

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Is there a cost for Driver Education in the Davidson County Schools?** Yes. There is a \$65 fee that was set August 2015. This payment must be made on either of the first three days of the class. Fees must be paid to the school financial secretary/treasurer. The instructors usually don't collect any fees. Do NOT send fees in with applications. This fee cannot be waived for any reason. Average cost of providing instruction is around \$325 per student.

**How are students selected to get into class? Almost always more students want the class than are seats - so how is the selection made?** Students are notified by various means that the classes are to be held & they are told where to go to register. One of the significant problems recently is that there are students registering that never attend. Seating and the number of available books limit the classes. If there are more interested in taking the class than there is space available, students below number 45 may want to show the first day of class in case people older do not show up. We have had students that were down the list get into the class that way. Also, a class may be cancelled if there are less than 45 students enrolled.

**Is there special consideration for older students who have not taken the class?** For the classroom session students are seated based on age. Students must be present on the first day of class to be seated. Students are responsible for signing up for classes as they are announced and to do so before the due date closes. Students should sign up for the first class they are eligible for during the year. They are driven on the road by birth date if at all possible, so the oldest are served first in driving. One of the keys to getting students driven & eligible for permit by their 15th birthday is that they take the class when first eligible at age 14 1/2.

**If a student misses the first class day, does he miss his chance to take the class?** Students must be present on the first day of class to be enrolled in the class. The student may take the class at another time if they miss the first day of the scheduled class. Applications must be completed each time there is a class offering. No applications will be held over.

**How many classes can a student miss and still earn credit? Is there a make-up procedure?** The state requirements are that a student must complete 30 hours of class instruction. Most classes schedule one make-up session to make-up no more than 4 hours (the maximum amount of time that can be missed). There are no excused or unexcused absences for this class since it is NCDMV oriented, so notes or phone calls are not necessary from parents about absences. If students have detention, remediation, or suspensions, they are not allowed to make up detention time during Driver Education. Such absences are not expected if students are responsible and want to obtain their permit/license.

**What about being late or leaving early?** Students that are late to three classes will be removed from the class sessions and may take the next class offered. It is a disruption to the class for students to be late. If a student leaves early from a class, it must be brought to the instructor's attention before class begins, unless it is an emergency. All time missed, for absence, tardiness or early dismissal must be made up to meet the 30 hour requirement.

**How do we handle non-Oak Grove High School students taking driver education (home school, private schools, etc.)?** The state funds our program for enrolled public school students, but allows students in our district to attend, so we are obligated to serve any student under 18 years old that either attends a school in the Oak Grove feeder district or lives in the Oak Grove feeder district. The key is that they must be a student.

**If a student does not get into a class due to any reason (detention, lack of interest, etc.), are they given high priority at the next class? Are they given low priority? Is there any difference?** Our classes are arranged on age basis. A student who registers is encouraged to show up the first day of class with the chance they may get in. If they do show up and are not successful in getting in, they will be almost guaranteed a spot in the next class, provided they register for the next class.

**Most of the previous questions also apply to the road/driving portion of the class. Who drives first? What is the priority? If a student refuses the opportunity to drive a particular week, does he become the next in line, or does he go to the end of the list?** Students are driven by age/birthday from the particular class period they are enrolled in. Students are driven after school and on weekends by age/birthday. If a student is sick or has a legitimate excuse (dr. appointment, sports event) they may still lose their place in line. If they are forgetful or don't want to be bothered at the time, they are put at the end of the list regardless of the length.

**If a student or parent has questions, who should they address them to & how?** Most of the questions involve when students will drive. They are instructed in class verbally, and in writing to the parents, that calling is unnecessary & most of the time, a date cannot be given. Other questions should be directed to the Lead driver education instructor at each high school by phone, personal contact, or in writing to the instructor mailbox. Email works best for Mr. Meredith and he can be reached at [gregorymeredith@davidson.k12.nc.us](mailto:gregorymeredith@davidson.k12.nc.us)

**Are copies of the rules, regulations, and procedures given to students when they register for class-or ever given to the students?** A copy of the legal requirements, policies and procedures etc., are sent home with students for parents to see along with the restricted instruction permit for driving. All students receive a class due dates and assignments sheet the first day of class. This sheet details several assignments and should be read carefully. Inattentiveness is not a responsible trait for our students when it comes to Driver Education classes.

**What if I signed up and am not on the list anywhere?** Please email Mr. Meredith or call Oak Grove High School 336-474-8280 as soon as possible. We keep organized records, so it should not be an issue. Students generally will not see their name if they turned in their form late.

Please understand that it takes around five hours to prepare applications, class lists, planning time, and logistics for the meeting place before the class starts. We at Oak Grove High School do everything we can to be efficient and get your student ready to drive. Even so, it is not guaranteed that your student will pass the course. They must complete all work as assigned and all time required by state law.

General Class Rules: (Note: if at least 45 students are not present the first day of class, it may be cancelled)

The Driver Education class fee is \$65 for each student and must be paid by the third day of class. The class payment are collected after the first day of class. Checks should be made payable to Oak Grove High School. Cash is accepted, correct change will be needed the first day for those paying in cash. No credit cards or debit cards. This fee cannot be waived for any student.

1. Come to class prepared with DMV Handbook, pencil, and assigned work everyday. Bring a black or blue pen and pencil to class the first day.
2. Cell phones are not allowed to be on during class. If a student is found using one during class, then the student will be removed from class.
3. Complete all assignments as given. Students must complete all work in order to pass the course. A grade of 80 or better is passing.
4. There will be a makeup session near the end of the class if needed.
5. Being late to class four times will cause removal from the class. Parents please make sure to have your student here on time and drive safe in the parking lot.
6. Being absent for more than four hours will cause removal from the class. Students missing the first day of the class will not be admitted.
7. Unless you are asked to do so, there will be no excessive talking during class. We expect that you want to learn and pass the course and cannot if distracted.
8. There will be two breaks each class.
9. Students must meet the school dress code. Make sure shorts are long enough and that shirts cover the collarbones and there should be no problem. No hats in the building. Also, no hoods, bandanas, etc...are to be worn.
10. Students must respect each other during class.
11. It is each student's responsibility to show responsibility and competence in order to complete the class successfully. This is not a class where students pass by showing up everyday. Some accommodations can be made for students, but all work has to be completed as assigned.
12. Students unable to finish the class or those failing the class will have to wait one class after the current class to retake the class. There is now a **\$32.50** fee for students repeating the class or driving portion.
13. No sleeping or putting heads down on the desks. You will be asked to leave class and be counted absent for that day's class.
14. Students should enjoy while learning about the driving process, but be serious when necessary during class.

***Return this sheet signed by the third day of the class.***

Student Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_