

Mineola UFSD Driver Education

Spring 2024 Policy & Information

How do I enroll?

- All Mineola UFSD students (including private school students) are eligible and must be at least 16 years old.
- Students must go to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), pass a written test, and acquire a learner's permit. Please visit www.dmv.ny.gov for details. **All students must have and show their learner's permit on their first day of driving or they will be dropped from the program.** Driving classes start on 1/23.
- Students are to complete and submit the online application by Thursday 1/11.
- On Friday 1/12 accepted students and their parents will be contacted by email. Barring disciplinary or attendance issues, students are accepted into the program and choose classes based on birthdate. Older students have priority.
- **On Tuesday 1/16 all accepted students must attend a mandatory scheduling meeting at 3:30PM in room 136.** In addition to choosing classes from oldest to youngest, seniors participating in school-sponsored activities are given consideration. Either the student or someone representing the student must attend. **If the student or someone representing the student is absent, the student will be dropped from the program and the next person on the waiting list will be contacted.** Students choose one lecture class & one driving class. Full payment of \$550 is due as cash, check, or money order. Please make checks payable to "Mineola High School".

What is the cost? The cost is \$550.00.

Which are important dates to remember?

- *prior to 1/11* – go to the DMV, pass a written test, & obtain a learner's permit – visit www.dmv.ny.gov for details
- *Monday 12/18 through Thursday 1/11* – complete & submit the online application
- *Thursday 1/11* – last day to submit the online application; all accepted students and parents contacted by email
- ***Tuesday 1/16 – 3:30PM – mandatory scheduling meeting in room 136*** – all accepted students must attend or be represented. **If the student or someone representing the student is absent, the student will be dropped from the program and the next person on the waiting list will be contacted.** Students choose one lecture class & one driving class and full payment of \$550 is due.
- *Tuesday 1/23* – classes begin
- **a Wednesday (date to be determined) – 7:00PM** - mandatory parent/student presentation in the HS auditorium
- *Thursday 5/23* – classes end

What is the schedule? (subject to change based on enrollment)

- *Available driving classes:* Tuesdays 2:30-4PM and 4-5:30PM; Wednesdays 2:30-4PM and 4-5:30PM; Thursdays 2:30-4PM & 4-5:30PM; Fridays 4-5:30PM; Saturdays 11:30-1PM, 1-2:30PM, and 2:30-4PM.
- *Available lecture classes:* Wednesdays 6:30-8PM, Thursdays 5:30-7PM and Fridays 2:30-4:00PM.

What about attendance?

- Like any sport, club, or organization, the driver education program is a commitment. Full attendance is required and state-mandated to receive the certificate of completion (MV-285), an insurance discount, and the ability to schedule a road test.
- Students will be provided with each other's contact information.
- **If a student has a conflict with a driving class, it is the student's responsibility to either attend the assigned driving class or arrange a switch with another student.**
- If a student does not attend an assigned driving class and does not arrange a switch for that driving class, it is an absence.
- At times there may be unforeseen circumstances where switching with another student for a driving class may not be plausible. If possible, please email your driving instructor at least 24 hours in advance of your absence.
- **After 2 absences a student's certificate of completion (MV-285) may be held until the next driver ed session. During that session the student may then make up the class and consequently receive his or her certificate of completion.**
- **After 4 absences a student may be dropped from the program.**
- During the program, a student with non attendance of classes during the school day and/or disciplinary concerns (including ISS and OSS) will not attend driver education classes after school and may be dropped from the program.
- Any student dropped from the program will not be allowed to retake the course.
- Any student that is driving illegally (for example, driving with a permit without the proper supervision or driving to school with a junior license) will be dropped from the program.

What is the mandatory parent/student presentation?

- A mandatory presentation will be held in the high school auditorium, "Driving in the Safe Lane" on a Wednesday, date to be determined.
- Every student and his/her parent must attend, sign in and are to sit together.
- If the student and parent are absent, the student's certificate of completion will be held until attendance occurs at a "Driving in the Safe Lane" presentation at another school. Please contact Mr. Macedo for more information.

What about the driving classes?

- Driving classes meet at the exit doors in the shop parking lot near the cafeteria and room 168. Students are picked up and dropped off at this location only.
- A student is to arrive **BEFORE** his or her scheduled driving class time. All driving classes will wait no longer than 2 minutes beyond the scheduled start time. Delays affect the state-mandated in-car time of all students in the car.
- If a student arrives after the driver ed car has left the shop parking lot, it is an absence.
- Students must carry their learner's permit when attending the driving classes.
- Non-driving students are to observe the driving student.
- Water is permitted in the car. No other food or drink, please.

What is the refund policy?

The district has instituted the following refund policy in the event that a student has to withdraw or is dropped from the program for the fall or spring: withdrawal/drop during weeks 1 and 2 = full refund; withdrawal/drop during weeks 3 and 4 = 50% refund; withdrawal/drop during weeks 5 and 6 = 25% refund; and withdrawal/drop after week 6 = no refund.

What are the course objectives?

- Students will define and recognize driving as a mental, physical, and social task which involves the interaction of the operator, the environment, and the vehicle.
- Students will recognize the importance of protecting motor vehicle occupants from possible injury or death by using all occupant safety devices.
- Students will learn the rules of the road to promote safe driving.
- Students will identify factors such as fatigue, distractions, alcohol, and drugs that can impair a driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle.
- Students will recognize dangerous drivers and driving situations and learn how to react safely.
- Students will understand the relationship between decision-making and reducing risks while driving.

How does a student acquire a certificate of completion (MV-285) to schedule a road test and receive an insurance discount?

- A student must achieve a 65% or higher for both lecture and driving classes.
- A student must attend all state-mandated 16 lecture classes (24 hrs.) and all 16 driving classes (24 hrs.).
- Both parent and student must attend the mandatory parent/student presentation.

What role does the parent have?

- New York State requires a parent to provide a minimum of 50 driving hours to a student under 18 years old prior to the road test. Of those 50 hours, 15 hours are to be at night (after sunset). The state also recommends that at least 10 of those hours are in moderate to heavy traffic. After completing this requirement, the parent completes a Certification of Supervised Driving (MV-262). The student must submit the MV-262 to the DMV examiner on the day of the road test.
- The parent is required to attend the mandatory parent/student presentation (date to be determined). The parent and student will remain seated together for the presentation.
- Parents are to remind their student to arrive **before** starting times for both lecture and driving classes to avoid absences and/or delays in receiving the MV-285, insurance discount, and road test scheduling.

Other questions?

Email Mr. Macedo at pmacedo@mineola.k12.ny.us.