

Driver Education Classroom

Preparing To Operate a Vehicle DEC.1

A. Graduated Driver License (GDL) Requirements and Responsibilities DEC.1.1

1. Identify the GDL requirements and responsibilities. DEC.1.1.1
 2. Understand driving with temporary impairment and permanent disabilities, including the use of controlled substances (i.e., illegal and legal drugs that are controlled by the government and are more likely to be abused by individuals) and the use of prescription and over-the-counter medicines. DEC.1.1.2
 3. Identify the risk of injury for drivers and passengers in a vehicle. DEC.1.1.3
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B. Rules of the Road, State and Local Requirements DEC.1.2

1. Identify and describe the purpose of signs, signals, and road markings. DEC.1.2.1
 2. Identify and describe legal stops and speed regulations. DEC.1.2.2
 3. Describe pedestrian and bicyclist rights and responsibilities. DEC.1.2.3
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C. Vehicle Operating Space DEC.1.3

1. Identify visual limitations to the front, rear, and sides of the vehicle. DEC.1.3.1
2. Identify the length and width of the vehicle's blind spot. DEC.1.3.2
3. Identify how to mitigate the impact of blind spots through the use of enhanced mirror settings. DEC.1.3.3

D. Preparing to Drive a Vehicle DEC.1.4

1. Describe the impact of mental and physical well-being on the operation of a motor vehicle. DEC.1.4.1
2. Identify strategies for managing emotions while operating a motor vehicle. DEC.1.4.2
3. Identify and describe proper use of safety equipment to protect self and others (e.g., active/passive restraints and guidelines for children, airbags, and impact protection). DEC.1.4.3
4. Describe pre-check procedures to ensure personal safety (e.g., checking outside and inside vehicle before opening door and locking doors after entry). DEC.1.4.4
5. Identify and describe how to make basic vehicle adjustments necessary for safe operation (e.g., adjustments to seats, mirrors, safety restraints, etc.). DEC.1.4.5
6. Identify and describe the functions of basic gauges, alerts, and warning lights. DEC.1.4.6
7. Identify the purpose and use of a vehicle's owner manual. DEC.1.4.7
8. Describe the importance of routine vehicle checks and the importance of performing scheduled maintenance to ensure tire and engine safety. DEC.1.4.8

Understanding Vehicle Controls DEC.2**A. Identify visual and mental requirements.** DEC.2.1

1. Identify the three basic visual fields (i.e., central, fringe or focal, and peripheral) and how they are used in the driving task. DEC.2.1.1
2. Compare visual skills to mental perception DEC.2.1.2
3. Identify techniques to improve visual skills. DEC.2.1.3
4. Identify techniques to improve mental perception of traffic events. DEC.2.1.4
5. Identify techniques to overcome visual deficiencies. DEC.2.1.5

B. Define targeted line of sight, target to end path of travel, and reference vehicle to path of travel. DEC.2.2**C. Identify or describe basic motion control techniques, maintaining suspension balance, and communication techniques.** DEC.2.3

1. Describe how speed affects vehicle direction. DEC.2.3.1
2. Describe basic concepts essential for maintaining suspension balance while placing a vehicle into motion and maneuvering the vehicle in a variety of conditions. DEC.2.3.2
3. Identify the purpose of the dead pedal. DEC.2.3.3

4. Identify and describe appropriate use for each communication technique, including the use of a turn signal before turning and changing lanes, use of headlights for visibility, and use of the horn. DEC.2.3.4

5. Describe how to apply a firm squeezing braking force at the beginning of the braking process and how to bring the vehicle to a smooth stop. DEC.2.3.5

Introducing Traffic Entry Skills DEC.C.3

A. Identify and describe all signs, signals, and pavement markings featured in the Illinois Vehicle Code. DEC.3.1

B. Identify and describe roadway characteristics, including intersection types, traffic calming devices, surface conditions, slope/grade, traction potential, highway conditions, and lane controls. DEC.3.2

C. Utilize the space management system (i.e., the Identify, Predict, Decide, and Execute (IPDE) process). DEC.3.3

1. Identify conditions for searching changes to path of travel, changes to the line of sight, and changes in road surface and condition. DEC.3.3.1

2. Identify situations for evaluating alternative paths of travel, appropriate position, appropriate speed, and communication. DEC.3.3.2

3. Describe skills needed to execute decisions, including speed changes, position changes, and communication needs. DEC.3.3.3

Space Management and Vehicle Control Skills in Moderate Risk Environments DEC.4

A. Identify and describe the principles of the IPDE process for managed-risk vehicle operations. DEC.4.1

1. Practice commentary response to identify speed and position adjustment development, reference points for maneuvers, and rear space/zone view conditions. DEC.4.1.1

2. Identify blind spots and truck no-zones for different types of vehicles. DEC.4.1.2

B. Identify and describe basic procedures for reduced-risk speed management. DEC.4.2

1. Describe procedures for reduced-risk speed management for a variety of driver, road, and vehicle positions. DEC.4.2.1

2. Identify or describe strategies, as appropriate, for navigating roadway and traffic flow in varying contexts on limited access roadways and roadways without limited access at speeds up to 55 m.p.h. (e.g., space management, intersection entry, curve navigation, and planned passing). DEC.4.2.2

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- 3. Identify or describe strategies, as appropriate, for navigating roadway and traffic flow in varying contexts on limited access roadways and roadways without limited access at maximum highway speeds (to include, but not limited to space management, intersection entry, curve navigation, and planned passing).** [DEC.4.2.3](#)
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Factors Affecting Driver Performance [DEC.5](#)

- A. Define legal responsibility to not use alcohol, cannabis, and other substances that affect the ability to operate a vehicle safely and develop strategies for alternative means of safe transportation.** [DEC.5.1](#)

 - B. Discuss the importance of driver fitness to aid managed-risk driver performance and identify factors that can cause inattention to task and may result in injury and physical damage crashes (e.g., internal/external vehicle distractions, fatigue, and aggression).** [DEC.5.2](#)

 - C. Describe the impact of temporary impairments and long-term disabilities and identify strategies to compensate or enhance for managed-risk driver performance.** [DEC.5.3](#)

 - D. Describe the importance of driver attentiveness and identify types of internal/external distractions that could lead to inattentive and distracted driving (e.g., passengers, electronic devices, and other tasks).** [DEC.5.4](#)
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Managing Adverse Conditions [DEC.6](#)

- A. Describe the impact of varying weather conditions on visibility and traction and identify appropriate strategies to navigate roadways and maneuver a vehicle in varying contexts.** [DEC.6.1](#)

 - B. Describe the impact of driving in low or no light conditions on visibility and space management and identify strategies to ensure safe operation of a vehicle.** [DEC.6.2](#)

 - C. Describe the increased risk of driving through road construction and maintenance zones and identify appropriate strategies to navigate roadways and ensure safe operation of a vehicle.** [DEC.6.3](#)
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Other Roadway Users [DEC.7](#)

- A. Describe the characteristics and limitations of a variety of motorized vehicles and identify appropriate space management principles to apply in varying contexts (e.g., heavy commercial vehicles, passenger vehicles, trailers, motorcycles, farm vehicles, snowmobiles/ATVs, and funeral processions).** [DEC.7.1](#)

- B. Describe the characteristics and limitations of a variety of non-motorized vehicles and pedestrians and identify appropriate space management principles to apply in varying contexts (e.g., pedal/bicycles, personal transport, horse-drawn equipment, and pedestrians).** [DEC.7.2](#)

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- C.** Describe the characteristics and limitations of a variety of tracked vehicles and identify appropriate space management principles to apply in varying contexts (e.g., freight trains, passenger trains, rapid transit, and cable/trolley cars). [DEC.7.3](#)
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Responding to Emergencies, Vehicle Malfunctions, and Crashes, and Understanding Vehicle Technology [DEC.8](#)

- A.** Describe a variety of vehicle malfunctions and identify appropriate managed-risk responses for varying contexts (e.g., electronic, signals, engine/fuel/ignition systems, steering/suspension systems, tires, and braking systems). [DEC.8.1](#)
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- B.** Discuss applications and limitations for current and emerging vehicle technologies as they become available in the future. [DEC.8.2](#)
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- C.** Discuss how the roadway system is managed by law enforcement and other State agencies to assist with emergencies, crashes, and vehicle malfunctions. [DEC.8.3](#)
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- D.** Describe the responsibilities for attending to a crash scene situation. [DEC.8.4](#)
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- E.** Identify appropriate responsibilities and responses when encountering emergency or disabled vehicles on or near a roadway (see Section 11-907 of the Illinois Vehicle Code). [DEC.8.5](#)
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- F.** Identify and describe law enforcement procedures for traffic stops and appropriate interactions with law enforcement, including a demonstration of the proper actions to be taken during a traffic stop by drivers and passengers. [DEC.8.6](#)
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- G.** Describe proper actions to be taken following vehicle disablement for a variety of roadside emergencies in varying roadway and environmental conditions. [DEC.8.7](#)
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Making Informed Consumer Choices [DEC.9](#)

- A.** Perform map-reading and trip planning exercises using current and emerging technology, including, but not limited to, static maps and interactive maps. [DEC.9.1](#)
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- B.** Identify factors to consider when purchasing vehicle insurance and an automobile. [DEC.9.2](#)
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