

## Drivers Education Information 2018

**Dates:** Classroom Instruction – May 21-May 25, 8:00-12:00. All of these dates are mandatory for completion of the course.

Driving times will start the on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Drive times will be assigned in groups of 2 or 3 students. **Attempts** will be made to accommodate summer schedules for Drive Times.

**Age Requirements:** Students **do not** have to have a learners permit to take the class and drive with a certified instructor. **However**, it is best if they take the class just prior to or after receiving their learners permit. Taking the class if your student is not getting a learners permit within a couple of months is not recommended.

**Class Requirements:** Students are required by the State Of Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles to successfully complete 20 hours of classroom instruction. (**No exceptions, no absences**) Students who miss a class will receive a refund of their fee and can take the class over when it is offered again. There are no make-up days. Tardy will be counted as absences as well.

Students are also required to satisfactorily complete 5 hours of supervised driving, **and** a final state certified drive test. Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive an online "Waiver" which **may** waive the required drive test to receive a permit (School Permit or Provisional Operators License) to operate a motor vehicle issued by the state of Nebraska.

**Sign-up:** Students should sign-up for the class with Mr. Koziol and may be limited to the first 20 students.

**Cost:** Cost of the class will be \$285. Fee for the class must be paid to Mr. Sempek on May 21<sup>st</sup> - May 25th. Not before. Not after.

If you have any questions contact Clete Sempek at the school by phone (7:30 – 8:00 or 2:40 – 3:40) or at his school e-mail address.

([csempek@twinriver.esu7.org](mailto:csempek@twinriver.esu7.org))

## Age Recommendations for Drivers Education

Driving an automobile is a big responsibility. Having control of a machine weighing a ton and a half and traveling at 65 mph is not something to be taken lightly. Add to that a sheet of black ice or 4 inches of snow and it's no wonder parents have second thoughts about turning their children loose with the family car.

Many students, I would venture to even say most students, have the physical skills to control that motor vehicle very well, even in adverse conditions. For some, those skills may not be fully developed yet, but they will be, surprisingly quickly. However the physical aspect of controlling that vehicle is not where most young drivers will "run into" problems.

This won't come as any news flash to parents, (or teachers) but teens are capable of making several poor decisions a day. Some make them every hour. I know. I was a teen once and had more than my share of bad ideas. The good news is, those decision making skills will improve with age and maturity. As former Twin River administrator Donn Graff used to say, "God isn't done with them yet. Give them time to grow up." Keeping them safe until then, is what keeps parents awake at night.

As a parent, it will be your decision to decide when your child is ready to take on the responsibility of driving. It isn't an easy decision. Some students are mature enough to drive responsibly at age 14 without incident. Some will be 19 or 20 and you'll still wonder what they were thinking. Some will be super safe drivers when they are by themselves and yet take crazy chances when they are with their friends. Some will be reluctant to drive and shy away from driving. Some will do just fine. The distractions they will face are numerous. Everything from listening to the radio to cell phones will make driving an even bigger challenge. In the end, you know your child best. The decision to hand them the keys will be yours.

Below are my recommendations for when students should sign up and take my Driver Education class. I tend to think students should take the class just before they are going to become active drivers. I have had 13 and 14 year olds take the class and then not get a learners permit until they turn 15. To me, that makes no sense. Take the class when you are about to start driving. The Nebraska DMV recommends students must be 14 by Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. So, remember, these are just my recommendations. Ultimately, you, the parent, are the one responsible for your child.

Recommendations: If your child is 13, but will turn 14 during the coming school year **and will not** be getting a school permit in the coming school year, I recommend that they wait and take Driver Education at a later date.

If your child is 13, but will turn 14 during the coming school year **and will** be getting a school permit during the coming school year, then I recommend that they take Drivers Education this summer.

If your child is 14 already **and will** be getting a school permit for next year, I would advise that he/she takes the Driver Education class this summer.

If your child is 14 already **and will not** be getting a school permit for next year, then I would recommend waiting until next summer.

If your child is 15 or will turn 15 during the coming school year, I recommend that they take Driver Education.

### **Who is eligible for a School Permit?**

A student is eligible to apply for a School Permit, Type SCP, which allows them to drive unsupervised to and from school and school events, any time after they are 14 years and 2 months old. They must have held a Type LPE learners permit for 2 months, which they can apply for after their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. To get the LPE, students must pass a written test and a vision test at the court house. To get the SCP, (at 14 years and 2 months) the students must have completed one of the 2 pathways toward acceptance.

1. Have a Type LPE learners permit for a minimum of 2 months. Completed a minimum of 50 practice driving hours, accompanied by a parent. The 50 hours have to be documented and a certification form must be filled out for the hours recorded by the parent. Also the student will be required to pass a drive test by a DMV officer at the court house.

or

2. Have a Type LPE learners permit for a minimum of 2 months. Successfully complete a Driver Education course certified by the Nebraska DMV

Regardless of which of the above listed pathways chosen to get a School Permit, students must have the Type LPE for at least 2 months before they can apply for the Type SCP School Permit. The Type SCP (School permit) also doubles and can be used as a “regular” Learners Permit allowing them to drive anywhere as long as they are accompanied by a licensed driver age 21 or older. The SCP would be good until they turn 16, at which time he would apply for his Type POP, Provisional Operators Permit.

If you have any further questions contact me at the school at [csempek@twinriver.esu7.org](mailto:csempek@twinriver.esu7.org) or 402-993-2274.



