

Student/Parent Questions Answered by DMV:

1 - I would like to enroll my child in driver's education. S/he was in the program until March 2020 when it was cancelled due to COVID. S/he will be 17 in November and is willing to sign up for the course as soon as possible. Is this allowable?

Answer: You will need to contact your local school district regarding enrollment in a NYSED-approved Driver and Traffic Safety Education (DTSE) program.

2 - My child's driver's education class was canceled in spring 2020 due to COVID. The school is not offering a program in fall 2020. Is there any way s/he can get his/her Class D license at 17 at this point?

Answer: Successful completion of a NYSED-approved DTSE program is the only means by which a student under the age of 18 can earn an MV-285 Course Completion Certificate and be issued a Class D license by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (NYS DMV).

3 - My child's high school is not offering any driver's education this school year. How do I find out which driving schools are certified through the DMV and the State Education Department to offer the 24 hours of in-class instruction virtually?

Answer: Driving schools cannot offer the 24-hour classroom portion of a DTSE program. The remote classroom component can only be offered by a NYSED approved DTSE program. It is a local district decision whether to offer a DTSE program or not.

4 - How can I affirm that my child has had 24 hours of parental in-vehicle instruction per the August 2020 guidance?

Answer: Please contact your local school district's DTSE program coordinator for information as they will provide the affirmation documentation for the 24 hours of in-vehicle instruction when supervised by a parent/guardian.

5 - My child is about to turn 17 and has been driving with me for a number of months. Due to COVID, s/he will be unable to take traditional driver's education in school (or through another local high school), and I understand that the classroom portion of the program can be taken online. I further understand that as a parent I can cover the driving portion of his/her training. When s/he completes the online class and the in-car instruction hours and passes the road test (at the age of 17), will s/he be granted a full license or a junior license (until the age of 18)? 7

Answer: If your child is enrolled in a NYSED-approved DTSE program through his/her school that offers the classroom portion of the program remotely and utilizes the option for parents to complete the in-car portion, and s/he successfully completes the program, then s/he may be eligible to receive a Class D

license at 17 from the NYS DMV. For information regarding the different classes of licenses, please see the NYS DMV website.

6 - Can eligible students begin driver's education courses this school year?

Answer: NYSED-approved DTSE programs may start new Fall 2020 classes with students. Students should contact their local school district to determine if a NYSED-approved DTSE program is offered.

7 - Does the August 2020 guidance apply to students currently age 16 who would have signed up for a fall 2020 driver's education course and who have obtained a permit and completed the 5-Hour Pre-licensing Course?

Answer: Yes.

8 - My child is an incoming senior who has a permit and a 5-Hour Certificate. S/he was not able to sign up for the fall 2020 course because it was paused due to COVID. Will s/he need this course to obtain a Class D license so that s/he can drive to college in fall 2021?

Answer: Students who have a permit, complete the 5-Hour Pre-licensing Course, and complete 50 hours of supervised driving are eligible to sit for the road test to earn their Class DJ license (Junior Operator). Please see the NYS DMV website for more information. In order to earn the Class D license under the age of 18, students must successfully complete a NYSED-approved DTSE program. Please contact your local school district for information regarding available DTSE programs.

9 - Must students who were involved in driver's education in spring 2020 that was postponed due to COVID finish the required 24 hours of instruction to get their Class D license?

Answer: Yes.