

In Class and Behind the Wheel Driver Ed Guidelines/Orientation

FIRST CLASS DRIVER, C2518

TDLR Driver Education Provider

Licensed Since 2010

Welcome to First Class Driver and teen driver ed. Classroom instruction is 32 hours, two hours per day. Students may miss up to five days of classroom, however, all days must be made up prior to the end of class. After receiving the permit, students will drive seven hours and observe seven hours with our TDLR licensed instructors. Students may not receive more than six hours of classroom instruction per day and two hours in the car.

After completing the first four days of class time and required work, the permit test may be taken AFTER the class ends. Students must be 15 years of age to take the permit test. Once a copy of the student's permit and behind the payment are received, a schedule2drive account will be opened by FCD and information emailed to you to begin scheduling drive times.

Drives are scheduled via our online partner program www.schedule2drive.com. Parents may also use S2D to log drive time of 20 hours during the day and 10 hours at night (30 hours total.) This is a MINIMUM requirement; It is recommended your child drive 100 hours prior to receiving the final license to improve experience, control and knowledge behind the wheel. Please use the online S2D instructions to help guide you through your child's driving process. It contains suggestions for practice sessions and is a valuable tool for you and your student. You will receive notices from S2D when drive time openings become available. YOU may unmark these when you no longer wish to receive these.

Students will receive a daily grade. There are FIVE main grades: 1. Study questions/fill in the blank forms 2. Permit test (given after first eight hours of class) and is given OUTSIDE of class time.) 3. My DWI Story (two-page essay or poster) 4. My Driving Plan (a formal two-page essay using important lessons from classes.) 5. A final comprehensive test is given on 15th day of class. A student's behavior in class may affect the daily grade. NO CELL PHONES IN USE DURING CLASS or IN CAR PLEASE. Use will result in a zero for the day and class time will be made up. Cell phone use is allowed during break time only.

OBTAINING DPS PERMIT A legal guardian must accompany students to the DPS for the permit. Student and legal guardian must have the following with them at the DPS to obtain the permit:

1. Student's certified birth certificate
2. Student's social security card (or receipt from a new SS order receipt)
3. Student's VOE (Verification of Enrollment) from the junior or high school attendance office with GRADES and ATTENDANCE (if obtaining permit during the summer school break, you must obtain this during the final week before school is out for the summer.) During the summer break, the final report card with attendance and grades may also be used. The VOE is valid for only 30 days except during the summer break.
4. Original DE-964 certificate provided from FIRST CLASS DRIVER.
5. Parent must show proof of Texas residency in THEIR name dated within 90 days.

Please see DPS website for exact information.

<https://www.dps.texas.gov/section/driver-license/how-apply-texas-driver-license> .

Third Party Testing for the DRIVER LICENSE is available at First Class Driver; students will process papers at the DPS. A "mock test" is also available prior to the test for \$40 and is a preview of the actual test. A vehicle is available for testing for \$25.

For your convenience, our webpage www.FirstClassDriver.com has links to often needed sites on the opening page. It is beneficial for everyone to watch the 18-minute film, "Top 10 Reasons for Failing the Drive Test." While it is intended to assist drivers on the final test, it is a good review of everyday driving rules for teens and parents.

Joni Goeders, Supervising Instructor
First Class Driver, C2518



Helpful Information for YOU

Congratulations on choosing First Class Driver “provider taught” driver ed course for your teen. Studies from the National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA) show that after supervisory and Graduated Driver License restrictions are removed at age 18, “parent-taught drivers” are nearly three times more likely to be involved in serious or fatal crashes than young drivers taught by a “commercial driving provider” and receive 40% less traffic citations than parent-taught students.

The first time a teenager gets behind the wheel of a car, it can be scary for both drivers and parents. First Class Driver’s in-class education can help by educating student drivers on the rules of the road and defensive driving techniques, along with providing instruction and confidence to safely take the wheel. Our driver ed course provides teens with professional practice and experience to perfect their driving habits before taking them to the road independently.

The final driving test is scheduled in person or by phone with First Class Driver at any time or through the DPS. You may book your appointment to test or process at the DPS six months prior to the licensing date. Please look at the back of the teens permit for the “hold” date. Teens must have held the permit six months and be 16 to obtain a GDL license.

DONATE LIFE: <https://www.donatelifetexas.org/> Please consider signing up to be a donor. You could save a life! Donate Life Texas partners with both the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to allow Texans to join the donor registry when applying for or renewing their driver’s license, state ID or vehicle registration.

IMPACT VIDEO REQUIREMENT: The IMPACT Texas Teen Driver (ITTD) Program was developed by DPS with the goal of saving lives on our Texas roadways through awareness and education and requires students under 18 to view a two-hour video developed to help educate drivers in an effort to reduce risk of automobile crashes. Completion of ITTD is required for ALL individuals applying for a Texas permit regardless of age. The valid ITTD Certificate of Completion must be presented prior to taking the driving-skills test and is valid for only 90 days. Students 18 and over may view a one-hour video. <https://impacttexasdrivers.dps.texas.gov>.

A video on Youtube.com entitled “Top 10 Reasons Most People Fail the DPS Test” will assist students and parents with rules of the road as well as the DPS final drive. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3wLwbDXGTE>

The National Highway Traffic Safety Association is a great website with useful information for both parents and teens. <http://www.nhtsa.gov/drivereducationprogram>

AAA Guide to Teen Driver Safety provides great resources for teens and parents about safe driving, learning to drive solo and includes research on teen driver safety. <https://exchange.aaa.com/safety/teen-driver-safety/>

A SCHEDULE2DRIVE.COM account will be set up and information emailed to you with instructions. You must log 20 hours of daytime and 10 nighttime parent drive time. This website includes a parent log and instructions to guide you as you direct your child’s instruction behind the wheel! Please remember, 30 hours is a minimum requirement. We suggest much more.

Please encourage safe driving and remember you are a great example of proper driving habits to your students. Please review the rules for the GDL (Graduated Driving Laws) at the time your child receives the DL for your city (limits on number of passengers allowed in the car and cell phone usage.) Texting is not allowed for any driver. It has been illegal to read, write or send a text while driving in Texas since 2017. It is illegal to send or receive electronic messages while driving in Texas. Parents play a substantial role in helping teens prepare to become safe drivers. As a parent, you can help enforce road rules, break bad habits and build confidence along the way.

First Class Driver is here to assist you and help your student become the safest driver possible. Please feel free to email or call for assistance. We look forward to working with you and your student in this important steppingstone to their adulthood and independence.

Thank YOU for supporting your LOCAL Small Business

