

Secretary of the State File Number

**6309**

Regulation of the  
**Department of Motor Vehicles**  
Concerning

**Driver's Education in Secondary Schools**

Regulations adopted after July 1, 2013, become effective upon posting to the Connecticut eRegulations System, or at a later date if specified within the regulation.

Posted to the Connecticut eRegulations System on **November 6, 2019**

EFFECTIVE DATE  
**November 6, 2019**

Approved by the Attorney General on  
**February 21, 2019**

Approved by the Legislation Regulation Review Committee on  
**October 22, 2019**

Electronic copy with agency head certification statement electronically submitted to and received by the Office of the Secretary of the State on  
**October 30, 2019**

Form ICM-ECOPY (NEW 6/2015)  
State of Connecticut  
Secretary of the State



**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES**  
This form should be used only for regulations first noticed on and after March 23, 2015.

## Electronic Copy Certification Statement

*(Submitted in accordance with the provisions of section 4-172 of the Connecticut General Statutes)*

Regulation of the  
**DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES**  
Concerning  
**DRIVER'S EDUCATION IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS**


Approved by the Legislative Regulation Review Committee: **OCTOBER 22, 2019**

eRegulations System Tracking Number: **PR 2019-20**

**I hereby certify** that the electronic copy of the above-referenced regulation submitted herewith to the Secretary of the State is a true and accurate copy of the regulation approved in accordance with sections 4-169 and 4-170 of the *Connecticut General Statutes*.

**And I further certify** that in accordance with the approval of Legislative Regulation Review Committee, all required technical corrections, page substitutions and deletions, if any, have been incorporated into said regulation.

**In testimony whereof**, I have hereunto  
set my hand on **OCTOBER 29, 2019**.

  
SIBONGILE MAGUBANE  
COMMISSIONER  
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

State of Connecticut  
Regulation of  
Department of Motor Vehicles  
Concerning  
Driver's Education in Secondary Schools

Section 1. Sections 14-36f-4 to 14-36f-5, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 14-36f-4. Classroom instruction**

(a) Each secondary school offering a full course of driver education shall provide classroom instruction, in accordance with a curriculum approved by the commissioner, consisting of a minimum of thirty (30) hours of such instruction, and a minimum of eight (8) hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

(b) Each secondary school offering classroom instruction shall provide a minimum of thirty (30) hours of such instruction with a curriculum approved by the commissioner. The curriculum shall include the following:

(1) The development of driver skills which shall be presented in a [simple-to complex] simple-to-complex structure of concepts and behavioral patterns;

(2) A variety of instructional methods which shall demonstrate student centered activities for participative education[, to] and include low risk driving values, knowledge for development of safe driving habits, and mental readiness for correct in-vehicle performance;

(3) Presentation of content in the classroom which parallels the presentation of in-vehicle content. The driving related skills and concepts presented in the classroom shall be conducted in a motor vehicle as soon after the classroom activities as possible. All concepts[,] and, where possible, skills to be practiced in the motor vehicle, shall first be presented in the classroom; and

(4) Appropriate content for the classroom and in-vehicle sessions which shall include the following topics: the highway transportation system; analysis of crashes; roadway designs and markings; Connecticut motor vehicle laws and regulations; basic control tasks; parking maneuvers; the structure of driving tasks; restraint systems; risk management; perceptual skills development; space management; natural laws and vehicle control; winter driving techniques; handling vehicle emergencies; night driving techniques; effects of alcohol and drugs on driving; emotions and operator fitness; interacting with other vehicle types; the purpose and procedures of procurement organizations, as defined in section [19a-279a] 19a-289a of the Connecticut General Statutes[, as amended]; and managing high risk locations, including intersections and curves.

(c) For any student to whom a [learner's] youth instruction permit was issued on or after August 1, 2008, each secondary school offering driver education may provide a safe driving practices program of eight (8) hours, which shall include and comply with the following requirements:

(1) Four (4) hours concerning the nature and effects of alcohol and drugs, as specified in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the Connecticut General Statutes;

(2) Two (2) hours on subjects directed to safe driving practices, which shall include the following topics: the slow down for work zones [pursuant to] under section 14-212a of the Connecticut General Statutes; the endangerment of a highway worker under section 14-212d of the Connecticut General

Statutes; the move over law [pursuant to] under section 14-283b of the Connecticut General Statutes; and not less than fifteen (15) minutes concerning the disregard of a signal from a law enforcement officer under subsection (b) of section 14-223 of the Connecticut General [Statues] Statutes, and the penalties for violating this section;

(3) Two (2) hours of instruction concerning the statutory provisions, including penalties, applicable to drivers who are less than eighteen (18) years of age, the dangers of teenage driving, the cognitive development of adolescents, and the responsibilities and liabilities of parents of teenage drivers;

(4) The eight (8) hour safe driving practices program of this subsection may be included as part of the thirty (30) hour course of instruction specified in subsection (a) and (b) of this section; and

(5) Any separate fee for the eight (8) hour safe driving practices program, charged to a person who is not taking any additional instruction, shall not exceed [one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00)] the amount prescribed in subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(d) Each secondary school offering a driver education program shall provide to a parent or legal guardian of any student receiving classroom instruction pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the opportunity to attend, without additional charge, the two hours of instruction described in subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section.

(e) An official of the secondary school offering a driver education program which provided the course instruction to the parent or legal guardian and the applicant, referred to in subsection (d) of this section, shall issue an affidavit on a form approved by the commissioner, signed under penalty of false statement, to such student attesting to the fact that the student's parent or legal guardian attended the two hours of instruction described in subsection (d) of this section. Such student shall provide such affidavit to the commissioner prior to being allowed to take the driver's test.

(f) A student enrolled in the thirty (30) hour course of instruction described in subsection (a) of this section shall receive a maximum of two (2) hours of classroom instruction per day, except that on a day when school is not scheduled, the student may receive a maximum of [two and one-half (2 1/2)] four (4) hours of classroom instruction.

(g) Each secondary school shall provide the four (4) hours of instruction concerning the nature and effects of alcohol and drugs in relation to the ability to safely operate a motor vehicle in compliance with the following:

(1) Separate course materials shall be provided for the use of students and instructors, in printed or electronic media format;

(2) Such course materials shall have been prepared by a person or persons with knowledge and expertise in the field of alcohol and drug abuse;

(3) Such course materials, as presented, shall cover the blood alcohol level limits prescribed by law, the effects of operating a motor vehicle at or near such per se limits, effective methods to avoid peer pressure concerning excessive alcohol consumption and the penalties and costs associated with violations of the laws concerning driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

(4) Such course materials shall be subject to the approval of the commissioner, prior to the issuance or renewal of the secondary school certificate, and may be required to be reviewed and approved upon any renewal; and

(5) The department may conduct one or more training sessions, to be attended by at least one instructor from each school, concerning the presentation of the course materials, and effective teaching methods and strategies for alcohol and drug education.

(h) Each classroom where instruction is offered shall have sufficient floor area to conduct such instruction. No portion of the classroom instruction shall be given if the class size exceeds the capacity of instructional equipment, materials and facilities, as well as reasonable standards of safety and supervision. No classroom or group instruction shall be presented to a group in excess of forty

(40) students. The commissioner may inspect any classroom facilities at any reasonable time.

(i) Each student enrolled in the classroom phase of the driver education program shall [have access to] be provided:

(1) A full-length, current driver education textbook for the purpose of the program, and special materials, which may include the use of video tapes as approved by the commissioner; and

(2) The Connecticut Driver's Manual, [issued] published by the department, which manual shall become the property of the student.

(j) The secondary school shall provide the commissioner a schedule of classroom instruction sessions including the date, time, and location of such instruction. Any change in the classroom schedule shall be forwarded in writing to the commissioner, and shall be received by the commissioner during reasonable business hours and prior to the effective date of any such change. The commissioner may monitor classroom sessions at any time.

(k) The commissioner may review or monitor the conduct and scope of any of the driver education programs conducted under the provisions of this section.

(l) Classroom instruction shall not be given to a person who has not reached sixteen (16) years of age.

(m) A qualified secondary school teacher or commercial driving instructor shall be physically present for all classroom instruction.

(n) A qualified secondary school teacher or commercial driving instructor shall only conduct one (1) class session at a time.

(o) A qualified secondary school teacher or commercial driving instructor shall maintain a professional demeanor while providing all driver education instruction.

(p) Any student who misses any portion of the approved curriculum shall complete the portion missed.

#### **Sec. 14-36f-4a. Safe driving practices course for students eighteen (18) years of age or older**

(a) Each secondary school offering driver education may offer, with prior written approval of the commissioner, [to any applicant for a motor vehicle operator's license, eighteen (18) years of age or older, who has not previously held a Connecticut motor vehicle operator's license and who does not hold a valid motor vehicle operator's license issued by any other state, territory, possession of the United States, or by any foreign country with which the commissioner has an agreement for reciprocal recognition of driver training requirements, a safe driving practices course pursuant to section 14-37b of the Connecticut General Statutes] a safe driving practices course pursuant to section 14-37b of the Connecticut General Statutes to any student eighteen (18) years of age or older who is eligible for an adult instruction permit in accordance with subsection (b) of section 14-36 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Such safe practice course shall consist of not less than eight (8) hours of instruction and shall comply with the following requirements:

(1) Four (4) hours concerning the nature and effects of alcohol and drugs, as provided in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the Connecticut General [Statutes] Statutes; and

(2) Four (4) hours of subjects directed to safe driving practices, which shall include the following topics: the slow down for work zones [pursuant to] under section 14-212a of the Connecticut General Statutes; the endangerment of a highway worker under section 14-212d of the Connecticut General Statutes; the move over law [pursuant to] under section 14-283b of the Connecticut General [Statutes] Statutes; not less than fifteen (15) minutes concerning the disregard of a signal from a law enforcement officer under subsection (b) of section 14-223 of the Connecticut General [Statutes] Statutes, and the penalties for violating this section; and other topics relevant to drivers eighteen (18) years of age and older. The content of such safe driving practices course shall not include material



regarding the dangers of teenage driving, the cognitive development of adolescents, and the responsibilities and liabilities of parents or teenage drivers.

(b) The commissioner may, in the interest of enhanced learning and absorption of course content, require that such eight (8) hours of instruction be conducted on at least two (2) separate days, with a maximum of four (4) hours of instruction per day.

(c) Any fee for the eight (8) hour safe driving practices course, referred to in subsection (a) of this section, shall not exceed [one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00)] the amount prescribed in subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

#### **Sec. 14-36f-5. Behind-the-wheel instruction**

(a) Behind-the-wheel instruction shall not be given to a student who has not reached sixteen (16) years of age.

(b) [Any] A student [sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age] shall not be provided behind-the-wheel instruction[, ] unless the student has obtained his or her Connecticut [learner's] instruction permit.

(c) Behind-the-wheel instruction for a student enrolled in a secondary school driver education program shall be given only by a qualified secondary school teacher or a commercial driving instructor.

(d) Prior to any behind-the-wheel instruction [for any student sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age], a commercial driving instructor or secondary school teacher shall confirm that the student is in immediate possession of his or her [learner's] instruction permit.

(e) No student shall receive more than two (2) hours of behind-the-wheel instruction per day.

(f) The vehicle used for behind-the-wheel instruction shall be occupied by the instructor and not more than one (1) student, unless the school has obtained written authorization from the student to conduct behind-the-wheel instruction with not more than two (2) additional students present in the vehicle. If said student is less than eighteen (18) years of age, such authorization shall be from a parent or legal guardian of the student. In no event shall behind-the-wheel instruction be performed with more than three (3) students in the vehicle.

(g) The brakes, lights and other safety features of each motor vehicle used for behind-the-wheel instruction shall be inspected by the instructor, and any defects shall be corrected prior to giving any instruction.

(h) A qualified secondary school teacher or commercial driving instructor shall maintain a professional demeanor while providing all driver education instruction.

**Statement of Purpose**

This regulation incorporates several changes from the 2012 and 2013 legislative sessions of the General Assembly and to conform to current agency practices and procedures as follows:

1. removes the outdated dollar amount of \$125 to be charged for the mandatory eight (8) hour safe driving practices course (currently the statute allows \$150 to be charged) and replaces it with the governing statutory reference of section 14-36 of the Connecticut General Statutes. By doing so, any future monetary change does not, in turn, compel the agency to change the regulation;
2. adds instruction regarding the endangerment of a highway worker to be included in the eight (8) hour safe driving practices course for both 16 and 17 year olds as well as adult students;
3. aligns the regulation with current statutory language to reflect the name change for the permit issued to 16 and 17 year olds from “learner’s” permit to “youth instruction” permit and incorporates the newly established “adult instruction” permit;
4. clarifies the agency’s publication of DMV’s driver manual, which is now available on the agency’s website as well as by ordering printed copies through Vanguard; and
5. increases from two and one-half (2 1/2) to four (4) hours of classroom instruction for 16 and 17 year olds on days when school is not scheduled, at the request of commercial driving schools, in order to operate more efficiently.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES**

This form is to be used for proposed permanent and technical amendment regulations only and must be completed in full.

**AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

**Department of Motor Vehicles**

Proposed Regulation Concerning

**Driver's education in Secondary Schools**

eRegulations System Tracking Number **2015-203**

**I hereby certify the following:**

(1) The above-referenced **regulation** is proposed pursuant to the following statutory authority or authorities: **section 14-36f of the Connecticut General Statutes**

*For technical amendment regulations proposed without a comment period, complete #2 below, then skip to #8.*

(2) As permitted by Section 4-168(h) of the *Connecticut General Statutes*, the agency elected to proceed without prior notice or hearing and posted the text of the proposed technical amendment regulation on eRegulations System website on <<**select and enter the date of posting**>>.

*For all other non-emergency proposed regulations, complete #3 - #7 below, then complete #8)*

(3) The agency posted notice of intent with a specified comment period of not less than 30 days to the eRegulations System website on **November 14, 2016**.

(4) *(Complete one)* ☒ No public hearing held or was required to be held. **OR** ☐ One or more public hearings were held on: **N/A**.

(5) The agency posted notice of decision to move forward with the proposed regulation to the eRegulations System website on **January 25, 2019**.

(6) *(Complete one)* ☐ No comments were received. **OR** ☒ Comments were received and the agency posted the statements specified in subdivisions (1) and (2) of CGS Section 4-168(e) to the eRegulations System website on **January 25, 2019**.

(7) The final wording of the proposed regulation was posted to the eRegulations System website on **January 25, 2019**.

(8) Subsequent to approval for legal sufficiency by the Attorney General and approval by the Legislative Regulation Review Committee, **the final regulation shall be effective**

*(Check one and complete as applicable)*

☒ When posted to the eRegulations System website by the Secretary of the State.

**OR** ☐ On \_\_\_\_\_

*(Date must be a specific calendar date not less than 11 days after submission to the Secretary of the State)*

**SIGNED**

*Juden Wren*  
(Head of Board, Agency or Commission,  
or duly authorized deputy)

**Deputy Commissioner**  
OFFICIAL TITLE

**January 25, 2019**  
DATE



# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REGULATION CERTIFICATION

**Agency:** Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles

***REGULATION NUMBER*** PR2015-203

**This Regulation is hereby APPROVED by the Attorney General as to legal sufficiency in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-169.**

**DATE:** 2/21/2019

**Signed:**

  
***Joseph Rubin, Assistant Deputy Attorney General***  
***Duly Authorized***

# The Connecticut General Assembly

## Legislative Regulation Review Committee

Senator Craig Miner  
Senate Chair



Representative Susan Johnson  
House Chair

### Official Record of Committee Action

October 22, 2019

Agency: Department of Motor Vehicles  
Description: Driver's Education in Secondary Schools  
LRRC Regulation Number: 2019-020  
eRegulation Tracking Number: PR2015-203

The above-referenced regulation has been

### Approved with Technical Corrections

by the Legislative Regulation Review Committee in accordance  
with CGS Section 4-170.

Kirstin L. Breiner  
Committee Administrator



State of Connecticut  
Office of the Secretary of the State

**Confirmation of Electronic Submission**

Re: Regulation of the Department of Motor Vehicles concerning Driver's  
Education in Secondary Schools  
eRegulations System Tracking Number PR2015-203  
Legislative Regulation Review Committee Docket Number 2019-020

The above-referenced regulation was electronically submitted to the Office of the Secretary of the State in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-172 on October 30, 2019.

Said regulation is assigned Secretary of the State File Number 6309.

The effective date of this regulation is November 6, 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Denise W. Merrill".

Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State  
November 6, 2019

By:

/s/ Kristin M. Karr

Kristin M. Karr  
Administrative Law  
Information Systems Manager