

TASD Driver's Education Policy Statement: 2015-2016

The TASD Driver's Education program is one of the oldest in the country, having been started not long after the first program opened in St. College, PA in February 1934. Today we are one of a dwindling number of districts still supporting this valuable program.

TASD provides classroom instruction, behind-the-wheel training (BTW) and the PA Driver's License exam. Student must take their permit exam at the state center.

Parent Involvement:

We strongly encourage Parent/guardian involvement in their student's Driver's Education experience. It is critical to the student's success as a driver. We are currently providing the following to our families:

1. Parent/guardian access to all student grades and classroom progress through Sapphire. If you haven't done so, contact the Guidance Office for instructions to get your logon information.
2. Requiring five different parental/guardian signatures on student work, confirming independent completion and parent review of student work.
3. A 20-30 minute parent orientation meeting following the first class of each marking period course.
4. A website for parents/students.

Curriculum:

Lesson plans are required for both the classroom experience and for each Behind-the-Wheel (BTW) one hour session. Students take 30-34 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of BTW training. Copies of the curriculum can be found with the instructors, in the Main Office and in the Program Coordinator's room. We follow the existing standards set forth in the PDE standards of 1999, as well as those from the IUP Institute for Rural Health and Safety.

Differentiation:

We provide differentiated instruction to all students. Each lesson is designed to be flexible to meet the needs of the individual student. Extended time can be provided to students in need of more in-depth instruction time. This decision will be made by the instructors.

Student Participants:

TASD accepts any student who lives within our district. Students may be participants in home-schooling, Cyber School, or a private school – as long as they are a resident within our district. The fee schedule applies to all participating students: classroom is free and BTW cost is \$45. Our program is open to students who are enrolled in Grade 9 – 12. Seniors may participate until the new school year begins.

Online Courses:

At this time our district does not accept any online Driver's Ed instruction in lieu of our classroom instruction. Students must sign up for our classroom instruction through the Guidance Office, see Mrs. Raling. Classes are given each marking period for 6 weeks, each Monday - Wednesday from 3:20-5:20 and for 2 weeks over the summer, Monday - Friday from 8 AM to noon.

In-Car Instructor/Student Ratio:

We provide a one to one student/teacher ratio in BTW training.

Instructor Certification:

Our instructors are certified through the IUP Institute for Rural Health and Safety and the PRAXIS testing program. Our license examiner has been certified by the PA Department of Transportation.