Driver Education & Safety Providers must use Texas Education Code 1001, 16 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 84, and the program guides when teaching a driver education & safety course.

During a legislative session, there may be mandates that require changes to the Driver Education & Safety curriculum. Each Driver

Education & Safety Provider is required to make these necessary changes in order to be in compliance and meet the obligations as a TDLR licensed Driver Education & Safety Provider.

TDLR also oversees Driving Safety courses.

**Driving safety courses** must encourage the observance of traffic laws and try to reduce the number of traffic violations and traffic-related injuries, deaths, and economic losses. Classes must be at least 6 hours long if they are to be used for traffic citation dismissal. The court must approve taking a driving safety course to dismiss a citation. A driving safety course must cost at least \$25.00.

### License Required to Operate School or Teach

A person may not operate a school or course unless the person holds a Driver Training Provider license. A person may not teach a driver education course unless the person holds a driver education instructor license.

### Driver Education Instructor license: TAC 84.44

- hold a valid class A, B, C, or CDL driver's license, other than a learner license or provisional license, for the preceding three years, that has not been revoked or suspended in the preceding three years;
- submit a national criminal history record information review fee; and
- provide fingerprints to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) through the IdentoGo Fingerprint Service or any other method required by the DPS.
- A license fee of \$50.00

### Driver Education Provider license

- \$10,000.00 driver education bond
- Assumed Name Registration document from the Texas Secretary of States office
- Registered Agent - If business is located outside of Texas
- \$500.00 application fee
- \$300.00 endorsement fee (online, in-person, parent taught)
- Driver education curriculum that includes the required topics in the program of organized instruction, and requirements in Texas Administrative Code Chapter 84, Texas Education Code 1001

## Driving Safety Provider license

- \$10,00.00 Driving Safety Provider Bond
- Assumed Name Registration document from the Texas Secretary of States office
- Registered Agent if the business is located outside of Texas
- \$500.00 application fee
- Driving safety curriculum that meets the required topics in the course of instruction, and requirements in Texas Administrative Code Chapter 84, Texas Education Code 1001

A driver education instructor shall carry their instructor license at all times while instructing a driver education course.

The **Driver Training and Traffic Safety Advisory Board** has 9 members serving staggered 6-year terms, which includes:

- Three driver education providers
- Three driving safety providers
- One driver education instructor
- One representative of the Department of Public Safety
- One public member

License	Fee
Driver Education Instructor (Initial)	\$50
Driver Education Instructor (Renewal)	\$25
Driver Education Provider (Initial In-person)	\$500
Driver Education Provider (Initial Online)	\$500
Driver Education Provider (Initial Parent-Taught)	\$500
Driver Education Provider (Initial Branch)	\$500
Driver Education Provider Endorsement	\$300
Driver Education Provider (Renewal Primary)	\$100
Driver Education Provider (Renewal Branch)	\$100
Driver Education Certificate of Completion	\$1.00
Driving Safety Provider (Initial)	\$500
Driving Safety Provider (Renewal)	\$100
Driving Safety Course Completion Certificate	\$1.00

