



DRIVER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(Prince William County Example)

Requirements for Learner's Permit

Completed at Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Office:

- Must be at least 15 years and 6 months of age.
- Complete a DL1M learner's permit and driver license application form.
- Furnish proof of social security, residency, and original document certifying name and date of birth.
- Pass a multiple-choice sign and knowledge test.
- Pass a vision test.
- Licensed driver over 21 must be seated next to teen driver with a learner's permit.

Student must hold a learner's permit for at least 9 months and be at least 16 years and 3 months in age.

Classroom Driver Education Instruction

Classroom driver education is part of the 10th grade curriculum. All 10th grade students will receive at least 36 hours of in-class instruction. This instruction must include units on organ donation, alcohol and drugs, motorcycle awareness, aggressive driving, and distracted driving.

Behind-the-Wheel Driver Education Instruction

- The state of Virginia requires 14 hours (class periods) of behind-the-wheel instruction.
- Range instruction consists of a minimum of 7 hours (class periods).
- Road instruction consists of a minimum of 7 hours (class periods).
- The road skills test will be given by the instructor after the student has successfully completed the behind-the-wheel instruction.
- Students will receive behind-the-wheel instruction during their physical education classes. It is the responsibility of the student to make up assignments and tests missed while attending behind-the-wheel instruction.

Beginning Behind-the-Wheel Instruction

The student must:

- Have a valid learner's permit.
- Have driven a minimum of **2 hours** with parent supervision **before** taking behind-the-wheel instruction. Ten hours of on-road driving is recommended before taking the range-and-road class.
- Turn in a signed parent permission form.
- Pay \$175 by check or money order, made out to PWC Schools.

Requirements to receive a 90-day Provisional License

- Student must hold a learner's permit for at least 9 months and be at least 16 years and 3 months in age.
- Student must successfully complete a state approved driver education program, which includes classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction.
- Student must have parent/guardian permission (PWCS Form, PPF-03 and a completed homework assignment).
- Parent must certify that their child has driven a motor vehicle for 45 hours, 15 of which must be after sunset (45-Hour Parent/Student Driver Log).
- Licensing Ceremony – (within 90 days)
 - Family will receive notice to appear in court
 - Judge presents permanent driver's license to parents
- First Year Driver Passenger restrictions
 - First year of driving under 18 carry only one passenger under 18
 - After 1 year or until age 18, teen carries no more than 3 passengers under 18
 - Passenger restrictions do not apply to family members
 - Violations will have serious consequences

Parenting Tips for In-car Guided Practice Sessions

- When you drive, set a good example by modeling proper driving etiquette.
- Always wear your safety belt.
- Stop at all stop signs and lights. Do not roll through. Rolling through a red light is not considered a **full stop. Right Turn on Red is legal only after a complete stop.**
- Ask questions about intersections. Does your son/daughter understand:
 - a. At a signal-controlled intersection, identify who has the green light; and
 - b. Search all corners of the intersection for vehicles, pedestrians, traffic controls, any unusual happenings.
 - c. Select the best lane position for the next maneuver and to avoid pedestrians and other vehicles.
 - d. Position the car in the proper lane position on turns.
 - e. 4 Way (multiple direction) stops: discuss who gives the right-of way.
- New mirrors adjustment: Blindzone and Glare Elimination (BGE) technique.
- Turn signal must be used to communicate intentions.
- Hand-over-hand steering or push-pull. Hand position 8-4.
- Unwind the steering wheel to return to straight position.
- Be aware of your car type: Does your car have Anti-lock Braking System (ABS)? Know the difference when using ABS and non-ABS brakes and how to use them?
- Have your son/daughter practice:
 - a. Parking: angle, perpendicular and parallel.
 - b. Backing up
- Please use the 45-Hour Parent/teen Driving Guide to help you and your son/daughter.