

DRIVER EDUCATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Driver's Education is a part of the Sophomore Block is comprised of 2 9-week classes (Driver's Ed and Career Exploration) and 1 semester-long class (Writing). It is offered to students who are sophomores and older.



1. What are the student eligibility requirements in order to take Driver Education?

Per Section 27-24.2 of the School Code, each student must be at least 15 years of age, enrolled in high school and receive a passing grade in at least 8 courses during the previous 2 semesters prior to enrolling in a driver education course.

2. When can I take Driver's Ed at Manteno High School?

Students are eligible for Driver's Ed during their sophomore year in school. The quarter in which students take Driver's Ed during their sophomore year will depend on their birthdates.

3. Can I take Driver's Ed during my freshman year if I will be 16?

No. The oldest 30-40 freshman or soon to be sophomores will have the opportunity to take Driver's Ed during the summer between their freshman and sophomore year. The older freshman will be *invited* to a meeting during their second semester of freshman year with the Driver's Ed department. The students who take Driver's Ed during the summer will replace that class with PE as part of the sophomore block during their sophomore year.

4. How long is the learner's permit period?

Any student who receives their instruction permit before December 31, 2007, will fall under the three month holding time of their instruction permit. Any student who receives their instruction permit on or after January 1, 2008, will fall under the new changes and will have to hold their permit for nine months.

5. Can driving simulators be used to complete behind-the-wheel training?

No. Driving simulators can be used to supplement a portion of the required 6 hours behind-the-wheel training.



6. Are the curriculum and training requirements the same for commercial driving schools?

Yes. Commercial driving schools are governed by the Illinois Secretary of State. They can provide the names of approved commercial driving schools and can be reached at (847) 437-3953.

7. If I am a transfer student and I took the classroom portion at my previous school, can I sign up for behind the wheel at MHS?

Yes. See your guidance counselor for arrangements.

8. What is the Passenger Limitation Rule?

All occupants under age 19 must wear safety belts.

- a. Permit Phase Drivers Age 15
 - One in the front seat and the number of safety belts in the back seat.
- b. Initial Licensing Phase - Drivers Age 16-17
 - For the first year of licensing, or until the driver is age 18, whichever occurs first, the number of passengers is limited to one person under age 20, unless the additional passenger(s) is a sibling, step-sibling, child, or step-child of the driver.
 - After this period, the number of passengers is limited to one in the front seat and the number of safety belts in the back seat.
- c. Full Licensing Phase - Drivers 18-20
 - No age-related restrictions apply except in cases where a driver fails to move from the Initial Licensing Phase to the Full Licensing Phase



9. What are the nighttime driving restriction times?

(Local curfews may differ from the nighttime driving restriction).

- a. Permit Phase Drivers Age 15
 - Sunday – Thursday: 10 p.m.-6 a.m.
 - Friday – Saturday: 11 p.m.-6 a.m.
- b. Initial Licensing Phase - Drivers Age 16-17
 - Sunday – Thursday: 10 p.m.-6 a.m.
 - Friday – Saturday: 11 p.m.-6 a.m.
- c. Full Licensing Phase - Drivers 18-20
 - No age-related restrictions apply except in cases where a driver fails to move from the Initial Licensing Phase to the Full Licensing Phase

10. What happens if a new driver is caught violating the passenger limitation rule?

The driver of the vehicle, as well as all passengers in the vehicle, can be ticketed if the driver is in violation of the passenger restriction rule.



11. What is the cell phone usage law for teenagers?

Cell phone use while driving is prohibited except in the case of an emergency to contact a law enforcement agency, health care provider or emergency services agency.



12. How can I check on my Permit Status?

In order for students to check to see if driver education completion information has been submitted by their school district and approved by the Secretary of State's office, the student must:

www.isbe.net

Click on "Students" (top navy blue toolbar)

Scroll down to "Programs"

Click on "Driver Education Student License Inquiry"

The student should type in their permit number and if the completion information has been submitted and uploaded to the Secretary of State's office (without errors), the screen will indicate that they are approved to get their license. Please remember that this only indicates if the completion information has been submitted & approved. The student still has to hold their permit for the required time.

Laws Parents and Teens Should Know

Parental Access to Teen Driving Records - Effective January 1, 2008. Parents may view their teen's (under age 18) driving record free through the Secretary of State Web site. Several security features will protect the teen's privacy and ensure that only the parents/legal guardians are granted access to the teen's driving record.

Driver's License Suspension for Alcohol Consumption - Effective January 1, 2008. A person under age 21 will receive a three-month driver's license suspension for any court supervision for possession, consumption, purchase or receipt of alcohol.

Street Racing - Effective January 1, 2008. Driving privileges will be revoked for any person convicted of street racing, and law enforcement may impound the vehicle for up to five days.

