

Driver Education Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is the age requirement to take Driver Education?**
You must be 16 years of age by the first day of class to enroll in Driver Education.
2. **May teenagers with a driver license still take Driver Education?** Yes.
3. **How many students are needed for a location to run?** Ten is need so please help to get the word out to your friends.
4. **What happens at Orientation?** All students will receive an overview of the Driver Education course and their in-car times. **Parents are also welcome to attend.**
5. **Is Driver Education held on days that schools are closed?**
During the regular school year, Driver Education is NOT held on days that schools are scheduled to be closed.
 - a. **What about Superintendent Conference Days?**
On Superintendent Conference Days, lecture classes are not held, but in-car driving sessions may still be held at the discretion of the driving school.
 - b. **What about cancellations due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances?**
If schools are closed due weather or other unforeseen circumstances, there are no driver education classes or driving sessions held that day. If after school activities are canceled, driver education classes and driving sessions are canceled as well.
 - c. **How are cancellations made up?**
 1. Lecture: Students will be informed by lecture instructor.
 2. In-car: Students will be informed by in-car instructor.
 - d. **What do I do if an emergency arises and I have to miss a lecture or an in-car driving session?**
 - a. If you need to miss an in-car driving session due to an emergency contact the driver education office.
 - b. If you need to miss a lecture class speak to the lecture instructor or contact the SUNY Ulster driver education office regarding make-up procedures. You may have to go to one of the other high schools to make up a lecture lesson.
 - c. You MUST make-up all missed lectures and in-car sessions to pass the course and to be able to receive your Completion Certificate (MV-285).
6. **Do I get a 5-Hour Pre-Licensing Certificate (MV-278) in Driver Ed?**
5-hr Pre-Licensing is included in the Driver Education course. The certificate is given in class, usually between week 8 and 9.
 - a. **How long is it valid?**
It is valid for one year from date of issue.

b. What do I do if I lose my 5-hr certificate?

We can issue a replacement. However, there is a **\$15** fee. And takes approximately a 1-2 weeks to receive.

7. When do I receive my Driver Education Completion Certificate (MV-285)?

You will receive the MV-285 in the mail after the Driver Education course has ended. Because the certificate is generated from NYSDMV, SUNY Ulster nor your instructor will have information on when the certificates will be released by NYSDMV. (Once you have received it, be sure to make copies and put them in a safe place. You may need them if for example you change insurance companies.)

a. How long is it valid?

The Completion Certificate (MV-285), top part for the road test is valid for two years from the date of issue. The bottom half for insurance is good for student until 25 years of age.

b. What do I do if I lose my Completion Certificate?

We can issue a replacement but it may take up to 6-weeks to receive it. There will be a **\$15** fee to replace this certificate.

8. How do I know if I passed the Driver Education course?

a. If you have not passed, it is because you did not attend all lectures, in-car sessions and/or did not pass the exam given in class.

1. You are notified by your lecture instructor and in-car instructor if you have missed any lessons.

b. You will be not receive your Completion Certificate until all lectures and in-car sessions have been completed and you have passed the exam.

9. How do I get my insurance discount?

The Completion Certificate (MV-285) has two-parts. The top part is for DMV and the bottom part is what you send to your insurance company. (Not all insurance companies provide the same discounts. Please check with your provider for details on benefit.)

10. How do I schedule my road test?

You can go online - <https://dmv.ny.gov/schedule-road-test>

11. What do I need to make sure I have before I schedule my road test?

a. A valid New York State learner permit

b. Unexpired 5-hr Pre-Licensing Certificate (MV-278) or a Certificate of Completion (MV-285)

c. At least one unused test available (The fee is for up to two road tests for a non-commercial license, which is included in the \$10 driver license application fee.

d. The ZIP Code for the test site

e. The MV-278 or MV-285 must be valid at time of scheduling the road test, which can be done online, but you are not required to have a valid certificate when you take your road test.

- f. If you are under 18, you must have had your permit for 6 months from the date your permit is issued to the date of your road test. However, if you are age 17, have completed driver education and have a valid Completion Certificate (MV-285), this is not required.
- g. A completed **Certificate of Supervised Driving (MV-262)** form – if you are under 18 you must have a minimum of 50 hours of supervised practice driving before your road test with at least 15 hours at night (after sunset.) You must bring the MV-262 (Certification of Supervised Driving) completed by a parent or guardian to certify that you have the required hours of supervised practice driving. This course provides six hours of supervised practice driving. A parent/guardian must provide the rest. After you have completed the Driver Education course and passed, the MV-262 will be mailed to you.
 - 1. You do not need to have the driving school or instructor certify and sign this form. When you get your MV-285 at the conclusion of the course, this signifies that you received the 6-hours behind the wheel in a state-approved program.

12. How do I change my junior license to a senior license with Driver Education?

- a. If you have a Class DJ junior license, and you complete a driver education course, you can change your Class DJ junior license to a Class D senior license when you are 17 years old.
 - a. To change the class of your driver license you must have a Completion Certificate (MV-285).
 - b. **Before Taking Road Test:**

If you have not taken your road test yet, give your MV-285 Driver Education Completion Certificate to the DMV examiner after your road test. The DMV will update your driver record and will automatically issue a Class D photo driver license on your 17th birthday. You will receive the new driver license in the mail within 2 weeks of your 17th birthday. There is no fee when you change the class of your driver license by this method. Your driver license record will show that you are a Class D driver. You do not need to have your Class D document to drive as a senior license driver. You can drive on your 17th birthday.
 - c. **After Taking Road Test:**

If you did not have your MV-285 Driver Education Completion Certificate when taking your road test, you must go to a DMV office to change your license class. Bring your class DJ driver license and the MV-285 to a DMV office on your 17th birthday or any following day. Complete a form MV-44, and pay the fee of \$12.50. You will receive a temporary Class D driver license, without photo, at the office. The DMV will then mail your Class D photo driver license in approximately two weeks.