

PLANNED INSTRUCTION

A PLANNED COURSE FOR:

Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel

Curriculum writing committee: Dan Quinlan

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Date of Board Approval: _____2025_____

Course Weighting: Driver Education – Practical

Driving Range	30%
Driving Areas	30%
Defensive Driving	40%
Total	100%

Curriculum Map

Overview: The Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel Training provides the beginning driver with the opportunity to apply what has been taught in the classroom. The training should be considered an extension of the classroom. It provides the beginning driver the opportunity to apply, practice, and be evaluated on the various parts of the driving task. Pennsylvania currently requires 6 hours of planned behind the wheel instruction from a certified/licensed instructor. This course is designed to help the student develop driving perception, judgment, driving skills, and decision-making ability.

Goals:

- Students will demonstrate basic operating procedures
- Students will understand the various factors that affect driving on city streets, rural roads, and multiple lane highways
- Students will understand and interact with the other users of the Highway Transportation System utilizing safe and effective practices

Big Ideas:

- **Big Idea #1:** Develop a process to identify safe paths of travel while performing basic driving skills
- **Big Idea #2:** Develop a plan of action that the student driver can rely on when faced with detractors
- **Big Idea #3:** Physical, mental and social skills are needed for basic car control, overall awareness, and the ability to effectively communicate with other drivers

Curriculum Plan

Unit: Driving Range

Time/Days: 1.5 Hours

- **PA Academic Standards:** 14.1.A, B; 14.2.A, B, C, D, E

Objectives:

The driver will:

- Identify proper pre-ignition procedures (DOK 1)
- Recall proper ignition procedure- push to start (DOK 1)
- Relate forward moving principles to moving the vehicle backward (DOK 2)
- Use the gas and brake pedal in a smooth manner (DOK 1)
- Apply the concepts of basic maneuvering to complete driving tasks in various configurations (DOK 4)
- Apply the concepts of performing a three-point turn (DOK 4)
- Apply the concepts of reversing the vehicle primarily using mirrors and secondarily using the back-up camera (DOK 4)
- Recall proper post-trip procedures (DOK 1)

Core Activities and Corresponding Instructional Methods:

- Practice making safety checks prior to entering the vehicle and adjusting vehicle controls
- Practice operating vehicle devices
- Practice proper sequence of actions for a starting motor vehicle safely and moving a vehicle into traffic
- Practice accelerating and maintaining designated speed
- Practice coordinated use of turn signals, accelerator, brakes, and steering while making turns
- Practice moving a vehicle from a position in a travel lane to a parked position parallel to a curb
- Practice backing a vehicle to a curb with no obstructions

Materials and Resources:

- Vehicle with appropriate instructor mirrors and brake
- Orange traffic cones
- Clipboard with paper and pen
- Driver check sheets
- Off-road driving area

Assessments:

- **Diagnostic:**
- **Formative:** Student observation, Peer observation, Commentary driving
- **Summative:** Completion of driver check sheet

Unit: Driving Area Development**Time/Days: 2.25 Hours**

- **PA Academic Standards:** 14.1.A, B; 14.2.A, B, C, D, E; 14.3.A, B, C, D; 14.4.B; 14.5.A

Objectives:

The driver will:

- Apply concepts of safe driving procedures to communicate and make changes in speed and position as appropriate (DOK 4) when:
 - Intersecting with other highway users
 - Following and being followed
 - Merging with and exiting an expressway
 - Meeting oncoming vehicles on a two-lane highway
 - Passing and/or being passed
 - Parallel parking
 - Meeting or passing oversize or slow-moving vehicles
 - Dealing with parked cars in urban areas
 - Performing straight parking in commercial areas

Core Activities and Corresponding Instructional Methods:

- Practice entering and leaving the flow of traffic
- Practice turnabouts in a real traffic setting
- Practice search patterns, set-up, and negotiation of residential intersections
- Practice search patterns, set-up, and negotiation of commercial intersections
- Practice the procedure for entering and exiting an expressway
- Practice the negotiation of rural highway curves
- Practice the steps for safe and effective passing procedures
- Practice perpendicular parking in an active parking lot
- Practice parallel parking in a controlled area
- Practice following street signs for directions

Materials and Resources:

- Vehicle with appropriate instructor mirrors and brake
- Orange traffic cones
- Clipboard with paper and pen
- Driver check sheets
- Driving areas:
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Rural
 - Expressway

Assessments:

- **Diagnostic:**
- **Formative:** Student observation, Peer observation, Commentary driving
- **Summative:** Completion of driver check sheet

Unit: Defensive Driver Training**Time/Days: 2.25 Hours**

- **PA Academic Standards:** 14.1.A, B; 14.2.A, B, C, D, E; 14.3.A, B, C, D; 14.4.B; 14.5.A

Objectives:

The driver will:

- Understand and mitigate the risks associated with blind spots (DOK 2)
- Analyze traffic to conditions to safely enter and leave the flow of traffic (DOK 4)
- Use basic maneuvering skills to negotiate turnabouts (DOK 1)
- Apply the concepts of defensive driving to maintain adequate space margins (DOK 4)
- Synthesize good visual habits of sight distance, scanning, and using the mirrors to observe traffic around the car (DOK 4)
- Interpret clues and communications of other drivers (DOK 2)
- Use basic maneuvering skills to enter and exit parallel and perpendicular parking spaces (DOK 1)
- Analyze negative roadway conditions (DOK 4)
- Assess roadway conditions for the successful negotiation of curves (DOK 3)
- Show acceptable interaction with pedestrians (DOK 2)
- Maintaining appropriate speeds and following distances based on road conditions and traffic flow (DOK 4)

Core Activities and Corresponding Instructional Methods:

- Practice entering and leaving the flow of traffic
- Practice turnabouts in a real traffic setting
- Practice search patterns, set-up, and negotiation of residential intersections
- Practice search patterns, set-up, and negotiation of commercial intersections
- Practice the procedure for entering and exiting an expressway
- Practice the negotiation of rural highway curves
- Practice the steps for safe and effective passing procedures
- Practice perpendicular parking in an active parking lot
- Practice parallel parking in residential and commercial traffic
- Practice coasting your speed to increase following distance
- Practice shoulder check and reading the blind spot sensor

Materials and Resources:

- Vehicle with appropriate instructor mirrors and brake
- Orange traffic cones
- Clipboard with paper and pen
- Driver check sheets
- Driving areas:
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Rural
 - Expressway

Assessments:

- **Diagnostic:**
- **Formative:** Student observation, Peer observation, Commentary driving
- **Summative:** Completion of driver check sheet.