

# DRIVER EDUCATION

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NEW METHODS AND EXPANDED REQUIREMENTS

State-by-State Information

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## Overview

- Of the 50 states, 31 have a driver education requirement for young teens to be licensed to drive (requirement expires at various ages 16 – 18.)
- This count excludes states--
  - Which only require a very short course.
  - Which allow driving practice hours to meet educational requirements.
  - Which allows a student to get an earlier learner's permit if they complete driver education.
- 16 states authorize online driver education for novice drivers under 18.
- 11 states make requirements of novice drivers over 18.

## Online Driver Education, 15-17 year olds

- Of the 31 states requiring driver education, 12 allow the classroom portion to be online.
  - The other 4 states allow online driver education (CO, FL, NE, OK) to meet the requirements for a short course or an early learner's permit.
- Online courses fully substitute for classroom portion. Concurrency with BTW generally not required.
- Online courses are offered by commercial and public schools. Public school courses may be virtual classrooms (with some teacher-student interaction) or internet-based courses (with no teacher-student interaction).
- Internet courses may be locally or nationally developed.
  - State requirements may limit the involvement of national vendors: for instance, rigorous application process or performance standards.

## Requirements for novice drivers 18+

- 11 states have some type of requirement for novice drivers over the age of 18
  - 6 states require a driver education course (all short courses, except MD)
    - Only 2 of these states provide an online option
  - 7 states require learner's permits for adults for a specified period of time before taking the road skills test
    - 2 states require a learner's permit & supervised or practice driving
    - 2 states require a learner's permit and driver education

## Questions? Feedback?

- Additional information is welcome.
- Any suggestions for more in-depth case studies?

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