Teen Driving: Message to the Parents

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Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Office of Traffic Safety
Top five causes of death for Minnesota’s 15-17 year olds, 2001 - 2010

Source: Minnesota Department of Health
Teen Crash Averages, Minnesota, 2007 - 2011

% Licensed Drivers
% All Crashes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Licensed Drivers</th>
<th>All Crashes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.26</td>
<td>2.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>1.44</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>3.10</td>
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What the Experts Say

• More effective parental involvement holds significant promise for further reducing young driver crashes.

• Parent-teen interactions may cut teen crash risks in half.
Teen Driver Parent Awareness Class

§ 1.5 hours

§ Parents & Teens

§ Engage Parents – Emotional Appeal

§ Law Enforcement, EMS

Risks / Laws / Parents Role / Resources
Teen Driver Parent Awareness Class

- Leader’s Guide
- Power-Point
- Handouts
- Pre & Post Evaluations
- Surveys
Teen Driving Risks

- Inexperience
- Distractions
- Nighttime Hours
- No Seat Belt
- No Adult Supervision
- Risk Taking
- Alcohol/Drugs
- First Year of Licensure

Invincibility
Peer Pressure
Brain Development
Compared to driving with no younger passengers:
The risk of being killed when a 16 & 17 year old driver carries passengers under age 21:

- +44% with one passenger
- Doubles with two passengers
- Quadruples with three or more passengers

Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL):

Three Stages:

#1: Learner’s Permit

#2: Provisional License

#3: Fully Licensed
Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL)

#2: Provisional License Age 16

First 6-months:
No more than 1 passenger under age 20 [without parent]
No driving Midnight to 5 a.m. [without adult 25+]

Next 6-months:
No more than 3 passengers under age 20 [without parent]
Parents make a difference!

Positive Parenting:

• Provide limits
• Set clear rules and boundaries
• Encourage independence
Help Your Teen Become a Safer Driver

- Discuss risks and responsibilities
- *Practice what you preach*
- Don’t rush the training process
- *Understand the laws*
- Decide when your teen is ready
- *Empower your teen*
Withdrawal of Parental Consent / Voluntary Surrender

Print this completed form. The form can be mailed or submitted in person to Driver and Vehicle Services, 445 Minnesota Street – Ste. 170, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-5170. It may be also be faxed to 651-282-2463

- If you have questions or need additional information, please contact DVS at 651-296-2025 or 651-282-6555 (TTY)
- To ensure that this request is processed in a timely manner, please type or print legibly.

_______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
_________________________________

Name (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL)     Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)

DL Number (OMIT DASHES)

A. Withdrawal of Parental Consent / Voluntary Surrender

☐  I am requesting that Driver and Vehicle Services cancel the driving privileges of the above-named child, who is under age 18.
17 Pilot Programs

Conduct at least one class:
- Follow Outline
- Law Enforcement
- Power Point
- Handouts
- Evaluations
Pre & Post Class
Parent Awareness Surveys

1. Parent withdraw consent?
   - Pre: 95%
   - Post: 98.5%
   - Increase: +3.5%

2. Texting illegal for teens only or all?
   - Pre: 88.5%
   - Post: 91%
   - Increase: +5.9%

3. Illegal for teen to use cell phone?
   - Pre: 91%
   - Post: 98%
   - Increase: +7%
Pre & Post Class
Parent Awareness Surveys

4. Belts required for: All, Front Only, Under 18?
   87% - 97%  +10%

5. Greatest risk: Permit, First Licensed, 21?
   82.5% - 92%  +9.5%

6. Passengers 1st 6 mo’s: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, no limit?
   63% - 87%  +24%
Pre & Post Class
Parent Awareness Surveys

7. Night Restriction: 9p – 5a, 11p-6a, 12a-5a?
43% - 86%  +43%

8. Passengers 2\textsuperscript{nd} 6 mo’s: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, no limit?
23% - 79.5%  +56.5%
99.5%
Will use the information to help their teen become a safer driver

98.5%
Would recommend the class to other parents

Class Rating
Excellent: 63%
Good: 35%
Fair: 2%
Poor: 0%
Testimonials

“I haven’t had any driver’s education since I was a teen myself. The class made me think about my own driving habits too.”

“As a new instructor, I felt the program was a very effective tool to reach out to parents.”

“The response that I have had from parents has been overwhelmingly positive.”
Testimonials

“It serves as a stark reminder to parents of the responsibility that goes along with a task that many have taken for granted.”

“If I had my way, this program would be a required part of any driver’s education program.”
Presently:

Ø All 17 pilot communities regularly offer the class
Ø 8 use materials to enhance pre-existing classes
Ø 17 new first-time programs
“I firmly believe that an **effective driver education program**, along with proven safety legislation, active law enforcement and **positive engagement of parents**, schools and other community members, **is an important element in a program to protect young drivers.**”

David L. Strickland, Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
March 1, 2012
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(651)-201-7072
Thank You!