



Greetings!

First, I want to say thank you to everyone who spread the word and encouraged friends and colleagues at your schools to become certified to teach Driver Ed. We currently have 31 new instructors taking the NNU course, which is the largest cohort ever! I have also had others interested in the next class already. **The next new instructor training course will start on September 13th.** If you are the only driver education instructor in your district, I implore you to find someone else to become certified. Not only is it nice to have someone to collaborate with, but if you were unable to teach your classes all those students would be left without a way to get their permits. So spread the word about the next course beginning in September.

Next, I want to thank all of you who started your professional development hours. I will try hard to get your certificates out to you soon. Please keep those files so that in the spring you can upload them onto your new profile. We started the beta testing phase of this new addition to the Driver Ed App. More information will be coming soon. It is exciting!

Lastly, I sent out reminders about expired physicals. I realize some of you aren't currently teaching so you aren't concerned with updating your physical. For those of you who are teaching or plan to teach this spring, it is necessary to have an updated physical on file. This can be the Medical Evaluation Form from the SDE or a more thorough DOT physical. Just make sure I have it on file or you are not in compliance.

Thank you for all your hard work. I am very proud of our public instructors and how you have adapted to meet ever-changing requirements due to COVID. I haven't received any complaints or issues from the DMVs about our public programs. Keep up the great work! If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Emily Kormylo

Teens and Speeding: Breaking the Deadly Cycle

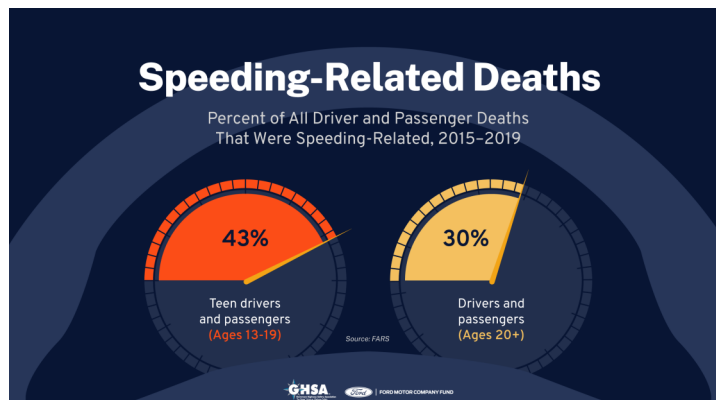
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[*Teens and Speeding: Breaking the Deadly Cycle*](#), a new report from GHSA and Ford Motor Company Fund, highlights the significant role speeding plays in teen driver fatalities and offers practical tools to help parents rein in this lethal driving habit.

The new analysis for GHSA found that from 2015 to 2019, teen drivers and passengers (16-19 years of age) accounted for a greater proportion of speeding-related fatalities (43%) than all other age groups (30%). During this five-year period, 4,930 teen drivers and passengers died in speeding-related crashes. [*Teens and Speeding: Breaking the Deadly Cycle*](#) also sheds light on what we know about speeding-related fatal crashes involving teens – the driver is more likely to be male, have run off the road or rolled the vehicle, and be unbuckled. The data analysis was conducted by Richard Retting of Sam Schwartz Consulting.

This new analysis of teen driving deaths is especially timely. Crashes have spiked during the COVID-19 pandemic and speeding on less-crowded than normal roadways is cited by states as a major factor in the surge in motor vehicle deaths. Parents may also have less time to spend training their teen drivers given other priorities during the pandemic.

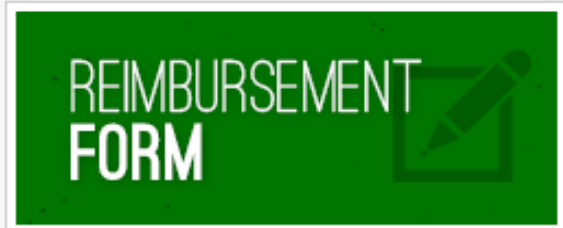
Download the Report: [*Teens and Speeding: Breaking the Deadly Cycle*](#) and see other resources such as downloadable infographics at <https://www.ghsa.org/resources/Teens-and-Speeding-Report21>



2021 NNU
Professional
Development
Credit now
available.

[Click here](#) for more information or to purchase your credit.

You must use your 19-20 and 20-21 professional development hours to make this 1 credit. Only 3 driver education credits may be used for your state teaching license recertification. These must be approved by your district's superintendent. If you got the credit last year, you are not eligible again this year. If you are unsure if you qualify for this credit, please contact Emily prior to purchasing the credit.



An updated Reimbursement Form is available on our website <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/driver-ed/instructors.html>

- As of 07/01/2020, the state reimbursement for each student went up from \$125 to \$150.
- As of 01/01/2021, the mileage reimbursement went down from \$0.575 to \$0.56.

Please be sure to use the updated form for an accurate reimbursement amount.

Professional Development Opportunity

Alive at 25 is a 4½ hour driver's awareness course designed by the *National Safety Council* for young drivers ages 15-24 taught by law enforcement around the state. If you haven't taken the chance to observe a course, now may be a great opportunity.

If you would like to observe an *Alive at 25* course, rather than signing up online as a student, you will need to contact the instructor directly to ask if there is space available for you to audit the course. With COVID, class sizes have been reduced for social distancing.

Here's the contact list for the agencies currently offering courses:

- Meridian Police Department: Sgt. John Gonzales jgonzales@meridiancity.org
- Nampa Police Department: Capt. Curt Shankel shankelc@cityofnampa.us
- Caldwell Police Department: Corporal Crystal Giambo cgiambo@cityofcaldwell.org
- Pocatello Police Department: Officer Kristen Matthews kmatthews@pocatello.us
- Rexburg Police Department: LT Joshua Rhodes joshua.rhodes@rexburg.org



If the prefer to take a virtual course, Blackfoot Police Department is currently offering a Zoom course. The instructor for that one is Officer Greg Austin and he can be reached at gaustin@co.bingham.id.us.

You can view the available courses at <https://aliveat25.us> and then based on your location, simply email the instructor and say you would like to audit the course if space is available. If you have questions, you can contact Tabitha Smith at Tabitha.Smith@itd.idaho.gov or Emily Kormylo at ekormylo@sde.idaho.gov.

KNOW HOW TO GO ON ICE AND SNOW

AAA offers winter driving tips to prevent a roadside slip-up

BOISE – (February 10, 2021) – With freezing temperatures and snow expected in the coming days, AAA says it's time to get ready for winter driving. According to AAA's previous research, severe weather conditions are a contributing factor in half a million crashes and over 2,000 deaths nationwide each year. Winter driving in the Gem State often means navigating through snow, reduced visibility, and slick surfaces. Drivers should be especially careful on bridges, curves, and shaded areas. In bad weather, drivers should reduce speed and increase their following distance to 8 to 10 seconds. Motorists should also avoid stopping or suddenly accelerating on hills whenever possible.



"Winter driving is a skill that can diminish with lack of use," says AAA Idaho public affairs director Matthew Conde. "If it's been a while since you drove on snow and ice, take a page from the old driver's ed days and practice in a big, empty parking lot.

If you start to slide, focus on steering over braking, and continue to steer in the direction you want to go. If necessary, downshift to a lower gear to reduce speed and re-establish steering control. Remember, it's normal for anti-lock brakes to pulsate rapidly when the wheels start to lock. Don't remove your foot from the brake or pump the brakes, as you'll interfere with the system's effectiveness. Drivers who don't have anti-lock brakes should use the ball of the foot to apply pressure to the brake and ease up when the wheels lock up. "If you are involved in a crash, maintain social distancing, even while exchanging information," Conde said. "Use your cell phones to document damage and to photograph each other's insurance and driver's license information rather than writing everything down." If you're waiting for help, remain calm, and stay with your vehicle if it is safe to do so. Flash your emergency lights, and if appropriate, lift the hood or tie something bright to your vehicle to signal that you need help. If you need to occasionally run the engine to keep warm, make sure the tailpipe is completely clear of snow and other debris.

Drivers should expect temperatures and road conditions to fluctuate dramatically at different elevations, and plan accordingly. "Communication is a big part of winter safety," Conde said. "Share your travel plans with others who can act on your behalf if you fail to arrive at your destination on time."