IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DRIVER EDUCATION AND TRAINING CONTENT STANDARDS AND BENCHMARKS

Approved by the Idaho State Board of Education
08-10-2017

IDAHO PUBLIC DRIVER EDUCATION AND TRAINING CONTENT STANDARDS AND BENCHMARKS

Mission: Idaho Public Driver Education programs provide an introduction to the tools and skills necessary to become safer drivers.

Content Standards indicate the essential knowledge and skills based on Idaho traffic laws and principles of safety that a student should know and be able to do for successful completion of an Idaho approved public driver education and training program.

Benchmarks define the content knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors upon successful completion of the Idaho public driver education and training course.

CONTENT STANDARD 1

COURSE OVERVIEW AND PARENT ORIENTATION

1.1 Understanding Course Requirements

BENCHMARKS:

The student and parent/guardian will ~~describe and/or discuss:~~ be presented:

~~(a)~~ 1.1.1 the Idaho public driver education and training program goals

~~(b)~~ 1.1.2 the course structure, policies and rules

~~(c)~~ 1.1.3 the Graduated Driver Licensing Law and procedures for compliance

~~(d)~~ 1.1.4 the responsibilities of the instructor, parent and student during the course

~~(e)~~ 1.1.5 the process of obtaining ~~and~~ , maintaining, and renewing, an Idaho driver's license

~~(f)~~ 1.1.6 the types of driver's licenses and instruction permits

~~(g)~~ 1.1.7 special information that may be placed on a driver license or instruction permit

~~(h)~~ 1.1.8 licensing restrictions, suspensions, and revocations placed on driving privileges ~~(i) the license renewal process~~

~~(j)~~ 1.1.9 the purpose of the Supervised Driving Guide or a comparable document ~~(k) ways to obtain guided behind the wheel practice~~

1.2 Understanding the Nature of Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will:

~~(a)~~ 1.2.1 examine the behaviors resulting in driver errors and crashes in Idaho
~~(b)~~ 1.2.2 examine crash statistics in Idaho and nationally
~~(c)~~ 1.2.3 review the risks associated with poor driving habits and how risk can be minimized

CONTENT STANDARD 2

VEHICLE AWARENESS

2.1 Identifying Gauges and Warning Symbols Inside a Vehicle

BENCHMARKS:

The student will locate and describe:

~~(a)~~ 2.1.1 the function of alert and warning symbols and gauges found in a ~~driver education~~ vehicle
~~(b) the function of alert and warning symbols and gauges found in a family vehicle~~

2.2 Operating Vehicle Control Devices

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and demonstrate:

~~(a)~~ 2.2.1 the use of vehicle control devices found in a driver education vehicle

~~(b)~~ 2.2.2 the use of safety, communication, and convenience devices found in a driver education vehicle

2.3 Preparing to Drive

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and demonstrate:

~~(a)~~ 2.3.1 pre-entry tasks

~~(b)~~ 2.3.2 entry tasks made prior to starting and moving a motor vehicle to accommodate air bags and maximize safety

~~(c)~~ 2.3.3 check all passengers for safety restraint use

~~(d)~~ 2.3.4 traditional and enhanced mirror adjustments to reduce blind spots and glare

~~(e) enhanced mirror adjustments to reduce blind spots and glare~~

~~(f)~~ 2.3.5 the steps involved in securing a vehicle after it is stopped and a drive is completed

2.4 Protecting Occupants

BENCHMARKS:

The student will:

~~(a)~~ 2.4.1 describe the three collisions of a crash and the effect on the restrained and unrestrained human body

~~(b)~~ 2.4.2 identify and/or describe locations and purpose of airbags, belt adjusters, and head restraints and demonstrate proper adjustments and operation to provide crash survival protection

CONTENT STANDARD 3

TRAFFIC CONTROL

3.1 Traffic Control Devices and Laws

BENCHMARKS:

The student will:

~~(a)~~ 3.1.1 describe the purposes for traffic control devices

~~(b)~~ 3.1.2 list the colors and shapes and describe the functions of traffic signs, traffic signals, and traffic signal/sign combinations

~~(c)~~ 3.1.3 list and explain meanings of colors and meaning of roadway markings

~~(d)~~ 3.1.4 describe and/or demonstrate appropriate driver responses to roadway signs, traffic signals, and roadway markings

~~(e)~~ 3.1.5 apply traffic laws for operating a motor vehicle on public streets and highways.

3.2 Right of Way Rules

BENCHMARKS:

The student will:

~~(a)~~ 3.2.1 define “right of way”

~~(b)~~ 3.2.2 discuss the consequences for failure to yield the right of way

~~(c)~~ 3.2.3 apply the rules of yielding the right of way at intersections

~~(d)~~ 3.2.4 apply the rules of yielding the right of way when merging

~~(e)~~ 3.2.5 discuss reasons for and/or apply rules of yielding right of way to emergency vehicles, funerals, school buses, and pedestrians

~~(f)~~ 3.2.6 discuss and/or apply rules of yielding in school zones and construction zones

3.2.7 discuss and/or apply rules of yielding right of way at intersections with highway-rail grade crossings

~~(g)~~ 3.2.8 discuss and/or demonstrate procedures to safely navigate a center shared turn lane, turn lanes and roundabouts.

CONTENT STANDARD 4

VEHICLE CONTROL

4.1 Vehicle Positioning

BENCHMARKS:

The student will identify, describe, and/or demonstrate:

~~(a)~~ 4.1.1 the blind areas to the front, sides, and rear of a vehicle

~~(b)~~ 4.1.2 a visual reference point that will place the front bumper at a line or curb when stopping

~~(c)~~ 4.1.3 a visual reference point that will place the right side tires 6-12 inches, 3 feet, and 6 feet from a line or curb

~~(d)~~ 4.1.4 a visual reference point that will place the left side tires 6-12 inches from a line or curb

~~(e)~~ 4.1.5 a visual reference point for placement of a vehicle in the center of a lane

~~(f)~~ 4.1.6 visual reference points for placement of the rear bumper at a line or curb

~~(g)~~ 4.1.7 lane placement and visual reference points for setup, entry to, and exiting from a turn

4.2 Performing Basic Control

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and demonstrate:

~~(a)~~ 4.2.1 proper starting procedures ~~tasks (i.e.: Parking brake set, proper gear selection, foot on brake, proper use of ignition, headlights on for safety)~~

~~(b)~~ 4.2.2 steering wheel control techniques ~~(i.e.: Push-Pull, Hand-Over-Hand, One-Hand Backing and Limited Evasive)~~ and when each is used

~~(c)~~ 4.2.3 procedures for entering and leaving the roadway ~~(i.e.: identify open space before moving foot from brake to accelerator, communication)~~

~~(d)~~ 4.2.4 acceleration control

~~(e)~~ 4.2.5 controlled, threshold, and trail braking control

(f) 4.2.6 proper entry into and exit out of a 90 degree corner

(g) 4.2.7 procedures for left and right precision turns from a stopped and moving position

(h) 4.2.8 procedures for backing straight and while turning

4.3 Lane Changes and Passing

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and demonstrate:

(a) 4.3.1 compliance with the legal requirements for a lane change

(b) 4.3.2 safe gap selection for a lane change

(c) 4.3.3 appropriate lane positions prior to a lane change

(d) 4.3.4 effective speed adjustments for a lane change

(e) 4.3.5 effective blind area checks and mirror use prior to making a lane change

The student will describe:

(a) 4.3.6 the legal requirements for passing

(b) 4.3.7 safe gap selection and lane return for passing another vehicle

(c) 4.3.8 effective speed adjustments for passing another vehicle and lane return

(d) 4.3.9 appropriate lane positions prior to passing another vehicle

4.4 Performing Turnabouts

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and demonstrate:

(a) 4.4.1 U-turns

(b) 4.4.2 2-point turns

(c) 4.4.3 3-point turns

4.5 Parking Maneuvers

BENCHMARKS:

The student will demonstrate:

(a) 4.5.1 angled parking

(b) 4.5.2 parallel parking

(c) 4.5.3 street/curb parking

(d) 4.5.4 perpendicular forward parking

(e) 4.5.5 perpendicular backing-into parking

(f) 4.5.6 parking on a hill – uphill with a curb

(g) 4.5.7 parking on a hill – uphill without a curb

~~(h)~~ 4.5.8 parking on a hill – downhill with a curb

~~(i)~~ 4.5.9 parking on a hill – downhill without a curb

~~(j)~~ 4.5.10 recognition of restricted parking areas

CONTENT STANDARD 5

CONTROLLING THE AREA AROUND YOUR VEHICLE

5.1 Using Vision for Vehicle Control

BENCHMARKS:

The student will:

~~(a)~~ 5.1.1 identify fields of vision and their use while operating a motor vehicle ~~(b) identify strategies for overcoming physical visual problems~~

~~(c)~~ 5.1.2 analyze the effect speed has on vision

~~(d)~~ 5.1.3 identify techniques to improve vision while driving

~~(e)~~ 5.1.4 describe the vehicle control sequence of vision, motion, and steering control

~~(f)~~ 5.1.5 discuss how optical illusions can affect the driving task

5.2 Time and Space Management Systems and Strategies

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

~~(a)~~ 5.2.1 the components of a space management system

~~(b)~~ 5.2.2 responses to changes in line of sight restrictions

~~(c)~~ 5.2.3 responses to changes in path of travel restrictions

~~(d)~~ 5.2.4 the six zone locations around a vehicle

~~(e)~~ 5.2.5 adjusting lane positions and speed to control space around a vehicle

~~(f)~~ 5.2.6 how to select a safe gap for vehicle maneuvers

~~(g)~~ 5.2.7 responses to traffic to the front, sides, and rear of the vehicle

~~(h)~~ 5.2.8 safe following intervals

~~(i)~~ 5.2.9 appropriate communication techniques to inform other roadways users of driver actions prior to a speed or lane position adjustment

5.3 Intersections

BENCHMARKS:

~~(a)~~ The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for:

~~(a)~~5.3.1 recognition of and responses to different intersection types

~~(b)~~5.3.2 searching for and responding to traffic signs, signals, and markings at intersections

~~(c)~~5.3.3 identification of and response to controlled and uncontrolled railroad crossings

~~(d)~~5.3.4 visual searching skills to the left, front, right, and rear of the vehicle at intersections

~~(e)~~5.3.5 visual searching skills to identify and select the best lane position, best speed, and communication at intersections

~~(f)~~ 5.3.6 recognition of and response to legal, staggered, and safety stop positions at intersections

CONTENT STANDARD 6

THE PHYSICS OF DRIVING

6.1 The Effects of Gravity and Energy of Motion on a Vehicle

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

~~(a)~~ 6.1.1 definitions of gravity and energy of motion

~~(b)~~ 6.1.2 the effects gravity and energy of motion have on friction and traction

~~(c)~~ 6.1.3 the effect of speed on energy of motion

~~(d)~~ 6.1.4 the forces of an impact

~~(e)~~ 6.1.5 the impact of tire condition and air pressure on traction

~~(f)~~ 6.1.6 the forces involved while in a curve

~~(g)~~ 6.1.7 the factors that affect braking distance

~~(h)~~ 6.1.8 the consequences of vehicle modifications on vehicle balance and traction

~~(i)~~ 6.1.9 the forces of energy on vehicles of different weights and size

~~(j)~~ 6.1.10 the effect of vehicle load on vehicle balance

~~(k)~~ 6.1.11 the cause and effect of vehicle load changes from side to side, front to rear, and rear to front

~~(l)~~ 6.1.12 how aggressive steering, braking, and acceleration affects vehicle balance and control

~~(m)~~ 6.1.13 traction loss to both the front and rear wheels

(n) 6.1.14 how to manage traction loss on a front-wheel drive, rear-wheel drive, and all-wheel drive vehicle

(o) 6.1.15 conditions that can create traction loss and vehicle imbalance

(p) 6.1.16 how traction and vehicle balance are affected by steering, acceleration, deceleration, and roadway surfaces

(q) 6.1.17 the function, advantages, and proper braking techniques of two and four-wheel anti-lock braking systems

(r) 6.1.18 various steering, stability control, and traction control systems

6.2 Negotiating Hills and Curves

Benchmarks:

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

(a) 6.2.1 line of sight and path of travel restrictions on hills and curves

(b) 6.2.2 proper approach to hills and curves

(c) 6.2.3 proper speed for ascending and descending a hill

(d) 6.2.4 proper stopping and starting on a hill

(e) 6.2.5 proper speed and lane positions for approach, apex and exit on hills and curves

(f) 6.2.6 conditions that can affect traction and procedures to maintain traction on hills and curves

CONTENT STANDARD 7

DRIVING ENVIRONMENTS

7.1 Rural Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

(a) 7.1.1 characteristics and hazards of rural driving environments

(b) 7.1.2 recognition and response to signs, signals and markings in rural environments

(c) 7.1.3 responses to animals in rural areas and abide by Idaho's Open Range Law

(d) 7.1.4 responses to road conditions and surfaces with proper lane selection, lane position, and speed in rural environments

(e) 7.1.5 recognition of and responses to slow moving vehicles

7.2 Urban Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

- ~~(a)~~ 7.2.1 characteristics and hazards of urban driving environments
- ~~(b)~~ 7.2.2 recognition and response to signs, signals and markings in urban environments
- ~~(c)~~ 7.2.3 recognition of and response to problems due to congestion and plan alternate appropriate routes
- ~~(d)~~ 7.2.4 responses to road conditions and surfaces with proper lane selection, lane position, and speed in urban environments
- ~~(e)~~ 7.2.5 appropriate lane choice, lane changes and passing

7.3 Driving on Limited Access Highways (Freeways)

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

- ~~(a)~~ 7.3.1 the characteristics, advantages and disadvantages of limited access highways (freeways)
- ~~(b)~~ 7.3.2 recognition of and responses to signs, signals, and markings on limited access highways (freeways)
- ~~(c)~~ 7.3.3 recognition of and responses to the types of expressway interchanges, ~~(i.e.: the cloverleaf, diamond, trumpet, and directional interchange)~~
- ~~(d)~~ 7.3.4 appropriate lane choice, lane changes and passing
- ~~(e)~~ 7.3.5 recognition of and responses to problems due to congestion and plan alternate appropriate routes
- ~~(f)~~ 7.3.6 appropriate entering and exiting limited access highways (freeways)
- ~~(g)~~ 7.3.7 recognition of how higher speeds affect vehicle control

7.4 Driving at Night and in Other Reduced Visibility Conditions

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

- ~~(a)~~ 7.4.1 sources of glare and procedures to protect from glare
- ~~(b)~~ 7.4.2 driving strategies during low light or darkness conditions
- ~~(c)~~ 7.4.3 the laws and the proper use of headlights
- ~~(d)~~ 7.4.4 limited visibility conditions ~~(i.e.: fog, smoke, snow, rain and dust, etc.)~~ and procedures to reduce risk

7.5 Driving During Adverse Weather Conditions

The student will describe and/or demonstrate:

~~(a)~~ 7.5.1 adverse weather driving conditions ~~(i.e.: flooding, heat, cold, storms, blizzards, strong wind, etc)~~

~~(b)~~ 7.5.2 risks associated with and strategies to compensate for driving during adverse weather driving conditions

CONTENT STANDARD 8

COOPERATING WITH OTHER ROADWAY USERS

8.1 Driving Within the Highway Transportation System

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe:

~~(a)~~ 8.1.1 the components of the Highway Transportation System

~~(b)~~ 8.1.2 the impact and consequences of personal driving attitudes, choices, and behaviors on themselves and others.

~~(c)~~ 8.1.3 driver responsibilities for sharing the road with a variety of motorized and non- motorized roadway users and animals

~~(g)~~ 8.1.4 procedures for traffic stops by a police officer

8.2 Responding to Emergencies.

BENCHMARKS:

The student will identify and/or describe appropriate responses to/for:

~~(a)~~ 8.2.1 sudden tire deflation, problems with the accelerator, engine, cooling system, steering, electrical system, lighting, brake failures, vehicle fire, etc.

~~(a)~~ 8.2.2 conditions resulting in skids

~~(c)~~ 8.2.3 conditions requiring emergency evasive steering

~~(d)~~ 8.2.4 returning a vehicle to the roadway from an off-road condition.

8.3 Responsibilities after a Crash

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe:

~~(a)~~ 8.3.1 Idaho's Good Samaritan Law

~~(b)~~ 8.3.2 what to do at the scene of a crash

~~(c)~~ 8.3.3 the criteria for when law enforcement must be called after a crash

~~(d)~~ 8.3.4 the importance of following emergency personnel's directions

~~(e)~~ 8.3.5 Idaho's vehicle insurance requirements

CONTENT STANDARD 9

BEING A RESPONSIBLE DRIVER

9.1 Effects of Emotions on Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or discuss:

(a) 9.1.1 emotions and their ~~affect~~ effect on driver attitudes, choices and behaviors

(b) 9.1.2 ways to manage emotions while driving

9.2 Disabilities and Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or discuss:

(a) 9.2.1 temporary and permanent disabilities that may affect the driving task

(b) 9.2.2 actions drivers can take to compensate for disabilities while driving

9.3 Alcohol and Drugs

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or discuss:

(a) 9.3.1 how legal and illegal alcohol and drugs affect people differently~~; (i.e.: body weight, tolerance, time, etc.)~~

(b) 9.3.2 the amount of alcohol in various drinks

(c) 9.3.3 the multiplying effects of alcohol and/or drugs

(d) 9.3.4 the effects of alcohol and drugs on driver perception, vision, reaction time, and risk-taking

(e) 9.3.5 the increased probability of being involved in a fatal traffic crash after drinking and/or using drugs

9.4 Alcohol / Drug Involved Crashes and Idaho Laws

The student will describe and/or discuss:

~~(a) why alcohol is the most commonly used and abused drug involved with driving~~

(b) 9.4.1 facts about teenage ~~drinking and~~ impaired driving in Idaho and the United States

(c) 9.4.2 reasons and excuses for why people drive ~~drunk or drugged~~ impaired

(d) 9.4.3 the effect ~~alcohol related~~ impaired crashes have on families and communities

(e) 9.4.4 Idaho rules, regulations, and penalties for alcohol and drug use ~~use and abuse in Idaho~~

(f) 9.4.5 ways to intervene when someone is impaired and intends to drive

9.5 Drowsy Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will describe and/or discuss:

(a) 9.5.1 the physical and mental symptoms and effects ~~affect~~ of fatigue on driver behavior

~~(b)the importance of sleep and its effect on performance~~

~~(c)the physical and mental symptoms of fatigue on the driving task~~

(d) 9.5.2 strategies to prevent and/or reduce driving while fatigued and drowsy

9.6 Aggressive Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will ~~describe and/or demonstrate:~~ discuss:

(a) 9.6.1 aggressive driving behaviors

(b) 9.6.2 strategies to reduce conflicts while driving

(c) 9.6.3 how emotions and situations can lead to dangerous driving behaviors

(d) 9.6.4 how aggressive driving behaviors can lead to road rage

9.7 Distracted Driving

BENCHMARKS:

The student will identify and describe:

~~(h)~~ 9.7.1 how mental, physical, and visual distractions effect driving

9.7.2 how mobile devices and other technologies can create distractions while driving

(a) 9.7.3 how passengers can create distractions while driving

(b) 9.7.4 personal habits that can create distractions while driving

(c) 9.7.5 conditions inside and outside the vehicle that can create distractions while driving

(d) 9.7.6 strategies for reducing distractions while driving

(e) 9.7.7 the relationship between distracted driving and vehicle crashes and fatalities in Idaho and nationally