

IDAHO PUBLIC DRIVER EDUCATION

# Curriculum Guide



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & SAFETY COORDINATION | DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM

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CREATED 11/28/2022

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*The Idaho Public Driver Education Curriculum Guide represents the Idaho Driver Education Program standards, benchmarks, and student competencies used during the 2021 Curricular Review.*

## **STANDARD 1.0: COURSE OVERVIEW AND PARENT ORIENTATION**

### **Performance Standard DE 1.1 Understanding Course Requirements**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard:**

**DE.1.1.1** The student and parent/guardian will be presented the Idaho public driver education and training program goals.

**DE.1.1.2** The student and parent/guardian will be presented the course structure, policies, and rules.

**DE.1.1.3** The student and parent/guardian will be presented the Graduated Driver Licensing Law and procedures for compliance.

**DE.1.1.4** The student and parent/guardian will be presented the responsibilities of the instructor, parent, and student during the course.

**DE.1.1.5** The student and parent/guardian will be presented the process of obtaining, maintaining, and renewing, an Idaho driver's license.

**DE.1.1.6** The student and parent/guardian will be presented the types of driver's licenses and instruction permits.

**DE.1.1.7** The student and parent/guardian will be presented special information that may be placed on a driver license or instruction permit.

**DE.1.1.8** The student and parent/guardian will be presented licensing restrictions, suspensions, and revocations place on driving privileges.

**DE.1.1.9** The student and parent/guardian will be presented the purpose of the Supervised Driving Guide or a comparable document.

### **Performance Standard DE 1.2 Understanding the Nature of Driving**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard:**

**DE.1.2.1** The student will examine the behaviors resulting in driver errors and crashes in Idaho.

**DE.1.2.2** The student will examine crash statistics in Idaho and nationally.

**DE.1.2.3** The student will review the risks associated with poor driving habits and how risk can be minimized.

## **STANDARD 2.0: VEHICLE AWARENESS**

### **Performance Standard DE 2.1 Identifying Gauges and Warning Symbols Inside a Vehicle**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard:**

**DE.2.1.1** The student will locate and describe the function of alert and warning symbols and gauges found in a vehicle.

### **Performance Standard DE 2.2 Operating Vehicle Control Devices**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard:**

**DE.2.2.1** The student will describe and demonstrate the use of vehicle control devices found in a driver education vehicle.

**DE.2.2.2** The student will describe and demonstrate the use of vehicle control devices found in a driver education vehicle.

### **Performance Standard DE 2.3 Preparing to Drive**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard:**

**DE.2.3.1** The student will describe and demonstrate pre-entry tasks.

**DE.2.3.2** The student will describe and demonstrate entry tasks made prior to starting and moving a motor vehicle to accommodate air bags and maximize safety.

**DE.2.3.3** The student will describe and demonstrate checking all passengers for safety restraint use.

**DE.2.3.4** The student will describe and demonstrate traditional and enhanced mirror adjustments to reduce blind spots and glare.

**DE.2.3.5** The student will describe and demonstrate the steps involved in securing a vehicle after it is stopped and a drive is completed.

## Performance Standard DE 2.4 Protecting Occupants

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard:

**DE.2.4.1** The student will describe the three collisions of a crash and the effect on the restrained and unrestrained human body.

**DE.2.4.2** The student will identify and/or describe locations and purpose of airbags, belt adjusters, and head restraints and demonstrate proper adjustments and operation to provide crash survival protection.

## STANDARD 3.0: TRAFFIC CONTROL

### Performance Standard DE.3.1 Traffic Control Devices and Laws

#### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.3.1.1** The student will describe the purposes for traffic control devices.

**DE.3.1.2** The student will list the colors and shapes and describe the functions of traffic signs, traffic signals, and traffic signal/sign combinations.

**DE.3.1.3** The student will list and explain meanings of colors and meaning of roadway markings.

**DE.3.1.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate appropriate driver responses to roadway signs, traffic signals, and roadway markings.

**DE.3.1.5** The student will apply traffic laws for operating a motor vehicle on public streets and highways.

### Performance Standard DE.3.2 Right of Way Rules

#### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.3.2.1** The student will define “right of way.”

**DE.3.2.2** The student will discuss the consequences for failure to yield the right of way.

**DE.3.2.3** The student will apply the rules of yielding the right of way at intersections.

**DE.3.2.4** The student will apply the rules of yielding the right of way when merging.

**DE.3.2.5** The student will discuss reasons for and/or apply rules of yielding right of way to emergency vehicles, funerals, school buses, and pedestrians.

**DE.3.2.6** The student will discuss and/or apply rules of yielding in school zones and construction zones.

**DE.3.2.7** The student will discuss and/or apply rules of yielding right of way at intersections with highway-rail grade crossings.

**DE.3.2.8** The student will discuss and/or demonstrate procedures to safely navigate a center shared turn lane, turn lanes, and roundabouts.

## **STANDARD 4.0: VEHICLE CONTROL**

### **Performance Standard DE.4.1 Vehicle Positioning**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.4.1.1** The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate the blind areas to the front, sides, and rear of a vehicle.

**DE.4.1.2** The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate a visual reference point that will place the front bumper at a line or curb when stopping.

**DE.4.1.3** The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate a visual reference point that will place the right-side tires 6-12 inches, 3 feet, and 6 feet from a line or curb.

**DE 4.1.4** The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate a visual reference point that will place the left side tires 6-12 inches from a line or curb.

**DE.4.1.5** The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate a visual reference point for placement of a vehicle in the center of a lane.

**DE.4.1.6** The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate visual reference points for placement of the rear bumper at a line or curb.

**DE.4.1.7** The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate lane placement and visual reference points for setup, entry to, and exiting from a turn.

### **Performance Standard DE.4.2 Performing Basic Control**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.4.2.1** The student will describe and demonstrate proper starting procedures.

**DE.4.2.2** The student will describe and demonstrate steering wheel control techniques and when each is used.



**DE.4.2.3** The student will describe and demonstrate procedures for entering and leaving the roadway.

**DE.4.2.4** The student will describe and demonstrate acceleration control.

**DE.4.2.5** The student will describe and demonstrate controlled, threshold, and trial braking control.

**DE.4.2.6** The student will describe and demonstrate proper entry into and exit out of a 90-degree corner.

**DE.4.2.7** The student will describe and demonstrate procedures for left and right precision turns from a stopped and moving position.

**DE.4.2.8** The student will describe and demonstrate procedures for backing straight and while turning.

## **Performance Standard DE.4.3 Lane Changes and Passing**

### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.4.3.1** The student will describe and demonstrate compliance with the legal requirements for a lane change.

**DE.4.3.2** The student will describe and demonstrate safe gap selection for a lane change.

**DE.4.3.3** The student will describe and demonstrate appropriate lane positions prior to a lane change.

**DE.4.3.4** The student will describe and demonstrate effective speed adjustments for a lane change.

**DE.4.3.5** The student will describe and demonstrate effective blind area checks and mirror use prior to making a lane change.

**DE.4.3.6** The student will describe the legal requirements for passing.

**DE.4.3.7** The student will describe safe gap selection and lane return for passing another vehicle.

**DE.4.3.8** The student will describe effective speed adjustments for passing another vehicle and lane return.

**DE.4.3.9** The student will describe appropriate lane positions prior to passing another vehicle.

## Performance Standard DE 4.4 Performing Turnabouts

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.4.4.1** The student will describe and demonstrate U-turns.

**DE.4.4.2** The student will describe and demonstrate 2-point turns.

**DE.4.4.3** The student will describe and demonstrate 2-point turns.

## Performance Standard DE 4.5 Parking Maneuvers

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.4.5.1** The student will demonstrate angled parking.

**DE.4.5.2** The student will demonstrate parallel parking.

**DE.4.5.3** The student will demonstrate street/curb parking.

**DE.4.5.4** The student will demonstrate perpendicular forward parking.

**DE.4.5.5** The student will demonstrate perpendicular backing-into parking.

**DE.4.5.6** The student will demonstrate parking on a hill – uphill with a curb.

**DE.4.5.7** The student will demonstrate parking on a hill – uphill without a curb.

**DE.4.5.8** The student will demonstrate parking on a hill – downhill with a curb.

**DE.4.5.9** The student will demonstrate parking on a hill – downhill without a curb.

**DE.4.5.10** The student will demonstrate recognition of restricted parking areas.

## STANDARD 5.0: CONTROLLING THE AREA AROUND YOUR VEHICLE

### Performance Standard DE.5.1 Using Vision for Vehicle Control

#### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.5.1.1** The student will identify fields of vision and their use while operating a motor vehicle.

**DE.5.1.2** The student will analyze the effect speed has on vision.

**DE.5.1.3** The student will identify techniques to improve vision while driving.

**DE.5.1.4** The student will describe the vehicle control sequence of vision, motion, and steering control.

**DE.5.1.5** The student will discuss how optical illusions can affect the driving task.

## Performance Standard DE.5.2 Time and Space Management Systems and Strategies

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.5.2.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the components of a space management system.

**DE.5.2.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate responses to changes in line of sight restrictions.

**DE.5.2.3** The student will describe and/or demonstrate responses to changes in path of travel restrictions.

**DE.5.2.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the six zone locations around a vehicle.

**DE.5.2.5** The student will describe and/or demonstrate adjusting lane positions and speed to control space around a vehicle.

**DE.5.2.6** The student will describe and/or demonstrate how to select a safe gap for vehicle maneuvers.

**DE.5.2.7** The student will describe and/or demonstrate responses to traffic to the front, sides, and rear of the vehicle.

**DE.5.2.8** The student will describe and/or demonstrate safe following intervals.

**DE.5.2.9** The student will describe and/or demonstrate appropriate communication techniques to inform other roadway users of driver actions prior to a speed or lane position adjustment.

## Performance Standard DE.5.3 Intersections

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.5.3.1** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for recognition of and responses to different intersection types.

**DE.5.3.2** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for searching for and responding to traffic signs, signals, and markings at intersections.

**DE.5.3.3** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for identification of and response to controlled and uncontrolled railroad crossings.

**DE.5.3.4** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for visual searching skills to the left, front, right, and rear of the vehicle at intersections.

**DE.5.3.5** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for visual searching skills to identify and select the best lane position, best speed, and communication at intersections.

**DE.5.3.6** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for recognition of and response to legal, staggered, and safety stop positions at intersections.

## **STANDARD 6.0: THE PHYSICS OF DRIVING**

### **Performance Standard DE.6.1 The Effects of Gravity and Energy of Motion on a Vehicle**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.6.1.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate definitions of gravity and energy of motion.

**DE.6.1.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the effects of gravity and energy of motion have on friction and traction

**DE.6.1.3** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the effect of speed on energy of motion.

**DE.6.1.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the forces of an impact.

**DE.6.1.5** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the impact of tire condition and air pressure on traction.

**DE.6.1.6** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the forces involved while in a curve.

**DE.6.1.7** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the factors that affect braking distance.

**DE.6.1.8** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the consequences of vehicle modifications on vehicle balance and traction.

**DE.6.1.9** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the forces of energy on vehicles of different weights and size.

**DE.6.1.10** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the effect of vehicle load on vehicle balance.

**DE.6.1.11** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the cause and effect of vehicle load changes from side to side, front to rear, and rear to front.

**DE.6.1.12** The student will describe and/or demonstrate how aggressive steering, braking, and acceleration affects vehicle balance and control.

**DE.6.1.13** The student will describe and/or demonstrate traction loss to both the front and rear wheels.

**DE.6.1.14** The student will describe and/or demonstrate how to manage traction loss on a front-wheel drive, rear-wheel drive, and all-wheel drive vehicle.

**DE.6.1.15** The student will describe and/or demonstrate conditions that can create traction loss and vehicle imbalance.

**DE.6.1.16** The student will describe and/or demonstrate how traction and vehicle balance are affected by steering, acceleration, deceleration, and roadway surfaces.

**DE.6.1.17** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the function, advantages, and proper braking techniques of two and four-wheel anti-lock braking systems.

**DE.6.1.18** The student will describe and/or demonstrate various steering, stability control, and traction control systems.

## Performance Standard DE.6.2 Negotiating Hills and Curves

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.6.2.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate line of sight and path of travel restrictions on hills and curves.

**DE.6.2.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate proper approach to hills and curves.

**DE.6.2.3** The student will describe and/or demonstrate proper speed for ascending and descending a hill.

**DE.6.2.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate proper stopping and starting on a hill.

**DE.6.2.5** The student will describe and/or demonstrate proper speed and lane positions for approach, apex, and exit on hills and curves.

**DE.6.2.6** The student will describe and/or demonstrate conditions that can affect traction and procedures to maintain traction on hills and curves.

## STANDARD 7.0: DRIVING ENVIRONMENTS

### Performance Standard DE.7.1 Rural Driving

#### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.7.1.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate characteristics and hazards of rural driving environments.

**DE.7.1.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition and response to signs, signals, and markings in rural environments.

**DE.7.1.3** The student will describe and/or demonstrate responses to animals in rural areas and abide by Idaho's Open Range Law.

**DE.7.1.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate responses to road conditions and surfaces with proper lane selection, lane position, and speed in rural environments.

**DE.7.1.5** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition of and responses to slow moving vehicles.

### Performance Standard DE.7.2 Urban Driving

#### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.7.2.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate characteristics and hazards of urban driving environments.

**DE.7.2.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition and response to signs, signals, and markings in urban environments.

**DE.7.2.3** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition of and response to problems due to congestion and plan alternate appropriate routes.

**DE.7.2.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate responses to road conditions and surfaces with proper lane selection, lane position, and speed in urban environments.

**DE.7.2.5** The student will describe and/or demonstrate appropriate lane choice, lane changes, and passing.

### Performance Standard DE.7.3 Driving on Limited Access Highways (Freeways)

#### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.7.3.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of limited access highways (freeways).

**DE.7.3.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition and response to signs, signals, and markings on limited access highways (freeways).

**DE.7.3.3** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition of and responses to the types of expressway interchanges.

**DE.7.3.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate appropriate lane choice, lane changes and passing.

**DE.7.3.5** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition of and response to problems due to congestion and plan alternate appropriate routes.

**DE.7.3.6** The student will describe and/or demonstrate appropriate entering and exiting limited access highways (freeways).

**DE.7.3.7** The student will describe and/or demonstrate recognition of how higher speeds affect vehicle control.

## Performance Standard DE.7.4 Driving at Night and in Other Reduced Visibility Conditions

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.7.4.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate sources of glare and procedures to protect from glare.

**DE.7.4.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate driving strategies during low light or darkness conditions.

**DE.7.4.3** The student will describe and/or demonstrate the laws and the proper use of headlights.

**DE.7.4.4** The student will describe and/or demonstrate limited visibility conditions and procedures to reduce risk.

## Performance Standard DE.7.5 Driving During Adverse Weather Conditions

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.7.5.1** The student will describe and/or demonstrate adverse weather driving.

**DE.7.5.2** The student will describe and/or demonstrate risks associated with and strategies to compensate for driving during adverse weather driving conditions.

## **STANDARD 8.0: COOPERATING WITH OTHER ROADWAY USERS**

### **Performance Standard DE.8.1 Driving Within the Highway Transportation System**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.8.1.1** The student will describe the components of the Highway Transportation System.

**DE.8.1.2** The student will describe the impact and consequences of personal driving attitudes, choices, and behaviors on themselves and others.

**DE.8.1.3** The student will describe driver responsibilities for sharing the road with a variety of motorized and non-motorized roadway users and animals.

**DE.8.1.4** The student will describe procedures for traffic stops by a police officer.

### **Performance Standard DE.8.2 Driving Within the Highway Transportation System**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.8.2.1** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for sudden tire deflation, problems with the accelerator, engine, cooling system, steering, electrical system, lighting, brake failures, vehicle fire, etc.

**DE.8.2.2** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for conditions resulting in skids.

**DE.8.2.3** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for conditions requiring emergency evasive steering.

**DE.8.2.4** The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for returning a vehicle to the roadway from an off-road condition.

### **Performance Standard DE.8.3 Responsibilities after a Crash**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.8.3.1** The student will describe Idaho's Good Samaritan Law.

**DE.8.3.2** The student will describe what to do at the scene of a crash.

**DE.8.3.3** The student will describe the criteria for when law enforcement must be called after a crash.

**DE.8.3.4** The student will describe the importance of following emergency personnel's directions.



**DE.8.3.5** The student will describe Idaho's vehicle insurance requirements.

## **STANDARD 9.0: BEING A RESPONSIBLE DRIVER**

### **Performance Standard DE.9.1 Effects of Emotions on Driving**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.9.1.1** The student will describe and/or discuss emotions and their effect on driver attitudes, choices, and behaviors.

**DE.9.1.2** The student will describe and/or discuss ways to manage emotions while driving.

### **Performance Standard DE.9.2 Disabilities and Driving**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.9.2.1** The student will describe and/or discuss temporary and permanent disabilities that may affect the driving task.

**DE.9.2.2** The student will describe and/or discuss actions drivers can take to compensate for disabilities while driving.

### **Performance Standard DE.9.3 Alcohol and Drugs**

#### **Student Competencies by Performance Standard**

**DE.9.3.1** The student will describe and/or discuss how legal and illegal alcohol and drugs affect people differently.

**DE.9.3.2** The student will describe and/or discuss the amount of alcohol in various drinks.

**DE.9.3.3** The student will describe and/or discuss the multiplying effects of alcohol and/or drugs.

**DE.9.3.4** The student will describe and/or discuss the effects of alcohol and drugs on driver perception, vision, reaction time, and risk-taking.

**DE.9.3.5** The student will describe and/or discuss the increased probability of being involved in a fatal traffic crash after drinking and/or using drugs.

## Performance Standard DE.9.4 Alcohol/Drug Involved Crashes and Idaho Law

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.9.4.1** The student will describe and/or discuss facts about teenage impaired driving in Idaho and the United States.

**DE.9.4.2** The student will describe and/or discuss reasons and excuses for why people drive impaired.

**DE.9.4.3** The student will describe and/or discuss the effect impaired crashes have on families and communities.

**DE.9.4.4** The student will describe and/or discuss Idaho rules, regulations, and penalties for alcohol and drug use.

**DE.9.4.5** The student will describe and/or discuss ways to intervene when someone is impaired and intends to drive.

## Performance Standard DE.9.5 Drowsy Driving

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.9.5.1** The student will describe and/or discuss the physical and mental symptoms and effects of fatigue on driver behavior.

**DE.9.5.2** The student will describe and/or discuss strategies to prevent and/or reduce driving while fatigued and drowsy.

## Performance Standard DE.9.6 Aggressive Driving

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.9.6.1** The student will discuss aggressive driving behaviors.

**DE.9.6.2** The student will discuss strategies to reduce conflicts while driving.

**DE.9.6.3** The student will discuss how emotions and situations can lead to dangerous driving behaviors.

**DE.9.6.4** The student will discuss how aggressive driving behaviors can lead to road rage.

## Performance Standard DE.9.7 Distracted Driving

### Student Competencies by Performance Standard

**DE.9.7.1** The student will identify and describe how mental, physical, and visual distractions effect driving.

**DE.9.7.2** The student will identify and describe how mobile devices and other technologies can create distractions while driving.

**DE.9.7.3** The student will identify and describe how passengers can create distractions while driving.

**DE.9.7.4** The student will identify and describe personal habits that can create distractions while driving.

**DE.9.7.5** The student will identify and describe conditions inside and outside the vehicle that can create distractions while driving.

**DE.9.7.6** The student will identify and describe strategies for reducing distractions while driving.

**DE.9.7.7** The student will identify and describe the relationship between distracted driving and vehicle crashes fatalities in Idaho and nationally.