

NOVA SCOTIA DRIVER EDUCATION STANDARDS: PASSENGER VEHICLES

Overview

Regulating agency: Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations

Effective date of regulations enacted: Amended Mar.26, 2007, effective June 1, 2007

AGE REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum enrolment age to driver education program

EDUCATIONAL SETTING

- Highschools
- Private driving schools
- Home computer-based instruction
- Other

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Highschool student status
- Must hold a valid Learner's permit
- Registration/enrolment fee
- Course fees subsidized for students
- Parent/guardian consent
- Additional requirements

COURSE STRUCTURE

In-classroom

- Minimum total number of hours: 25 hours
- Number of sessions
- Length of each session: Not to exceed 7 hours of instruction in a 24-hour period
- Additional sessions available

In-vehicle, on range/track

- Minimum total number of hours
- Number of sessions
- Length of each session
- Additional sessions available

In-vehicle, on road

- Minimum total number hours: 10 hours
- Number of sessions
- Length of each session: Not to exceed 2 hours per session
- Additional lessons available

Driving simulator

- Minimum total number of hours
- Number of sessions
- Length of each session
- Additional sessions available

Parent / guardian session(s):

- Minimum total number of hours
- Number of sessions
- Length of each session
- Additional sessions available

CURRICULUM CONTENT*

- Basic driving procedures and manoeuvres
- Braking
- Crashes and injury prevention
- Defensive driving
- Driver communication skills

- Driver distractions
- Driver fitness to drive
- Driver impairments
- Driver observation skills / visual tracking
- Driver psychology
- Driver responsibility
- Emergency situations / manoeuvres
- Fuel efficient driving
- Graduated driver licensing system
- Hazard perception and recognition
- Highway driving
- Insurance
- Lane changes / Safe passing
- Legal awareness
- Night driving
- Parking
- Pre-driving checks and procedures
- Risk perception / management
- Rules of the road
- Sharing the road
- Signs, signals, and road markings
- Standard transmission
- Space management
- Traffic and roadway conditions / environmental conditions
- Turns and U-Turns
- Vehicle control
- Vehicle systems / parts and performance

*These are general topics and some jurisdictions may contain curriculum components that are more in specific, i.e. 2- or 3-points turns, parallel parking, etc.

COMPETENCY MEASURES

Pre-assessment:

- In-classroom
- In-vehicle

Intermediate assessment:

- In-classroom
- In-vehicle

Final exam:

- In-classroom: Must score at least 80% (20/25 multiple choice questions) on the final exam
- In-vehicle

INSTRUCTOR REGULATIONS (IN-CLASS)

- Certifications/designations:
 - Successfully completed a driver improvement course approved by the Department within the previous 12 months
 - A person who acts or offers to act as an instructor providing in-vehicle driver training for a Class 5 driver's license must have completed a recognized course of study for instructors offered by a driver training school conducted by the Nova Scotia Safety Council or Young Drivers of Canada Corporation, or another course approved by the Department, that meets the following minimum requirements:
 - (a) a minimum of 40 hours of in-vehicle instruction to include
 - (i) steering techniques,
 - (ii) starting and stopping,
 - (iii) right and left turns,
 - (iv) highway and urban driving,
 - (v) backing,
 - (vi) controlled and uncontrolled intersections,
 - (vii) right-of-way,
 - (viii) one-way streets,
 - (ix) lane changing,
 - (x) passing,
 - (xi) parking, and
 - (xii) 2- and 3-point turns;

(b) a minimum of 40 hours of theory instruction to include

- (i) the Act and regulations made under the Act,
- (ii) driver licensing,
- (iii) highway and urban driving,
- (iv) insurance,
- (v) car care and familiarization, and
- (vi) crosswalk safety; and

(c) inclusion of any one of the following publications:

- (i) "Sportsmanlike Driving" published by McGraw-Hill,
- (ii) "Road Worthy" published by the Ministry of Transportation (Ontario),
- (iii) "How to Drive" published by the Canadian Automobile Association,
- (iv) the Propulsion text books, or equivalent text books, published by Propulsion International Inc., and
- (v) "Young Drivers of Canada" published by Young Drivers of Canada Corporation,

- Any additional material approved by the Department.
- A person who acts or offers to act as an instructor providing theory driver instruction for a Class 5 driver's license must have completed

- (a) a course of study in accordance with subsection (1); and
- (b) an instructor development course as approved by the Department.

- Minimum age
- Licence held: Valid licence in class they provide instruction for

Minimum driving experience

- Driver / criminal record check
 - within 10 years before their application for an instructor license, have not been convicted of
 - (A) an offence under subsection 97(1) or Section 100, 101 or 163 of the Act, or
 - (B) an unparoled offence against a person or a sexual offence under the Criminal Code (Canada); and
 - within 10 years before their application for an instructor license suspended, cancelled or revoked under Section 278 or subsection 282(6), 283(3) or 283(6) of the Act
- Minimum driving experience

TRAINING VEHICLE

- Vehicle class used
- Dual control brakes: If vehicle is supplied by the driver training school or instructor
- Automatic / manual transmission
- Required insurance: Motor vehicles provided by a driver training school or by an instructor and must be insured under a motor vehicle liability insurance policy that is in the amount of at least \$1 000 000.00, and that includes a driver training school endorsement
- Vehicle signage:
 - Motor vehicles provided by a driver training school and used for driver training must have "DRIVER TRAINING" and the name of the driver training school clearly marked on both sides of the vehicle;
 - "DRIVER TRAINING" or "STUDENT DRIVER" must be marked on the rear of the vehicle, free from foreign material and clearly visible for at least 60 m from the rear of the vehicle, in lettering that is at least 10 cm in height and made of reflectorized material;
 - vehicle signage may also include a roof sign; and
 - vehicle signage may be permanent or of removable magnetic material.
- Passenger restrictions
- Additional vehicle requirements

INSTRUCTOR REGULATIONS (IN-VEHICLE)

- Certifications/designations: See INSTRUCTOR REGULATIONS (IN-CLASS)
- Minimum Age
- Vehicle class used: Class in which licence is being instructed
- Licence held: Class in which licence is being instructed
- Minimum driving experience
- Driver/Criminal record check: See INSTRUCTOR REGULATIONS (IN-CLASS)
- Location in vehicle while instructing
- BAC level while supervising
- Additional regulations

COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

- Successfully complete minimum in-classroom instruction hours
- In-class evaluation: Must score at least 80% (20 out of 25 multiple choice questions) on the final exam
- Successfully complete minimum in-vehicle instruction hours
- Successfully complete in-vehicle evaluation

FOLLOWING PROGRAM COMPLETION

- Driver education certification issued to student
- Time-reduction in GDL program (number of months): The student becomes eligible for the provincial road test after three months, rather than after six months, by completing the 25/10 Full Driver Education Program.
- Insurance discount

PRACTICE DRIVING (WITH PARENT/GUARDIAN)

- Minimum practice driving hours
- Maximum period to complete the practice hours
- Practice hours recorded on a log sheet

SUPERVISOR (PARENT/GUARDIAN) REGULATIONS

- Minimum Age
- Licence held
- Time licensed
- BAC level while supervising
- Location while supervising
- Driver log

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

LIST OF APPROVED DRIVER EDUCATION SCHOOLS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Road Safety Programs – Active Licenses: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/licence/pdf/schools.pdf>

DRIVER EDUCATION REGULATORY INFORMATION

Regulating Agency:

Service Novice Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations
Registry of Motor Vehicles
Mail Room, 8 South, Maritime Centre
1505 Barrington Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3K5
Ph: 1-800-670-4357
Fax: 902-424-0720
Website: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/rmv/>

Legislation:

Driver Training Schools Regulations - <https://www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/mvdtstchl.htm>