

Driver/Safety Education

I. Knowing the Content

The professional education program has a clearly articulated program that provides evidence that candidates for the Driver/Safety Education certificate have a bachelor's degree, current driver's license, and have demonstrated their knowledge of and competence in providing instruction in highway safety regulations and automotive driving to eligible secondary school students (7-12) including:

I.A. Safety and Driver Education Curriculum including:

- safety areas of home, work, recreation, and highway
- current trends in public safety
- highway transportation systems
- Pennsylvania motor vehicle laws and regulations
- natural laws affecting vehicle operator performance
- vehicle familiarization
- vehicle maintenance
- basic and advanced control tasks
- perception and driving strategies
- driving environments
- driver fitness, and
- driver responsibility

I.B. Traffic and Safety Regulations including:

- national, state, and local legislation
- adjudication
- enforcement
- engineering pertinent to traffic safety education and the standards of the Highway Safety Act
- occupational safety and health acts
- environmental protection acts
- product safety
- agricultural regulations and product controls,
- local ordinances and codes
- problems of alcohol and other drugs
- handicapped drivers
- motorcycle driver education
- active and passive passenger restraint systems
- energy conservation, and
- driver rehabilitation

I.C. Policies and administrative procedures for driver education programs including:

- budgeting, record-keeping, planning, and funding sources,

- scheduling, national and state guidelines, learning modes, the use of classroom and laboratory scheduling
- curriculum planning, assessing student needs
- current trends
- task analysis
- outside resources, and
- selecting and developing driving routes

I.D. Classroom and laboratory equipment and information materials utilization including:

- multiple-car range, and
- on-street driving,
- textbooks and other printed materials,
- audiovisual aids and psychophysical equipment,
- sources of information and research,
- new and proposed legislation,
- printed materials, software and hardware

II. Performances

The professional education program provides evidence of the candidates' participation in field experiences, under the supervision of college personnel and cooperating teachers, who have demonstrated competence in teaching driver/safety education. The field experiences must be designed to transfer classroom knowledge to actual road conditions. The program also provides evidence that the criteria and competencies for exit from the program are assessed in both coursework and field experiences and require the candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and competence in fostering student learning through multiple instructional methodologies including:

II.A. Planning of instruction based upon knowledge of subject matter, students, the community and Pennsylvania Highway Safety regulations which promote problem analysis, creativity and decision-making skills including:

- transfer of classroom knowledge to road situations,
- multiple-car range and on-street driving,
- student-centered learning activities

II.B. Managing the instructional environment in order to:

- create a climate that promotes fairness,
- establish and maintain rapport with students,
- communicate challenging learning expectations to each student,
- establish and maintain consistent standards of classroom behavior,
- make the physical environment safe and conducive to learning

II.C. Implementing, adapting and assimilating effective instructional strategies, curriculum resources and technologies in collaboration with other educators

II.D. Selecting, analyzing and modifying instructional materials to meet the learning needs and reading levels of diverse learners

II.E. Monitoring students' understanding of content through a variety of assessments, providing feedback to students to assist learning, and adjusting instructional strategies

III. Professionalism

The professional education program provides evidence that Driver/Safety Education certification candidates demonstrate knowledge and competencies that foster professionalism in school and community settings including:

III.A. Professional organizations and publications

III.B. Integrity and ethical behavior, professional conduct as stated in Pennsylvania's Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators; and local, state, and federal laws and regulations

III.C. Collaborative relationships with colleagues and community to improve student learning

III.D. Communicating with parents/guardians and other agencies and the community at large to support learning by all students