WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

Driver Training School
Instructor Curriculum Requirements
for Student Learning & Performance Goals

A driver training school's course of classroom and laboratory instruction is the key tool in establishing a student's base of comprehensive driving knowledge, skills and abilities. If and when school owners and instructors adapt the attached curriculum requirements for their classes, the order of their use may change but the content of the instruction must remain intact.

This document must be on display at each driver training school in a place where it can be seen by all clients, RCW 46.82.360 (9).

The following was reviewed and approved by the Driving School Advisory Committee and adopted by the Department of Licensing in October 2002.

A new Washington driver is capable person who is able to:
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the rules and procedures of operating an automobile;
- Use visual skills to obtain correct information and make reduced-risk decisions about driving maneuvers;
- Demonstrate ability to manage space around vehicle by adjusting speed and position to avoid conflicts and risk;
- Interact with other users of the public highways in a positive manner;
- Demonstrate balance of vehicle movement in a precise and timely manner to avoid conflict with other users;
- Confirm the need to protect oneself and others through using vehicle restraints;
- Display abilities to take responsible actions in regard to physical and psychological conditions affecting driver performance; and
- Practice with parents and other adults to develop precision in use of skills, processes, and responsibilities.

Program Assessments
Skill assessments for each driver should indicate benchmark progression for:
- Positioning a vehicle:
  based on visual referencing skills, space management, fender judgment, and road position control.
- Procedures and sequencing for vehicle operational skill:
  based on vehicle operational control, vehicle maneuvering, vehicle control option, and vehicle balance.
- Processing traffic and vehicle information into speed and position changes:
  based on visual skills, space management, vehicle speed control, and control of road.
- Precision movements for maintaining vehicle control and balance in expected and unexpected situations:
  based on vehicle speed control, vehicle balance, collision avoidance, traction control, response to mechanical failure, and traction loss.

Module One

Introducing the operator and vehicle control tasks in a controlled environment

Module 1 classroom learning performances

Introductions
- Traffic safety education program
- Department of Licensing procedures
- Public transportation system

Vehicle Familiarization
- Controls – Features – Maintenance

Operational Control Concept Introduction
- Vision and perception requirements
  - Targeting sightline and travel path
  - Referencing vehicle to travel path
- Vehicle motion and balance requirements
  - Changing speed and vehicle load to front/rear
  - Raising speed techniques
    - Releasing brake, and covering, light, progressive, and thrust accelerator pressure
  - Lowering speed techniques
    - Releasing accelerator, and cover, controlled, threshold and trail braking
  - Changing vehicle load from side to side
    - Steering movements
    - Brake and steer movements
- Balancing techniques
- Seating position
- Steering wheel techniques and control
  - Hand over hand for:
    - Narrow lane intersection turning
    - Traction loss control
  - Shuffle steer for:
    - Curvature balance
    - Wide lane intersection turning
  - Evasive steer for:
    - Low speed lane response to hazard
    - High speed lane response to hazard
  - One-hand steer for:
    - Operating vehicle controls
    - Backing techniques

Establishing vehicle position
- Visual space requirements
- Visual referencing
  - Vision and vehicle equipment
  - Establishing lane position

Module 1 laboratory performances

Simulation performances
- Introduction
  - Seating position
  - Steering control techniques
  - Vehicle familiarization

Off-street performances
- Vehicle familiarization
- Outlining/drawing area of driver visibility and tire patches
- Outlining/drawing area of mirror involvement
- Establishing target areas for eye positions
- Establishing vehicle reference points from target areas
- Labeling vehicle controls of study guide
- Preventive maintenance
  - Location of fluids and maintenance items
  - Checking fluid levels and pressures
  - Brake adjustments

Optional off-street pre-test of driver skill
- Travel path
- Sightline
- Lane position
- Turning
- Curvature
- Braking
- Steering
- Backing

Parent or guardian guided practice **
- Family vehicle familiarization
- Family vehicle preventive maintenance check
- Family vehicle referencing guides

** **Parents and guardians please note:**
As part of the Intermediate Driver License law, at time of the application for their child's driver license, parents must certify that their child has completed at least 50 hours of supervised driving practice, including 10 hours of nighttime driving. The parent or guardian guided practice exercises appearing here may help meet this requirement by the time the driver license application is made.

Module Two

Introducing operator processing and procedural tasks in a limited environment

Module 2 classroom learning performances

Module 2 classroom learning performances are developed around basic vehicle maneuvering tasks, Revised Code of Washington, and roadway characteristics, signs and markings.

Basic vehicle maneuvering tasks
- Procedural tasks
- Driver skill requirements
- Vision and perception requirements
- Vehicle space control - observe, assess and act
- Vehicle/visual referencing

Revised Code of Washington
- Yielding rules
- Lane position rules
- Backing rules
- Intersection rules
- Signs, signals, and marking rules

Roadway Characteristics
- Intersections
- Traffic Circles
- Surfaces
- Lane controls
- Roadway signs and signals
- Roadway markings

Module 2 laboratory performances

Simulation performances
- Pre-start
- Starting
- Stopping
- Backing
- Introduction to visual scanning/tracking
- Introduction to intersection controls

Off-street performances
- Pre-start
- Starting
- Stopping
- Backing
- Introduction to visual scanning/tracking
- Introduction to intersection controls

On-street performances:

Basic vehicle control tasks
- Introducing procedural tasks
- Establishing visual referencing points
- Lane, intersection, and curb position
- Lane position and targeting
- Vehicle space control management
- Backing straight in lane position one and three
- Backing around corner into lane position one - three
- Straight line braking techniques

Parent or guardian guided practice **
(see note on page 1)
- Off-street performance of procedures
- Off-street performance of referencing
- Off-street performance of braking
- Off-street performance of lane position one / three
- On-street performance of lane position and tracking

Module Three

Introducing and practicing operator processing and procedural tasks in a limited environment

Module 3 classroom learning performances

Module 3 classroom learning performances are developed around basic vehicle control, vehicle space management, Revised Code of Washington, lane changing, turnabouts, and parking.

Basic vehicle control tasks
- Practicing intersection turns
- Practicing backing around corner
- Introducing turnabouts:
  - U-turn
  - Driveway turnabouts

Vehicle space management
- Control of space around vehicle
- Mirror use
- Maintaining separation
- Communication
- Intersection

Revised Code of Washington
- Turning about rules
- Speed rules
- Lane changing rules
- Parking and leaving vehicle rules

Turnabouts
- Space management
- Positioning and referencing
- Speed control
- Steering control
- Procedures
- Communication

Lane Changing
- Space management
- Positioning and referencing
- Speed control
- Steering control
- Procedures
- Communication

Parking
- Space management
- Positioning and referencing
- Speed control
- Steering control
- Procedures
- Communication

Module 3 laboratory performances

Simulation performances
- Basic vehicle control tasks
- Driver commentary/visual skills
- Intersections
- Processing information
- Vehicle space and area control

Off-street performances
- Basic control tasks
  - Intersection turns
  - Backing around corner
  - Turnabouts in level of danger:
    - Around block and traffic circles (if available)
    - Driveway turnabouts
    - U-turn
  - Lane changing
  - Backing
- Application of tasks
  - Vehicle space control skills
  - Low speed lane change

On-street performances
- Practicing intersection turns
  - Controls at intersection
  - Reversing directions with multiple turnaround methods, parking procedures
  - Turnabouts in level of danger:
    - Around block
    - 2 and 3 point
    - U-turn
  - Lane changing
- Application of tasks
  - Observation and assessment skills:
    - Targeting
    - Space to the rear and to the sides
  - Low speed lane change
  - Referencing/processing information
  - Procedural tasks
  - Communication

Parent or guardian guided practice **
(see page 1)
- Intersection turns
- Backing around corner
- Turnabouts in level of danger:
  - Around block and traffic circles (if available)
  - Driveway turnabouts
  - U-turn
- Lane changing
- Backing

Module Four

Practicing operator processing and procedural tasks in a higher speed traffic flow environments

Module 4 classroom learning performances

Module 4 classroom learning performances are developed around higher speed traffic flow situations, vehicle space management, Revised Code of Washington, lane changing, and single and multiple lane roadways.

Traffic flow situations
- Following, being followed
- Curvatures
- Traffic flow to sides
- Oncoming traffic
- Crossing traffic

Vehicle space management
- Control of space around vehicle
- Maintaining separation
- Intersection
- Curvatures
- Communication

Revised Code of Washington
- Following rules
- Merge / yield signs
- Lane changing
- Lane position

Merging
- Space management
- Lane position
- Speed control
- Steering control
- Procedures
- Communication

Lane changing
- Space management
- Lane position
- Speed control
- Steering control
- Procedures
- Communication

Module 4 laboratory performances

Simulation performances
- Basic control tasks
- Commentary / visual skills
- Intersections
- Processing information
- Space area control

Off-street performances
- Basic control tasks
  - Intersection controls
  - Right of way concerns
  - Lateral maneuvers
- Application of tasks
  - Practicing vehicle space control skills
  - Lane change

On-street performances
- Basic control tasks
  - Multiple controls at intersection
  - Reversing directions with multiple turnaround methods
  - Curvature lane position
- Application of tasks
  - Commentary skills stressing roadway conditions
  - Moderate speed lane change
  - Processing information

Parent or guardian guided practice **
(see page 1)
- Following / being followed
- Turning around
- Traffic flow to sides
- Oncoming traffic
- Crossing traffic

Module Five

Assessing operator processing and precision skills in complex traffic environments

Module 5 classroom learning performances

Module 5 classroom learning performances are developed around assessment of precision techniques in steering, speed control, intersection turning, lane position, lane selection, intersecting, higher speed multi-lane merging, lane changing, passing and overtaking, and vehicle space management while performing destination driving in complex traffic environments.

Vehicle space management
- Managing space and time
- Lane position adjustments
- Speed adjustments
- Communication

Higher speed multi-lane merging
- Multi-lane traffic flow
- Higher speed traffic flow
- Higher volume traffic flow
- Space management
- Speed control

Lane changing
- Multi-lane traffic flow
- Higher speed traffic flow
- Higher volume traffic flow
- Space management
- Speed control

Passing and overtaking
- Multi-lane traffic flow
- Higher speed traffic flow
- Higher volume traffic flow
- Space management
- Speed control

Precision vehicle maneuvers
- Vision control
- Speed control
- Steering control
- Vehicle position
- Vehicle balance

Destination Driving
- Decision-making
- Map reading
- Application

Module 5 laboratory performances

Simulation performances
- Passing and being passed
- Commentary visual skills
- Limited access intersections
- Processing information
- Space management
- Freeway driving

Vehicle space management
- Managing space and time
- Lane position adjustments
- Speed adjustments
- Communication

On-street performances
- Precision control tasks
  - Multi-lane traffic flow
  - Higher speed traffic flow
  - Space management
  - Speed control
  - Overtaking
- Application of tasks
  - Commentary skills with speed and position changes
  - Higher speed lane change
  - Higher volume traffic flow
  - Processing information

Parent or guardian guided practice **
(see page 1)
- Multi-lane traffic flow
- Higher speed traffic flow
- Space management
- Speed control
- Overtaking

Module Six

Assessing operator processing skills in a higher speed traffic flow environment

Module 6 classroom learning performances

Module 6 classroom learning performances are developed around laws, information, and taking responsibility for chemical use and abuse.

Chemical use and abuse laws
- Laws concerning drug use and traffic safety
- Penalties associated with chemical abuse
- No use message employed

Chemical use and abuse information
- Internal factors
- Physical factors
- Drug induced behaviors and effect on driving task
- Advertisement / peer pressure to use

Taking responsibility for chemical use
- Refusal skills related to driving task
- Peer intervention skills
- Community resources

Module 6 laboratory outcomes

Simulation performances
- Passing and being passed
- Commentary visual skills
- Limited access intersections
- Processing information
- Space management
- Effects of alcohol on driving task

On-street performances
- Decision-making tasks
  - Multi-lane traffic flow
  - Higher speed traffic flow
  - Space management
  - Speed control
  - Overtaking
- Application of tasks
  - Speed and position changes
  - Higher speed lane change
  - Higher volume traffic flow
  - Processing information
  - Destination driving

Parent or guardian guided practice **
(see page 1)
- Multi-lane traffic flow
- Higher speed traffic flow
- Higher volume traffic flow
- Space management
- Speed control
- Overtaking
- Destination driving

Module Seven

Assessing precision in operator processing and control skills in complex driving situations

Module 7 classroom learning performances

Module 7 classroom learning performances are developed around precision techniques in simulating and recognizing environmental conditions to prevent and control losses in critical roadway traction, visibility, or vehicle malfunction situations.

Self-preservation techniques
- Vehicle safety equipment
- Driver knowledge
- Driver precision
- Destination driving
- Observe, assess and act techniques
- Collision avoidance
  - Related vision control
  - Related braking and acceleration control

Vehicle malfunctions
- Prevention
- Recognition
- Loss control

Critical environmental changes
- Changing surfaces
  - Prevention
  - Recognition
  - Loss control
- Changing weather conditions
  - Prevention
  - Recognition
  - Loss control
- Changing traction
  - Prevention
  - Recognition
  - Loss control

Module 7 laboratory performances

Simulation performances
- Night driving
- Driving in adverse conditions
- Collision avoidance

Off-street performances
- Street curvature observation of lane violations
- Parking lot or intersection observation of violations and restraint usage
- Student observations of violations in adverse conditions at a curvature, intersection, or parking lot
- Collision avoidance techniques
  - Vision control in loss of control situations
  - Steering control in loss of control situations
  - Speed control in loss of control situations
- Traction control devices
  - Recognizing front wheel traction loss
  - Recognizing rear wheel traction loss
  - Traction control techniques
    - Vision techniques
    - Steering techniques
    - Brake techniques
    - Acceleration techniques
- Student test route development

On-street performances
- Responding to vehicle and driver emergencies when conditions exist or simulated
  - Vehicle malfunctions
  - Avoiding collision situations
  - Traction loss management

Parent or guardian guided practice **
(see page 1)
- Complex traffic flow
  - Decision-making in volume traffic flow
  - Space area and lane management
  - Merging in traffic flow with precision
  - Exiting traffic flow and parking
- Assessment of driver precision, speed control, and position changes

Module Eight

Assessing driver precision in processing and precision tasks, and personal licensing decisions

Module 8 classroom learning performances

Module 8 classroom learning performances are developed around Department of Licensing guidelines, working with other roadway users, roadway system responsibilities, Revised Code of Washington review, and insurance.

Department of Licensing guidelines
- Testing procedures
- Required information
- Licensing
- Responsibilities

Working with other roadway users
- Trucks
- Trains
- Utility vehicles
- Vehicles and trailers
- Motorcycles, mopeds, scooters and bicycles
  - Motorcycle Safety Foundation's video "Cars, Motorcycles and A Common Road" and leader's guide with quiz
- Pedestrians
- Construction
- Slow moving machinery and oversized vehicles

Roadway system responsibilities
- Law enforcement agencies
- Emergency management agencies
- Legislative role
- Governmental agencies

Revised Code of Washington
- Licensing
- Collision reporting
- Vehicle registration

Insurance
- Need
- Types
- Costs
- Financial responsibility
- Collision reporting

Module 8 laboratory performances

Simulation assessment
- Your driving test
- Procedures assessment
- Driver performance test II

Off-street performances
- Collision avoidance techniques
- Traction control devices
- Student test route development
- Student assessment of skills
- Traction control devices
  - Recognizing front wheel traction loss
  - Recognizing rear wheel traction loss
  - Traction control techniques
    - Vision techniques
    - Steering techniques
    - Brake techniques
    - Acceleration techniques
- Student test route development

On-street assessment
- Driver precision in basic maneuvers
- Speed adjustments
- Space area control
- Decision-making skills
- Application of rules and laws
- Positioning a vehicle
- Procedures and sequencing for vehicle operational skill
- Processing traffic and vehicle information into speed and position changes
- Precision movements for maintaining vehicle control and balance in expected and unexpected situations

Parent or guardian assessment **
(see page 1)
- Review of driver's ability and competence
- Evaluate driver's observation and decision making skills

Module Nine

Assessing driver precision in processing and precision tasks, and social responsibility

Module 9 classroom learning performances

Module 9 classroom learning performances are developed around attitude and personal factors, conservation, consumerism, health care, and final assessments.

Personal responsibility factors
- Rules and laws
- Limitations
- Responsibility for actions

Conservation of resources
- Conservation of motor fuels
- Conservation of waste products
- Conservation of vehicles / equipment

Consumerism
- Media advertising pressure
- Purchasing vehicles
- Safety equipment
- Maintenance and care

Public health care costs reduction
- Good performance lowers costs
- Collisions affect all drivers

Final assessments
- Pre-licensing assessment
  - Student knowledge
  - Student skills and competency

Module 9 classroom learning performances

Simulation assessment
- Your driving test
- Procedures assessment
- Driver performance test II

Off-street performances
- Student test route development
- Student assessment of skills

On-street assessment
- Driver precision in basic maneuvers
- Speed adjustments
- Space area control
- Decision-making skills
- Application of rules and laws
- Positioning a vehicle
- Procedures and sequencing for vehicle operational skill
- Processing traffic and vehicle information into speed and position changes
- Precision movements for maintaining vehicle control and balance in expected and unexpected situations

Parent or guardian assessment **
(see page 1)
- Evaluate new driver's ability
- Determine readiness for licensing