



# **Requirements for Oklahoma** Parent-Taught Driver's Ed



#### What Is Parent-Taught Drivers Ed (PTDE)?

To encourage safe-driving habits and to prepare teen drivers for the challenges they'll face behind the wheel, drivers in Oklahoma under the age of 18 are required to take a Parent-Taught driver's education (PTDE) course.

This course is the first step toward earning an Oklahoma learner's permit and ultimately a driver's license. This type of course replaces the traditional classroom course and allows teens, with parental supervision, access to Oklahoma driver's education from any computer, at a pace that works for them.



## PTDE Requirements for Parents and Teens in Oklahoma

Oklahoma driver's education is the first step a teen driver will take on their path to earning their first-time driver's license. Both parents and teens need to meet certain eligibility requirements for Parent-Taught Driver's Ed in Oklahoma.

Teens are allowed to begin a course after their 15th birthday.



**Age Requirement:** 

**PTDE Course Length:** 

Behind-the-Wheel Training:

50 hours with a licensed driver (10 hours at night)

Learn More













However, before they can start a course, a parent will need to apply to be their teen's instructor. In order to gain approval as a Parent-Taught Driver's Ed instructor, a parent or legal guardian must meet the following criteria:

- ▶ Hold a valid Oklahoma driver's license
- ▶ Must not have had their license suspended, canceled, revoked, or denied during the past 12 months
- ▶ Must not have a conviction for possession or use of drugs or alcohol during the past 12 months
- ▶ Must not have more than 5 traffic points on their driving record
- ▶ Must not have had any actions related to driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated taken against them by the DPS



### Is DPS Approval Required?

Yes, in order to get credit for Oklahoma driver's education online, you must select a program that has been approved by the Department of Public Safety. The course offered by I Drive Safely is DPS-approved and the perfect way to start your path to earning your Oklahoma first-time driver's license.

In addition to approved material, a parent or guardian must be approved to act as a teen's instructor. This can be done by meeting the criteria above and submitting a Parent-Taught Affidavit to the DPS. It takes approximately 2 weeks for a parent to gain approval.



# How Long Does the Course Take?

Driver's Ed in Oklahoma is required to last 30 hours. Our course is divided into 8 chapters, making it more manageable and easier to take at a pace that works with your schedule. The good news is teens can take the course at a pace that works for them — studying in short sessions or setting several hours aside to work through the lessons.













#### Taking Oklahoma PTDE Online

When you take online Parent-Taught Driver's Ed in Oklahoma, you have the freedom to learn at a pace that suits your learning style. While a classroom course requires all students attend at the same time and cover the material together, an Oklahoma Driver's Ed online course allows students to log in and log out of their course as time permits. With high-tech multi-media features like animations and graphics, teens have even more opportunity to enjoy their lessons — and remember what they learned!



#### **Topics Covered in PTDE**

The goal of Driver's Ed in Oklahoma is to educate and prepare teens for the world of driving. Safety is a top priority, so valuable safe-driving techniques and tips are covered along with basic vehicle maintenance and Oklahoma traffic laws. A few of the topics covered include:

- Oklahoma traffic laws and consequences
- Safe-driving techniques
- ▶ How to respond to variable road conditions
- ▶ Road signs and signals
- ▶ Dangers of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol

# **Completing the Course**

Each of the 8 chapters in PTDE focuses on one topic, allowing you to take your time to learn and retain the important safe-driving information. At the end of each chapter, you'll take a 10-question multiple-choice quiz. A passing score of 80% is required in order to move on to the next chapter. The good news is you can take the guiz an unlimited number of times until you earn a passing score.











Once you've completed all 8 chapters, you'll take a final exam to finish your course. An 80% or higher is also required to pass this test, but again, you can take the course repeatedly until you pass. After you've passed the final, a certificate of completion will be sent to you that you can use as part of your driver's license application process to show proof that you completed Driver's Ed.



#### **Parent-Teen Driving Contract**

Driving is a privilege, especially for teens. Before a new driver gets behind the wheel it's a good idea for parents and teens to sit down and discuss rules and expectations. This will help establish appropriate restrictions for a young driver, while giving them a clear understanding of the consequences if these rules are broken. A <u>Parent-Teen driving contract</u> is an excellent way for everyone in the family to have a solid understanding of what's expected. This form can be filled out by the parents as well as the teen driver, and everyone can agree on the terms as a family.



#### How to Apply for a Driver's Permit & Driver's License

Once you've completed the first 5 units of your PTDE course, and you're at least 15 ½ years of age, you have the ability to apply for your Oklahoma driver's permit. This will allow you to complete the theory portion of your driver's education, while also chipping away at the 50 hours of behind-the-wheel training required before you can apply for your driver's license.

To apply for a permit you'll need to make an appointment with the DPS and present the following information:

- ▶ Proof that you are currently enrolled in school, have graduated high school, or are enrolled in or have completed a GED program
- ▶ The Parent-Taught Driver's Ed Affidavit to prove you are enrolled in an online course
- ▶ Proof of identity, including a birth certificate or certified copy, a U.S. passport, a state-issued ID card, naturalization or alien registration information







Teen Driver's Education



If you meet these driver's permit requirements, you will be able to start your behind-the-wheel training. You are required to hold a learner's permit in Oklahoma for 6 months before you can apply for a driver's license. In addition, you are expected to practice driving with a licensed driver 21 years or older, for a minimum of 55 hours — 10 of which need to be at night.

If you've met all the requirements above and you're at least 16 years of age, then you're ready to head to the DPS to take your Oklahoma first-time driver's license exam. You'll be required to pass a written test as well as a behindthe-wheel driving test and a vision exam. To take the driving test you'll need a vehicle in good working order that is currently registered and is adequately insured.

During your driving exam you'll be required to show proficiency in the following areas:

- ▶ Signaling, turning, changing lanes
- Managing your speed
- ▶ Parallel parking, stopping, and parking on a hill
- ▶ Yielding the right-of-way
- ▶ Responding to other vehicles and pedestrians

After you pass your 3 exams, you will supply a thumbprint, your picture will be taken, and you'll pay a license fee. Read more about how to get your driver's license in Oklahoma on our FAQs page. You'll be on the road with your intermediate driver's license in no time!









