

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your teenager is about to begin the Driver Education Course at A. I. duPont High School. We would like to inform you of the instructor qualifications, course requirements and benefits of this course.

The state approved driver education program consists of classroom, simulation, single car instruction, and supervision by a qualified teacher. The in-car instruction consists of **7 hours of driving** and **7 hours of observation**. In-car training is given in a dual control car, which has a brake pedal on the right side for the instructors use. The vehicle is equipped with an effective restraint system, extra rear view mirrors and other safety devices. Adequate insurance coverage is carried for the driver education car and all the people who use or ride in the vehicle. The teacher of this program has had special preparation for this important job and is certified by the State Department of Education.

In the **30 hours** of classroom instruction your child will learn much of what is needed to know about drivers, automobiles and the highway transportation system to function or manage as a safe competent driver in traffic. During the in-car instruction, the student will learn and must demonstrate good car control, good judgment, sound defensive driving techniques and a positive/safe attitude.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE POLICIES OF THE DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM

1. Pupils must be **enrolled in the 10th grade** during the current school year to register for the course.
2. Pupils must **meet the State of Delaware physical and mental qualifications for a driver's license**.
3. The **consent of parents or guardian is required** upon enrollment.
4. **Attendance is mandatory**.
5. Upon satisfactory completion of the course the student must be **at least 16 years of age** before applying for a driver's license.

6. If the student needs additional practice to become a satisfactory driver, the student must take a re-test with the driver education teacher **within 120 days** of receiving the white application form from their teacher. A driving log must be presented at the time of scheduling.
7. **Maintain academic standards** according to House Bill 138.

IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE COURSE AND QUALIFY FOR A DELAWARE DRIVERS LICENSE THE STUDENT MUST PASS.

1. Participate in class.
2. Complete a notebook or project (determined by the instructor).
3. Achieve passing grades on test and quizzes (**70% average**).
4. Pass a written final exam (**70%**).
5. Complete homework assignments (**70% average**).
6. Pass a road test with their driver education teacher.
7. Demonstrate a degree of responsibility and maturity sufficient to interact safely with others in traffic.
8. Maintain academic standards.

Parents and guardians are reminded of their legal and financial responsibilities when a minor is driving a car. Caution should be exercised in granting driving privileges even after the student is licensed.

We are proud of the drivers we educate and of their good record of safe driving. We do need your support and assistance to keep your teenager's driving accident free.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS PLEASE CONTACT YOUR STUDENT'S DRIVER EDUCATION TEACHER AT 651-2626 ext. 102 (Ms. Perkins-Johnson) and ext.103 (Mr. Gallo and Ms. Miller)

from **7:30 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.** We will return your call at our earliest convenience. Please leave the best number and time of day to make contact with you.

HOUSE BILL 138

Signed by Governor Carper

New Requirements for Driver Education Certification

The following requirements became **effective on July 1, 2000.**

A driver education teacher shall not certify that a student enrolled in a State approved driver education course during the regular school year is qualified to be issued a Driver Education Learner's Permit or a Level One Learner's Permit by the Division of Motor Vehicles unless the student has:

1. Fulfilled the requirements of the driver education program.
2. Earned passing grades in 5 credits at the time of certification, with at least 2 of those credits in separate areas of English, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies.
3. A student who does not meet the requirements of this section upon completion of a driver education course may meet requirements during the subsequent marking period. If the student fails to meet the requirements at the end of the subsequent marking period, the student will be ineligible for certification.
4. It is the responsibility of the student to report back to their teacher in regards to eligibility. (Cited from HB 138).