

# UTAH DRIVER HANDBOOK

## 2024-2025





# **STATE OF UTAH**

# **UTAH DRIVER HANDBOOK**

# **AAMVA MODEL NON-COMMERCIAL**

This handbook is a collaborative effort between the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) and the Utah Driver License Division. It contains the rules to be followed when operating any vehicle on Utah roads. A bicycle operator must obey the rules of the road and have the same rights and duties as the operator of a motor vehicle or other vehicle.

For additional driver license information, forms, and to test your knowledge with our online written knowledge practice test, visit our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov).

Please be aware of imitator sites that do not end in .gov.

## **Driver License Division (DLD) Services:**

- Driver License (Class D), Commercial Driver License (CDL), Driving Privilege Cards (DPC), Limited-Term Driver License, Identification Cards, Limited-Term Identification Cards, Endorsements (CDL, Taxi, Motorcycle)
- Utah Driving Records (MVR)
- Reinstatement Fees
- Driver Review Exams
- Driver Improvement Hearings
- Voter Registration
- Organ Donor Registration

**Appointments should be scheduled for all services to reduce your wait time. Walk-in service may experience much longer wait times due to appointments taking priority. Visit our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov) to schedule your appointment today!**

*Front cover photo courtesy of John Heller—Location: Eastern side of Antelope Island  
Back cover photo courtesy of Tiffany Daines—Location: Elberta, Utah*

# NEW 2024 LAWS

## Effective May 1, 2024

### **HB 85 Electric Bike Amendments**

This bill amends the definitions of an electric-assisted bicycle.

### **HB 311 Lane Filtering Amendments**

Clarifies that lane filtering is permitted on an off-ramp.

### **HB 345 Driving Penalty Amendments**

Increases fines for speeding in a school zone and for failure to obey school bus signals.

## Effective July 1, 2024

### **HB 30 Road Rage Amendments**

This bill:

- Addresses the seizure and possession of a vehicle for a road rage event.
- Allows for administrative impound fee when a vehicle is seized for an event.
- Allows for the suspension or revocation of an individual's driver license when the individual is convicted of an offense enhanced for road rage.

## Effective January 1, 2025

### **SB 45 License Plate Revisions**

This bill:

- Removes the requirement for an owner of a vehicle to display a license plate on the front of the vehicle.
- Removes the requirement for two (2) registration decals for both the month and year, and consolidates the registration information into one decal.

# DRIVER LICENSE HISTORY

- The Bureau of Driver License Services was created on January 1, 1934, when Utah officially adopted the “Uniform Operator’s and Chauffeurs’ License Act.” (Prior to this, the State of Utah had no driver license law.)
- This act required that “every operator of a motor vehicle shall not drive any motor vehicle upon a highway in this state unless such person was licensed to do so.”
- Originally, the Bureau of Driver License Services was an agency within the State Tax Commission.
- The first license in Utah was issued on December 5, 1933. It cost 25¢ and was good until revoked. It was printed in blue on white paper.
- The application card was 6” x 3½” and only asked for name, address, brief description, a few questions and a signature.
- No examination was given until January 1935, when the eye test, written knowledge test, and an occasional driving skills test was given.
- The “good-until-revoked” licenses were issued until December 31, 1935.
- Beginning January 1, 1936, the law was changed to have the driver license expire three (3) years after issuance (not on the birthdate.) The fee was still 25¢.
- One of the biggest changes came in 1951 when the Bureau of Driver License Services moved from the State Tax Commission and became an agency within the Department of Public Safety.
- In 1980, the state decided to reward “good drivers” by developing a system for the applicant to renew their driver license through the mail.
- The Driver License Division began issuing a commercial driver license in 1989.
- The Driver License Division began offering more online services including MVRs and appointments in 2005.
- January 2010, the citizens of Utah started a 5-year process that required all Utah drivers to bring in their identification documents once again. This process was a beginning step to meet the licensing practices for the Federal REAL ID Act.
- January 2010, the renewal-by-mail program was suspended.
- February 13, 2013, the Driver License Division was notified by the Department of Homeland Security that Utah meets the licensing practices of the Federal REAL ID Act.
- April 2013, the renewal-by-mail program was reinstated and renewal-by-internet was a new service.
- May 2015, the Driver License Division began offering online CDL MVR services to authorized drivers and employers.
- In 2016, the Driver License Division stopped conducting driving skills test on an enclosed range. All driving skills tests are performed on public roads.
- March 2017, tablets were implemented to score driving skills tests rather than paper.
- December 2018, Utah is the first state in the country to have a blood alcohol concentrate of .05.
- January 2020, driver license renewals extend from a 5-year renewal to an 8-year renewal.

- July 2020, the division transitioned to an appointment based system. Until then appointments were available but walk-in customers were the primary process when customers visited our offices.
- October 2021, the division transitioned from a paper application for driver license/ID card to an electronic application. This new process reduces repetitive input of data and decreases customer wait time.
- December 2023 marks 90 years since the first Utah driver license was issued.

### **Did you know the Driver License Division is not part of the DMV?**

Our friends at the DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles, under the Utah State Tax Commission) can assist you at 801.297.7780 or [dmv.utah.gov](http://dmv.utah.gov).

## **THE TOP FIVE LEADING CAUSES OF ALL CRASHES ON UTAH HIGHWAYS**

1. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane 32%
2. Ran Off The Road 12%
3. Failed to Yield Right-of-Way 11%
4. Too Fast for Conditions 9%
5. Over-Correcting/Over-Steering 7%

## **THE TOP FIVE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH ON UTAH HIGHWAYS**

1. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane 32%
2. Ran Off The Road 12%
3. Failed to Yield Right-of-Way 11%
4. Too Fast for Conditions 9%
5. Over-Correcting/Over-Steering 7%

## **THE TOP FIVE LEADING CAUSE OF CRASHES ON UTAH HIGHWAYS (TEENAGERS 15-19)**

1. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane 30%
2. Reckless Driving 15%
3. Failed to Yield Right-of-Way 12%
4. Over-Correcting/Over-Steering 9%
5. Reckless/Aggressive Driving 9%

## **THE TOP FIVE LEADING CAUSE OF CRASHES ON UTAH HIGHWAYS (Age 65+)**

1. Failed to Yield Right-of-Way 23%
2. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane 14%
3. Following Too Closely 9%
4. Over-Correcting/Over-Steering 9%
5. Unsafe Lane Change 9%

Information based on 2023 statistics provided by the Utah Department of Public Safety's Highway Safety office. The percentages are for the top five (5) causes. To see all causes for crashes and fatalities, please visit: [highwaysafety.utah.gov](http://highwaysafety.utah.gov).

# Utah Mobile Driver License (mDL) Program

The Utah Legislature in [2019](#) and [2020](#) authorized the Driver License Division (DLD) to create and pilot a Mobile Driver License (mDL) program for residents who want the *option* of carrying their data securely within their cell phone.

The state contracted with GET North America to produce the mDL app. GET does not have access to individual driver licenses or the Driver License Database.

The mDL is not meant to replace the physical driver license and should be thought of as an extension of your driver license. The mDL is available as an option for those who want it. Your physical credential should be kept on your person whenever operating a motor vehicle.

The mDL contains the same information that your physical credential has. This is just a more convenient, safe, and official way to carry your driver license digitally. It also gives you more control over what information you share from your driver license. A mDL allows the user to limit the data they share to just the data that is needed for the transaction. When verifying age, the verifier does not need to know the person's demographic information, address, or driving privilege. They only need to verify that the person presenting it is that person and that they are of age to complete the transaction with only the information required by law.



You should never hand over your device to anyone or show the data on your device. All transactions are done through a **contactless** secure exchange of encrypted data between the mDL device and the verification device.

To present your license or ID, unlock the GET Mobile ID app with your secure PIN or a biometric like your face or fingerprint, and choose the data page you want to share. Then simply tap the share button, and a QR code will appear. The QR code does not contain anything that identifies you. Simply present the QR code to the relying party's verifier (relying party is the business) device, and the two (2) devices will create an encrypted communication path for the verifier to receive just the data you approved and verify the validity of the license or ID.

To download the mDL app, you must first have been issued your physical driver license or identification card. Once you have received your physical driver license in the mail, you can visit the [Apple Store](#) or [Google Play](#) to download the app. If you choose to obtain this technology, the app is free to try for the first six (6) months, and then a yearly subscription fee is charged.

One of the common requests DLD receives related to the driver license is when there will be a secure mobile version of the license. It is here—download your mDL today by scanning this QR code.



Currently, the mDL can be used at a few dozen locations, including TSA PreCheck at the Salt Lake International Airport. For more information and to watch a video demonstration on how to register securely, please visit our website at [dld.utah.gov/utahmdl/](http://dld.utah.gov/utahmdl/).

# UTAH DRIVER HANDBOOK

## Table of Contents

<b>Section 1. Definitions</b> .....	1	C. Lane Changes .....	29
<b>Section 2. Licensing Requirements</b>		D. Parking .....	31
A. Residents .....	4	E. Passing .....	33
B. Driver License Compact .....	5	F. Signaling.....	34
<b>Section 3. Driver Education and Permits</b>		G. Steering .....	34
A. Driver Education.....	6	H. Stopping .....	35
B. Learner Permit.....	6	I. Turns .....	36
C. Driver License Fees.....	8		
<b>Section 4. Driver License Types, ID Card, Required Documentation</b>		<b>Section 9. Rules of the Road</b>	
A. License Types .....	9	A. Flex Lanes .....	39
B. Endorsements/Restrictions.....	10	B. Freeway Driving.....	39
C. Obtaining a Driver License .....	11	C. Intersections .....	41
D. Driver License (Certificate) .....	12	D. Pavement Markings.....	43
E. Identity and Residency Requirements	12	E. Speed .....	44
F. Out-of-State Driver License .....	17	F. Roundabouts .....	45
G. Renewal, Replacement, Lapsed/Expired .....	17	G. Traffic Controls .....	45
H. Address Change.....	18	H. Traffic Signals.....	45
I. Identification Card (ID).....	18	I. Traffic Signs.....	46
		J. Yielding Right-of-Way .....	49
<b>Section 5. Vision and Health</b>			
A. Eye (Vision) Test .....	19	<b>Section 10. Alcohol/Drugs and Driving</b>	
B. Health Conditions and Driving Safety.	19	A. Effects of Alcohol and Drugs .....	50
C. Review Examination.....	20	B. 21 and Under .....	51
<b>Section 6. Examinations</b>		C. Alcohol and the Law .....	51
A. Written Knowledge Test .....	22	D. Alcohol-Restricted Driver .....	52
B. Traffic Safety and Trends Exam.....	22	E. Boating While Under the Influence .....	53
C. Driving Skills Test.....	22	F. Ignition Interlock Restricted Driver.....	53
		G. Impound of Vehicle .....	53
<b>Section 7. Preparing Your Vehicle</b>			
A. Adjusting Your Seat.....	26	<b>Section 11. Distractions &amp; Driving Challenges</b>	
B. Adjusting Your Mirrors.....	26	A. Aggressive Driving.....	55
C. Safety Belts .....	26	B. Avoiding Collisions with Animals .....	55
D. Car Seats .....	27	C. Desert Driving .....	56
E. Air Bags .....	28	D. Fatigue.....	56
<b>Section 8. Basic Driving</b>		E. Flooding .....	57
A. Starting the Engine .....	29	F. Handheld Wireless Communication .....	58
B. Backing (Reverse).....	29	G. Highway Work Zones .....	58
		H. Lightning .....	59
		I. Mountain Driving.....	59
		J. Night Driving .....	59
		K. Rural Roads.....	60
		L. Skidding.....	61
		M. Trip Planning .....	61

N. Vehicle Submerged Underwater.....	61	Sample Test Questions.....	103
O. Weather.....	62		
<b>Section 12. Crashes and Insurance</b>			
A. Defensive Driving .....	64	A. Back of handbook .....	
B. Emergencies and Avoiding Crashes ..	65		
C. Financial Responsibility Act.....	67		
D. Insurance Coverage .....	68		
E. Release of Crash Report Info .....	68		
<b>Section 13. Suspensions and Your Record</b>			
A. Altered or Fictitious License .....	70		
B. Driving Record (MVR) .....	70		
C. Driving While Denied, Suspended, or Revoked .....	70		
D. License Suspensions .....	71		
E. License Revocations .....	71		
F. Point System .....	72		
<b>Section 14. Sharing the Road</b>			
A. Bicycles .....	74		
B. Emergency Vehicles.....	77		
C. Large Trucks .....	78		
D. Mobility Vehicles.....	81		
E. Motor-Assisted Scooters .....	81		
F. Motorcycles .....	81		
G. Pedestrians .....	83		
H. Pedestrian Vehicles.....	84		
I. Police/Traffic Stops.....	84		
J. Slow Moving Vehicles.....	85		
K. Street Legal All-Terrain.....	85		
L. Trains and Railroad Crossings .....	87		
<b>Section 15. Vehicle Equipment..... 90</b>			
<b>Section 16. Towing..... 93</b>			
<b>Appendix A. Optional Information</b>			
A. Organ Donation .....	96		
B. Voluntary Contributions .....	96		
C. Emergency Contact Database.....	97		
<b>Appendix B. Identity Fraud and Detection..... 98</b>			
<b>Appendix C. Vehicle Registration..... 99</b>			
<b>Appendix D. Your Car and Clean Air..... 100</b>			

# SECTION 1: Definitions

This handbook condenses or paraphrases the actual language of the Utah Code. Officers of the courts are guided by the full text and exact language of the law rather than the Utah driver handbook.

**Assumption of Financial Responsibility**—parent or guardian of the applicant or responsible adult willing to assume the obligation.

**Bicycle**—a wheeled vehicle propelled by human power by feet or hands acting upon pedals or cranks, with a seat or saddle designed to be operated on the ground. Wheels are **not** less than 14 inches in diameter. The bicycle includes an electric-assisted bicycle.

**Blind Spots**—the area of roadway that can't be seen with mirrors while operating a vehicle.

**Cancellation**—termination of a driver license issued through error, fraud, or upon application for a state-issued driver license or ID card, or for which necessary consent has been withdrawn.

**Careless Driving**—a person operating a motor vehicle is guilty of careless driving if the person commits two (2) or more moving traffic violations within a single continuous period of driving or commits a moving traffic violation while being distracted by one or more activities taking place within the vehicle that are not related to the operation of a motor vehicle, including searching for an item in the vehicle or attending to personal hygiene, or grooming.

**Commercial Driver License (CDL)**—a license that allows the holder to drive a vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 lbs. or more, or designed to transport 16 or more passengers, hazardous materials, doubles/triples, bulk liquids (tankers), or school buses.

**Denied**—withdrawal of driving privilege.

**Dependent**—a spouse and any unmarried children under the age of 21.

**Disqualification**—a temporary or permanent withdrawal of a commercial driver license.

**Division**—the Driver License Division of the Department of Public Safety.

**Driving Privilege Card**—the evidence of the privilege to drive a motor vehicle in Utah obtained **without** providing proof of lawful presence in the United States.

**Farm Tractor**—every self-propelled vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement of husbandry.

**Head Checks**—checking your blind spot by turning your head and looking over your shoulder in the direction you plan on moving.

**Highway**—the entire width between property lines of every way or place as a matter of right for vehicular travel.

**License**—the privilege to drive a motor vehicle.

**License Certificate**—the evidence of the privilege to drive a motor vehicle.

**Limited-Term CDL**—the evidence of the privilege to drive a commercial motor vehicle which was obtained by providing proof of lawful presence in the United States by an individual **who is not** a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. National, or a Legal Permanent Resident Alien.

**Limited-Term Driver License**—the evidence of the privilege to drive a motor vehicle which was

obtained by providing proof of lawful presence in the United States by an individual **who is not** a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. National, or a Legal Permanent Resident Alien.

**Limited-Term Identification Card**—an identification card issued to a person who provided proof of lawful presence in the United States by an individual **who is not** a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. National, or a Legal Permanent Resident Alien.

**Low-Speed Vehicle**—a four-wheeled electric motor vehicle designed to be operated at speeds of not more than 25 miles per hour and that has a capacity of not more than four (4) passengers, including the driver. “Low-Speed Vehicle” does not include a golf cart or off-highway vehicle.

**Mobility Vehicle**—a vehicle used by a person with a physical disability which meets the specifications outlined by the division and can be operated on a public roadway, within appropriate restrictions and by an individual who holds a valid mobility vehicle permit.

**Mobility Vehicle Permit**—a permit issued by the division that grants authority and specifies the conditions for a person with a physical disability to drive a mobility vehicle on a public highway.

**Motor Vehicle**—every self-propelled vehicle, except motorized wheelchairs, electric personal assistive mobility devices and vehicles moved solely by human power.

**Motorcycle**—a motor vehicle, except farm tractors, that has a saddle for the rider and is designed to travel with not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground.

**Operator**—a person in actual physical control of a motor vehicle.

**Pedestrian Vehicle**—any self-propelled conveyance designed, manufactured, and intended for persons with a physical disability. The vehicle must not exceed 48 inches in width, have an engine over 300 cubic centimeters (or 12 brake horsepower), or be capable of exceeding 30 m.p.h.

**Personal Motorized Mobility Device**—a self-propelled device with two (2) non-tandem wheels in contact with the ground, a system of steering and stopping the unit under typical operating conditions, a motor not exceeding one horsepower of 750 watts, and a deck design for a person to stand while operating the device.

**Private Passenger Carrier**—any motor vehicle for hire designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver, and operated to transport an employee of the person that hires the motor vehicle.

**Provisional License**—a Utah license issued to any person under 21 years of age.

**Regular CDL**—the evidence of the privilege to drive a commercial motor vehicle issued to a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. National, or a Legal Permanent Resident Alien.

**Regular Identification Card**—an identification card issued to a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. National, or a Legal Permanent Resident Alien.

**Regular License Certificate**—the evidence of the privilege to drive a motor vehicle issued to a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. National, or a Legal Permanent Resident Alien.

**Revocation**—termination of the privilege to drive a motor vehicle.

**Roundabout**—a traffic roundabout is a circular intersection that flows counterclockwise.

**School Bus**—commercial motor vehicle used to transport pre-primary, primary, or secondary school students to and from home and school or to and from school-sponsored events.

**Street-Legal All-Terrain**—an all-terrain type I or utility-type vehicle modified to operate on highways.

**Suspension**—temporary withdrawal of the privilege to drive.

**Taxicab**—a Class D motor vehicle transporting any number of passengers for hire and which is subject to state or federal regulations as a taxi.

**Temporary Driving Permit**—a temporary license allowing driving privileges up to six (6) months, not available for driving privilege card (DPC) holders.

**Traffic Check**—a defensive driving scan for other traffic, pedestrians, or any other obstacles you may encounter while driving.

**Vehicle**—a device by which any person or property may be transported upon a highway except devices used exclusively on stationary rails or tracks.

# SECTION 2: Licensing Requirements

Every resident of Utah who drives a motor vehicle on the highways (any public roadway) must have a valid Utah driver license, learner permit, or temporary driving permit.



## A. RESIDENTS

### PERSONS BECOME RESIDENTS IF THEY:

- Enter the state to make Utah home.
- Remain in the state for six (6) months or more during any calendar year.
- Obtain a driver license or register a motor vehicle in Utah.
- Obtain privileges not extended to non-residents, including school tuition.
- Are gainfully employed in Utah (this does not apply if you are on a temporary assignment in the state.)

### PERSONS WHO DO NOT NEED A UTAH DRIVER LICENSE:

- Non-residents licensed by another state or country may drive in Utah if they are at least 16 years of age.
- Non-residents licensed by another state or country temporarily assigned by an employer, religious or private organization, or governmental entity.
- Non-resident military service personnel and dependents temporarily assigned in Utah may drive with a valid out-of-state or out-of-country driver license.

### PERSONS WHO MAY NOT HAVE A UTAH DRIVER LICENSE:

- If you are under the required age of 16.
- If your driving privilege is denied, suspended, revoked, or disqualified in Utah or any other state.
- If you are physically or mentally unable to drive safely.
- If you have not passed the required examinations.
- If you have a traffic citation or other warrant that has not been settled.
- If you are not a resident of the state.
- If you are under 18 years of age, have not held a learner permit for six (6) months, and completed a driver education course.

Persons are not required to obtain a driver license to drive road rollers, road machinery, or farm tractors on Utah highways if the person is driving the vehicle in conjunction with a construction or agricultural activity.

Visitors with a valid out-of-state or out-of-country driver license may drive in Utah for up to six (6) months.

By law, you may not possess more than one REAL ID-compliant certificate at a time (e.g., a Utah driver license and a Colorado ID.)

## B. DRIVER LICENSE COMPACT

Utah is a member of the **Driver License Compact (DLC)** and the **Non-Resident Violator Compact (NRVC.)** The DLC provides guidelines for greater cooperation among members in driver license matters. Member jurisdictions exchange driver records and forward convictions for traffic offenses to the driver's home state. There are 45 states, plus the District of Columbia (Washington D.C.) that are members of the DLC. States that are **NOT** members of the DLC are Georgia, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Tennessee.

The **NRVC** allows members to forward notices from their courts when an out-of-state driver still needs to comply with the terms of a traffic citation.

The driver's home state will suspend the driver's privilege to drive until satisfactory evidence is received that the driver has complied with the terms of the citation in the member's state.

This compact also facilitates the release of out-of-state drivers cited by law enforcement instead of incarcerating them or requiring the posting of bonds. Forty-four states, plus the District of Columbia (Washington D.C.), are members of the NRVC. States **NOT** members of the NRVC are Alaska, California, Michigan, Montana, Oregon, and Wisconsin.

# SECTION 3: Driver Education & Permits

## A. DRIVER EDUCATION

The State Office of Education approves all Utah high school driver education courses. The Driver License Division approves all private/commercial driver education courses in Utah.

### REQUIRED DRIVER EDUCATION HOURS:

- 27 hours of high school classroom instruction, **or** 18 hours of commercial/private school, **or** 30 hours of Utah-approved online/home study; **and**
- 6 hours behind the wheel instruction; **and**
- 6 hours of observation by a licensed instructor (may be required by school.)



### OUT-OF-STATE DRIVER EDUCATION

Out-of-state driver education course completion certificates must meet Utah's required hours, and the **DLD200** form must be completed. You may make up the remaining hours at an approved Utah driving school if additional training is needed. **Out-of-state online or home study course certificates will not be accepted.**

### COMPLETION OF DRIVER EDUCATION FOR AGES 15-18

Applicants 15-18 must complete an approved driver education course before being licensed in Utah.

Local school districts may allow a student to complete the classroom instruction portion of driver education in public schools; through a home study program; or electronic high school; and they may allow the student to complete the behind-the-wheel portion of driver education with a private provider. A student must also complete 40 hours of driving (10 hours after sunset) with a parent or legal guardian.

### COMPLETION OF DRIVER EDUCATION AGE 19+

Applicants 19 years of age or older who have **never been licensed** to drive a motor vehicle may be licensed without completing a driver education course if they hold a learner permit for 90 days and complete at least 40 hours of driving (10 hours after sunset.) **OR** applicants may complete an approved driver education course and waive the 90-day learner permit requirement.

## B. LEARNER PERMIT

### ENTRY-LEVEL LEARNER PERMIT

All applicants applying for an entry-level learner permit (the permit will allow the applicant to participate in a driver education course and to practice driving until they are eligible to apply for a driver license) must schedule a learner permit appointment by visiting our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov), provide required documentation, pay the applicable fee, successfully pass the written knowledge test and an eye test.

The written knowledge test scores for an entry-level learner permit are valid for 18 months. If you renew or let your permit expire, you must retake the written knowledge test.

The entry-level learner permit is valid for 18 months and entitles you to drive a regular motor vehicle if:

- You have reached a minimum age of 15.
- The person sitting next to you is a licensed parent, legal guardian, approved driving instructor, or responsible adult who signed for financial responsibility (passengers may be in the vehicle.)
- Learner permit must be in your immediate possession.

#### **6-MONTH LEARNER PERMIT (RENEWAL PERMIT):**

- You have reached a minimum age of 16.
- The person sitting next to you is a licensed parent, legal guardian, approved driving instructor, or responsible adult who signed for financial responsibility (passengers may be in the vehicle.)
- You have completed driver education and held a learner permit for at least six (6) months if you are 16 or 17 years of age. If you are 19 years or older, you must hold the learner permit for 90 days.
- Learner permit must be in your immediate possession.
- The written knowledge test scores for a learner permit are valid for 18 months.

#### **LEARNER PERMIT HOLDING PERIODS**

Depending on your age, a learner permit must be held for a period of time to be eligible to obtain a first-time regular Class D driver license:

- Age 16—6 months
- Age 17—6 months
- Age 18—no holding period, but applicant must complete an approved driver education course
- Age 19+—90 days (unless applicant completes an approved driver education course)

## DRIVING BY MINORS—YOUTHFUL DRIVER RESTRICTIONS

Age	Nighttime restrictions	Exception to nighttime driving restrictions	Front seat passenger restrictions with learner	Other passenger restrictions	Exceptions to other passenger restrictions
15	None	N/A	Front seat passenger must be a parent, guardian, driving instructor, or responsible adult who signed for financial responsibility	None	N/A
16	12 am—5 am	Accompanied by a licensed driver 21 years of age in the front seat  On agricultural assignment  Driving to and from work  Driving to and from a school sponsored activity  Emergency situations	Front seat passenger must be a parent, guardian, driving instructor, or responsible adult who signed for financial responsibility	If you have a driver license (not permit) immediate family members only in vehicle until 6 months from issue date	Accompanied by a licensed driver 21 years of age in the front seat  On agricultural assignment  Emergency situations
17	None	N/A	Front seat passenger must be a parent, guardian, driving instructor, or responsible adult who signed for financial responsibility	If you have a driver license (not permit) immediate family members only in vehicle until 6 months from issue date	
18	None	N/A	Accompanied by a licensed driver 21 years of age in the front seat	None	N/A
19+	None	N/A	Accompanied by a licensed driver 21 years of age in the front seat	None	N/A

## C. DRIVER LICENSE FEES

Provisional Class D	\$39.00	Extension of license by mail	\$42.00	CDL knowledge test	\$52.00
Utah license (under 21)		Extension of license by mail	\$22.00	CDL skills test	\$78.00
Regular Class D	\$52.00	(65 and older)		CDL endorsements	\$9.00
Utah license (21 & over)		Duplicate license	\$23.00	Reinstatement of license	\$40.00
Learner permit	\$19.00	Identification card	\$23.00	Reinstatement of license for alcohol/drug	\$85.00
Renewal of license	\$52.00	Disability Identification card	\$17.00		
Renewal of license (65 & older)	\$27.00	Taxi endorsement	\$14.00	Administrative fee for license alcohol/drug reinstatement	\$255.00
DPC license renewal	\$23.00	Motorcycle endorsement	\$18.00		
Limited-Term license original and renewal	\$32.00			MVR (driving record)	\$8.00

# SECTION 4: Driver License Types, ID Card, Required Documentation

## A. LICENSE TYPES

### REGULAR CLASS D DRIVER LICENSE

To obtain an original regular Class D license, you must be at least 16 years of age. If you are younger than 19, you must have completed an approved driver education course or have proof of a license from another state or country. This driver license allows you to drive all personal vehicles (up to 26,000 pounds.) Applicants younger than the age of 21 are issued a provisional Class D regular driver license for the purpose of using a separate point system.

### LIMITED-TERM DRIVER LICENSE

A limited-term driver license is issued to a non-U.S. Citizen in the United States with a lawful status that has been verified and qualifies for a REAL ID certificate.

### DRIVING PRIVILEGE CARD (DPC)

A DPC may be issued to a person who is legally allowed to be in the United States as a parolee or another legal status that is not eligible for REAL ID, or if you are an undocumented immigrant in the United States. The DPC may be used for driving purposes only; *it is not valid identification or age verification*. The DPC expires each year on the applicant's birthday. Except as provided by law, the same provisions, requirements, classes, endorsements, fees, restrictions, and sanctions apply to the DPC, as apply to the regular Class D driver license.

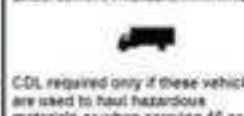
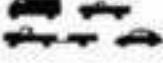
**Note:** Utah state law does not allow for the issuance of a temporary driving permit for a DPC. Therefore, **no drive time will be permitted** until the plastic card is received by mail.

### UTAH'S COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE (CDL)

To view the CDL manual, click this [link](#) or scan the QR code.



#### UTAH'S CLASSIFIED LICENSE SYSTEM

CLASS A	Min. Age	CLASS B	Min. Age	CLASS C	Min. Age	CLASS D	Min. Age
Over 26,000 lbs. Combined Vehicle & over 10,000 lbs. Towed Unit.....	21	Over 26,000 lbs. Single or Combined vehicle.....	21	Under 26,001 lbs. Towed Unit.....	21	Under 26,001 lbs. If used to transport 1. 16+ occupants..... 2. Placarded Amounts Hazardous Materials.....	21
Intrastate Only Restriction.....	18-21	Intrastate Only Restriction.....	18-21				
							

# **B. ENDORSEMENTS and RESTRICTIONS**

## **ENDORSEMENT CODES**

**H** Hazardous Materials

**M** Motorcycles

**N** Tankers

**P** Passengers

**S** School Bus

**T** Doubles & Triple Tankers

**X** Hazmat & Tankers

**Z** Taxicab

## **RESTRICTIONS**

**2** Restricted to operating a motorcycle with 249 cc or less

**3** Restricted to operating a motorcycle with 649 cc or less

**4** Restricted to operating a street legal ATV

**5** Restricted to operating a motorcycle with 90 cc or

**6** Restricted to operating a motor vehicle on roads with a posted speed limit of 40 mph or less

**7** Restricts driver to operating a motor vehicle with an automatic transmission

**A** No Restrictions

**B** Driver must wear corrective lenses

**C** Mechanical aid or compensatory device required while driving

**D** Prosthetic aid must be used while driving

**E** Restricts the driver from driving a commercial motor vehicle with a manual transmission

**F** Restricted to driving a vehicle with outside rear-view mirrors

**G** Restricted to driving during daylight hours only

**J** Restricts the driver for any other restrictions deemed necessary by the division

**K** Restricted to intrastate operation of commercial vehicles

**L** Restricted to vehicles with no air brakes

**M** Restricts driver from transporting passengers using a Class A bus

**N** Restricts driver from transporting passengers using a Class A or Class B bus

**O** Restricts driver from driving a commercial motor vehicle equipped with a tractor trailer

**P** Restricts CDL driver with a school bus or passenger endorsement from having passengers in commercial motor vehicle

**U** Restricted to operating only three-wheeled motorcycles

**V** Indicates that the driver has been issued a variance by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in reference to the driver's medical certification status

**Z** Restricts driver from driving a commercial motor vehicle with non-fully equipped air brakes

## C. OBTAINING A DRIVER LICENSE

It is always unfortunate when people spend time and gas coming to one of our offices only to find out they cannot be helped for some reason. To best assist you at the Driver License Division and to ensure your visit is as fast and efficient as possible, please do the following:

- Go to [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov) under “Driver License” and select “U.S. Citizen or Non-U.S. Citizen” and then the license type that best describes the service you need. Fill out the **ONLINE APPLICATION** and you will be prompted to schedule an appointment. Using the online application and appointment scheduler will result in faster service, **as those who have appointments will be served before walk-in applicants.**
- Double-check you have all the correct documentation before visiting a driver license office, including your confirmation number for your scheduled appointment.
- All documents must be original or certified copies by the issuing agency. Faxed or photocopied documents will **NOT** be accepted.
- All documents are subject to department review and approval. Additional information may be required; in some cases, document approval may **NOT** occur on the same day and may require a further visit.
- Any name variation from your identity document must be accompanied by legal authorizing documentation. These include state-certified marriage certificate, divorce decree, updated passport, amended birth certificate, adoption paperwork, citizenship/naturalization certificate, or court documents indicating the name change sealed by the court.
- All documents provided to the division will be imaged and stored in a secure database and immediately returned to the applicant.
- Arrive on time for your appointment to complete processing, including taking a written knowledge test. A driving skills test may require an additional appointment. We cannot guarantee the completion of the necessary processing after closing time.
- Driving skills tests will not be provided when conditions exist that could create unsafe driving. Those conditions include inclement weather and vehicles that are not registered or are unsafe (i.e., broken windshield or no safety belts.)
- Although you may pay for your driver license by check, credit card, or cash, there are a few things you should know. Checks must be made payable to the Department of Public Safety in the correct amount. We cannot cash payroll or two-party checks. If the bank returns your check, you must pay a \$20 service charge to keep your driving privilege.

For additional information on acceptable documentation, please visit [dld.utah.gov/required-documentation/](http://dld.utah.gov/required-documentation/).

**Note:** If you schedule an appointment outside of the correct service, for example, a driving skills test scheduled under renewal, your scheduled appointment may not be fulfilled, and you may have to reschedule under the correct service.

## D. DRIVER LICENSE (CERTIFICATE)

### OBTAINING A DRIVER LICENSE CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS:

- Driver education completion certificate, or have a “clear” license status from another state or country.
- Assumption of financial liability.
- Acceptable proof of identity and lawful presence in the United States.
- Two (2) acceptable documents as evidence of your Utah residence address.
- Acceptable proof of your full social security number or proof of ineligibility to obtain a social security number as a result of lawful presence status.
- Payment of applicable fees.
- Completion of driver license application.
- Eye examination.
- Written knowledge/driving skills test.
- Photo.

## E. IDENTITY AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Every applicant will need to provide acceptable proof of their identity.

An individual's lawful status will determine what type of driving certificate or identification card the applicant is eligible to obtain.

U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, and Legal Permanent Resident Aliens can apply for a regular Class D driver license, regular CDL, or a regular identification card.

Applicants **not** U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, or Legal Permanent Resident Aliens who have proof of lawful presence in the United States can apply for a limited-term driver license, limited-term CDL, or a limited-term identification card.

Applicants who do **not** meet the lawful presence requirements to obtain a regular or limited-term driver license may be eligible to apply for a driving privilege card (DPC).

**Note:** When changing a name, a legal document granting the name change must be furnished.  
*Examples:* government-issued marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court order.

To protect an applicant's identity, the division has adopted stringent guidelines for accepting identity documents. Additionally, the division seeks prosecution and sanctions against anyone submitting fraudulent documents or committing a fraud in the application process. The division seeks the best-documented evidence to establish credible identification of the applicant by requesting a state-certified birth certificate (hospital-issued, miniature, laminated, or photocopied certificates are not acceptable.)

## **REGULAR CLASS D DRIVER LICENSE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD (ID)**

Acceptable documents for a regular Class D driver license or identification card. Identity and lawful status verification (**must provide one**):

- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport or passport card.
- Certified copy of a birth certificate filed with the State Office of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency in your state of birth (small laminated birth certificates or hospital certificates are not accepted.)
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) issued by the U.S. Department of State, form FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545.
- Valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card, Conditional Permanent Resident Card, form I-551.
- Certificate of Naturalization issued by DHS, form N-550 or form N-570.
- Certificate of Citizenship issued by DHS, form N-560 or form N-561.

**~AND~**

Social security verification (**must provide one**):

- Social security card issued by the U.S. government that has been signed (stub will not be accepted.)
- If the social security card is not available, you may present one of the following documents that includes your name and full social security number:
  - W-2 form
  - SSA-1099 form
  - Non SSA-1099 form
  - Pay stub
- Letter from the Social Security Administration indicating ineligibility to obtain a social security number as a result of lawful presence status.

**~AND~**

Utah residency and mailing address verification (**must provide two**), and it must display your name; address, and be dated within 90 days:

- Bank statement
- Court documents
- Current mortgage or rental contract
- Major credit card bill
- Property tax notice
- School transcript
- Utility bill
- Vehicle title

**~AND~**

Proof of driving experience required for first Utah driver license (not required when obtaining a learner permit or an identification card):

- Evidence of completion of a course in driver education if under the age of 19, **or**
- Evidence of a driving privilege issued in another state or country.

**LIMITED-TERM DRIVER LICENSE**

Acceptable documents for a limited-term driving certificate or identification card. Identity and lawful status verification (**must provide one**):

- Unexpired Employment Authorization Document (EAD) issued by DHS, form I-766 or form I-688B; verified by the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements system (SAVE).
- Unexpired foreign passport with a valid visa and I-94 verified through SAVE.

**~AND~**

A document issued by the U.S. Federal Government that establishes **proof of one** of the below statuses providing evidence of lawful entrance into the United States of America verified through SAVE:

- Unexpired immigrant or nonimmigrant visa status for admission into the United States issued by the U.S. Federal Government.
- Pending or approved application for asylum in the United States.
- Admission into the United States as a refugee.
- Pending or approved application for temporary protected status in the United States.
- Approved deferred action status.
- Pending application for adjustment of status to legal permanent resident.
- Covered humanitarian parolee.

**~AND~**

Social security verification (**must provide one**):

- Social security card issued by the U.S. government that has been signed (stub will not be accepted.)
- If the social security card is not available, the applicant may present one of the following documents which contains the applicant's name and full social security number:
  - W-2 form
  - SSA-1099 form
  - Non SSA-1099 form
  - Pay stub
- Letter from the Social Security Administration indicating ineligibility to obtain a social security number as a result of lawful presence status.

**~AND~**

Utah residency and mailing address verification (**must provide two**), and it must display your name; address, and be dated within 90 days:

- Bank statement
- Court documents
- Current mortgage or rental contract
- Major credit card bill
- Property tax notice
- School transcript
- Utility bill
- Vehicle title

**~AND~**

Proof of driving experience required for original Utah driver license (not required when obtaining a learner permit):

- Evidence of completion of a course in driver education if under the age of 19; **or**
- Evidence of a driving privilege issued in another state or country.

### **DRIVING PRIVILEGE CARD (DPC)**

Acceptable documents for a driving privilege card (DPC)

Identity and lawful status verification (**must provide one**):

- Foreign birth certificate **or** unexpired foreign passport, including a certified translation if the document is not in English.
- Unexpired Employment Authorization (EAD) issued by DHS.

**~AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING~**

- Church records
- Court records
- Driver license
- Employee ID
- Insurance ID card
- Matricular consular card (issued in Utah)
- Mexican voter registration card
- School records
- Utah Driving Privilege Card (DPC)

**~AND~**

Social security verification or individual tax identification number (**must provide one**):

- Social security card issued by the U.S. government that has been signed (stub will not be accepted.)
- If the social security card is not available, you may present one of the following documents that includes your name and full social security number:
  - W-2 form
  - SSA-1099 form
  - Non SSA-1099 form
  - Pay stub
- Individual tax identification number (ITIN) issued by the Internal Revenue Service.
- Document or letter from the IRS verifying the ITIN.

**~AND~**

Utah residency and mailing address verification (**must provide two**), and it must display your name; address, and be dated within 90 days:

- Bank statement
- Court documents
- Current mortgage or rental contract
- Major credit card bill
- Property tax notice
- School transcript
- Utility bill
- Vehicle title

**~AND~**

Fingerprint card and photo (additional fee required.) It must be obtained and placed in a sealed envelope at the Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI), a participating law enforcement agency, or an approved fingerprint vendor. It is only required for **an** original application.

**~AND~**

Proof of driving experience required for first Utah driver license (not required when obtaining a learner permit):

- Evidence of completion of a course in driver education if under the age of 19; **or**
- Evidence of a driving privilege issued in another state or country.

## **F. OUT-OF-STATE DRIVER LICENSE**

Drivers who have never been licensed in Utah, first-time drivers, and drivers who change from one license classification to another will be issued an original driver license. The driver license will expire on the applicant's birthday eight (8) years after issue when over 21. Provisional licenses (licenses issued to an applicant under 21 years of age) will expire on the applicant's birthday five (5) years after issue.

**Note:** Your out-of-state driver license must be surrendered upon application for a Utah driver license.

Visitors with a valid out-of-state or out-of-country license may drive in Utah for up to six (6) months.

Drivers with an out-of-state learner permit may **NOT** drive in Utah. To apply for a Utah driver license, please visit our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov) and schedule an appointment.

## **G. RENEWAL, REPLACEMENT, LAPSED/EXPIRED**

### **RENEWAL**

To renew your regular Utah driver license, schedule a renewal appointment by visiting our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov). You may renew your driver license up to six (6) months before the expiration of the license. After paying the fee and passing the required tests (if any), you will be issued a new driver license that will expire on your birthday eight (8) years after issue.

Military personnel and dependents who reside with them who had a valid Utah driver license at the time of entry into the service may continue to use that driver license up to 90 days after discharge or termination of orders (this provision applies only to members and their dependents who are stationed/residing outside of Utah.)

A civilian employee of the United States Department of Defense or State Department and their dependents working outside the United States may continue using their Utah driver license up to 90 days after the assignment has been terminated or changed.

Limited-term driver license holder must present acceptable proof of lawful presence documents when renewing.

### **REPLACEMENT**

If you have lost your Utah driver license, you can schedule a duplicate license appointment by visiting our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov). Limited-term driver license holder must present acceptable proof of lawful presence documents. In addition, an eye exam must be passed and a new photograph taken. The expiration date of a replacement driver license will be the same date as the license it replaces.

All drivers wanting to change their address must provide two (2) approved forms of address change verification to receive the replacement and pay the applicable fee.

### **LAPSED/EXPIRED**

If your driver license has expired, schedule a renewal appointment on our website [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov). You may have to complete the written knowledge and driving skills tests again, depending on the length of expiration.

## **UTAH'S GOOD DRIVER PROGRAM EXTENSIONS AND RENEWALS BY INTERNET FOR REGULAR DRIVER LICENSE HOLDERS**

If you have **NOT** received more than six (6) reportable violations in the past eight (8) years, and your driver license status is currently valid, you are eligible for Utah's good driver program. You will receive an extension (online renewal) notice by mail approximately 90 days before your birthday, if the division has record of your current address.

## **H. ADDRESS CHANGE**

If you have a change of address, you are required by law to notify the division of the new address within **TEN DAYS** of moving. This may be done [online](#). This is important because the post office will not forward mail from the Driver License Division. If you would like your new address on your driver license, you will need to schedule an appointment for a replacement driver license by visiting our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov).

## **I. IDENTIFICATION CARD**

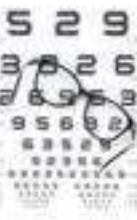
Only a Utah resident may obtain a Utah identification card.

Utah law does **NOT** allow an individual to have a driver license certificate and an identification card at the same time. To apply, schedule an identification card appointment on our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov).

# SECTION 5: Vision and Health

Driving is one of the most dangerous things that you will ever do. Being in good health when you drive and making good choices is essential. Here are ways to be a safer driver.

## A. EYE (VISION) TEST



The division requires 20/40 vision and peripheral fields (side vision) of 90° in at least one eye to pass the vision test. If you fail to meet this standard with or without glasses, you must get a statement from your eye doctor. The statement must be presented before your application can be completed. It should indicate specific vision conditions and suggested restrictions, if any. A vision test is required on all applications processed in a field office. Everyone age 65 and older is required to pass a vision test with every license application.

## B. HEALTH CONDITIONS AND DRIVING SAFETY

In 1979, the Utah State Legislature made provisions for increasing highway safety while allowing many people with health concerns to drive within appropriate safety limits.

The law states that **individuals are personally responsible** for ensuring they are in reasonably good health when driving. If a person has a health condition that may affect their ability to drive a vehicle safely, they are responsible for reporting it to the Driver License Division and are expected to seek competent medical evaluation and advice. Their physicians are responsible for advising them about their health related to driving safety. A physician does not have the authority to restrict anyone's driving but is responsible for reporting accurately about a patient's health status. This report may permit a license with restrictions or, in some cases, a denial of your license for safety reasons.

The legislature also set up a Driver License Medical Advisory Board to advise physicians and the Driver License Division. The board emphasizes the functional ability to drive a vehicle safely rather than stressing impairments. It developed a form, "Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report," or "Guidelines" to help physicians advise their patients and simplify reporting.

The guidelines include possible health concerns in the following 11 categories:

- (A) Diabetes and metabolic conditions
- (B) Cardiovascular (heart)
- (C) Pulmonary (lung)
- (D) Neurologic (nervous system)
- (E) Seizures and other episodic conditions
- (F) Learning, memory, and communication disorders
- (G) Mental health
- (H) Alcohol and other drugs
- (I) Visual disorders

- (J) Musculoskeletal abnormality or chronic debility
- (K) Alertness or sleep disorders

In some circumstances, it might be appropriate for the Medical Advisory Board to review a case to help determine driving eligibility.

You will be asked to answer health-related questions when applying for your Utah driver license. If there is a health concern, you will be given a Functional Ability Evaluation form to take to your healthcare provider, who will complete a Functional Ability Safety Assessment.

The form is then returned to the Driver License Division, and if appropriate, a license to drive will be issued based on previously determined levels of driving risk. For example, if there is a vision concern and you cannot read highway signs at a distance, you may be considered unsafe to drive, at reduced speeds, and a restricted license could be issued.

If you have a health condition, ask your physician how it might affect your driving. Many medications may cause drowsiness or other difficulties; therefore, a physician may advise against driving until a suitable dosage schedule has been worked out that will not impair driving. Abuse or excessive use of prescription drugs has caused many serious accidents and should be avoided. You have the final responsibility for knowing your abilities and for driving safely.

The guidelines require higher standards of fitness for drivers of commercial motor vehicles than for private vehicles, but the principles are the same.

## **MENTAL AND HEALTH CONDITIONS**

Mental and health conditions are just as important as physical health concerns. If your mind is not on your driving, you are probably not driving safely. Some forms of behavior that often provide hints about our mental health are:

- Finding that you are always mad at other drivers and sometimes try to "get even."
- Tending to be excessively confused or frustrated when traffic becomes heavy.
- Being so depressed and worried about things that your attention is not always on the road.
- You are frequently getting traffic citations.
- Having trouble adjusting to an emotional shock such as the loss of a loved one.

If you are angry or excited, give yourself time to cool off. Take a walk or talk to a friend. Do anything, but stay off the road until you have cooled down.

If you are worried about something, do something that will allow you to concentrate on driving. Listen to the radio or sing to yourself.

If you are impatient, give yourself extra time. If you leave a few minutes early, you will not feel the need to speed, beat traffic signals, or do other things that can get you a traffic citation or cause a crash.

## **C. REVIEW EXAMINATION**

Sometimes, the division will request that a driver appear for a review examination. The request for an evaluation may be based upon a request from:

- Medical professional.
- Confidential reporting.
- A law enforcement officer observed a driving situation that questioned the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle safely.
- Another individual or agency indicates a driver may be impaired.
- Having a medical condition that requires assessing the functional ability to drive.

A review examination does not necessarily lead to withdrawing the driving privilege. In most cases, upon completion of the review process, a driver is allowed to drive under applicable restrictions if deemed safe by the division. The driving privilege will be withdrawn if an individual does not complete a required review examination.

After the review examination has been completed, a hearing officer will discuss the results with the driver and will review the medical evaluation. The hearing officer will take into account:

- The driving needs of the individual.
- The type of roads or highways used.
- The traffic conditions usually experienced, etc.

The hearing officer will also refer to guidelines established by the Driver License Medical Advisory Board as they relate to the medical form provided by the driver. The hearing officer will then decide whether any restrictions need to be placed on the license. Only when the division determines that a driver cannot operate a vehicle safely under any conditions is the driver license withdrawn. Often no restrictions are required, but when they are, one or more restrictions are specified on the license.

# SECTION 6: Examinations

## A. WRITTEN KNOWLEDGE TEST

The primary purpose of a written knowledge test is to ensure you have the information needed to drive safely. The written knowledge test measures a sample of what you know, but it shows you have a basic understanding of Utah laws and safe driving practices. The questions are based on the information provided in this handbook. The written knowledge test is not timed, but it generally takes 30 to 45 minutes to finish, and you must pass with a score of 80% or better.



You can take two (2) written knowledge tests per day, provided the division can facilitate the testing. If you need to return to the office after a failed attempt, a written retest appointment will need to be scheduled.

The fee allows for not more than three (3) attempts to pass the written knowledge test within 12 months. After three (3) failed attempts at the written knowledge test, you may pay another fee for an opportunity for three (3) more attempts to pass the written knowledge test within six (6) months.

## B. TRAFFIC SAFETY AND TRENDS EXAM

All first-time driver license applicants will be required to pass an additional test and receive 100% to obtain their first-time regular Class D driver license. This exam is only offered on the Driver License Division website and may be taken as often as necessary before licensing. 50% of the questions will relate to significant causes of traffic-related deaths as identified in statistics published by the Utah Highway Safety Office.

## C. DRIVING SKILLS TEST

You will be required to demonstrate your driving ability and provide the vehicle for the driving skills test. The vehicle must be properly registered and comply with vehicle safety laws, including functioning safety belts. The vehicle may be rejected if its condition could cause harm to the examiner's person or clothes. You must:

- Be at least 16 years of age to take a driving skills test at the DLD. If you arrive for a scheduled test and have not met the requirements, you will need to reschedule your test.
- Be at least 15 years of age to take a driving skills test with a Third-Party Tester or high school.

The applicant and the examiner are the only occupants allowed in the vehicle during the driving skills test. In addition to road rules and regulations, you will be scored on:

- General behavior and attitude.
- The use of proper driving techniques.

- Driving posture and adequate use of lanes.
- Left, right, and three-point turns.
- Starting and stopping.
- Parking on hills, between cars, and parallel parking.
- Observance of traffic signs and signals, backing, U-turns, and steering coordination.
- Attention at intersections.
- Overall ability to operate the vehicle safely and appropriately.



During the driving skills test, the driver license examiner will instruct you through the test. You will be asked to follow the directions of the examiner, who will be scoring you on specific driving maneuvers. You will not be asked to do anything unsafe or illegal.

If you fail the driving skills test, you will be expected to practice before taking another test. You may only take one driving skills test daily and may have to wait several days or weeks before attempting additional tests. The failure to pass the driving skills test in three (3) attempts will result in paying another fee. All tests must be completed within six (6) months from the day you pay your fee.

Any person may be asked to complete additional testing if the examiner feels the applicant's driving ability may be questionable.

You can expect to be treated with respect, fairness, and courtesy during the examination process. At the end of the driving skills test, the examiner will discuss the test results and provide recommendations for possible improvement.

Your driving skills test will last about 20 minutes and will consist of the basic maneuvers mentioned above.

If you have any questions, please ask the examiner before your driving skills test begins. During the test, the examiner will ask questions or give you directions, but will not engage in general conversation.

We want you to pass your driving skills test. Study this handbook, relax, and do your best!

**Note:** Driving skills tests (including motorcycle skills tests) are given by appointment only. Schedule on our website at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov).

## **PREPARE FOR YOUR DRIVING SKILLS TEST**

To succeed on your driving skills test, you should practice with a parent/guardian or friend who is properly licensed and over the age of 21. Practice driving in low-traveled, residential areas until you are confident you can drive in other traffic situations, such as urban areas and expressways. It is also a good idea to watch a video demonstration on the required maneuvers to become familiar with how to properly perform the maneuver. There are links available with each maneuver later in this book.

Before taking the driving skills test, you should have made an appointment. When arriving at the office for your scheduled time:

- Present your learner permit or license certificate.

- Valid vehicle registration.
- Valid insurance.
- Valid driver license of the person who is at least 21 years of age or a parent, guardian or spouse who is at least 18 years of age, accompanying you to the Driver License Office.

## **TEST VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS**

**You must provide the vehicle for your driving skills test.** The vehicle must be registered, clean, and free of unnecessary debris and odor, and safe to drive. To avoid having to reschedule your driving skills test, please ensure that your vehicle has:

- The rear plate must show current registration (front plate not required after January 1, 2025.)
- Both front and back turn signal lights and working brake lights.
- A working horn designed for the vehicle.
- Tires with no bald spots.
- Adequate brake pressure (you may be asked to step on the brake pedal to see if it works properly.)
- A driver's side window that rolls down.
- A windshield that allows an entire unobstructed field of vision.
- Two (2) rear view mirrors (one must be on the outside, to the driver's left.)
- Driver and front passenger doors that open from both the inside and outside.
- A passenger seat is permanently attached to the vehicle.
- Working safety belts.
- Working emergency/parking brake.

Learning to drive safely does not end with your driving skills test. Your driver license means you have met the driving test requirements. However, in everyday driving, you will have to deal with many situations you did not encounter on the test. The best way to deal with unexpected situations is always to use safe driving habits and the responsible and courteous attitude you demonstrated on your test. Good luck!

## **THIRD-PARTY TESTERS**

Third-party testers are certified and licensed as commercial driver education instructors by the division and can administer the driving skills test. A separate fee for testing will be required by the third-party tester, which is not part of the licensing fees collected by the division. For a current list of certified third-party testers, visit [dld.utah.gov/driving-skills-test/](http://dld.utah.gov/driving-skills-test/).

## **ADDITIONAL TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

You may be required to complete additional written knowledge or driving skills testing:

- If you have an expired learner permit.
- If you have not completed the application process within six (6) months of applying.

- If your previous testing has expired.

## **DANGEROUS ACTIONS/AUTOMATIC FAILURES**

If any of the following errors occur during the driving skills test, automatic failure will result:

- If you receive a traffic citation for a moving violation, disobey signs or signals, speed, roll through stops, or ignore traffic laws.
- If you do not yield to pedestrians or other roadway users.
- If you are involved in an avoidable crash or if your vehicle has physical contact with other vehicles, objects, or pedestrians.
- If you commit, any unsafe act or another driver is forced to take evasive action in order to prevent a crash.
- If you put the vehicle over sidewalks or curbs unnecessarily.
- If the examiner has to take control of the vehicle.
- If you drive too fast or too slow.

## **SAFE DRIVING TIPS**

Practice these tips to improve your driving skills:

- Steer smoothly at all times with both hands on the outside of the wheel. You may use the hand-over-hand or push-and-pull method.
- Accelerate smoothly. Don't race the engine or make it stall.
- Stop the vehicle gently. Start braking well ahead of where you must stop to avoid sudden jerks. Know where to stop. Be aware of crosswalks. If your view is blocked at a crosswalk, move forward carefully and look both ways before entering the intersection.
- Be sure your vehicle is in the correct gear. Don't grind the gears. Don't coast to a stop.
- Always obey the posted speed limits. If needed, reduce your speed to adjust for weather, road, and other traffic conditions.
- Follow at a safe distance. Use the two-second rule. Increase your following distance in bad weather or poor visibility.
- Know what the traffic signals mean and obey them at all times.
- Always use the proper lane. Turn from the correct lane into the correct lane.
- Signal for all lane changes and turns.
- Always scan for potential hazards and check your mirrors frequently.
- Always look over the proper shoulder (head check/traffic check) before making lane changes, pulling away from the curb, or making turns.
- Drive defensively. Anticipate another driver's errors.

# SECTION 7: Preparing Your Vehicle

## A. ADJUSTING YOUR SEAT:

- Sit straight with your back against the seat and feet on the floor.
- Adjust your seat and mirrors so you can see clearly.
- You should be able to reach the foot pedals.
- You should leave 10 inches between your chest and the steering wheel. Do not lean the seat back.
- You should be able to move your foot easily from the brake to the gas pedal and keep your heel on the floor.
- The top of the steering wheel should be no higher than your shoulders. It should be below chin level.
- Your headrest should contact the back of your head above the level of your ears.

## B. ADJUSTING YOUR MIRRORS

Adjust the inside mirror so that it frames the rear window. If you have a day/night mirror, ensure it is set for the time of day you drive.

Adjust outside mirrors to give maximum view to the side and rear. How to adjust your outside mirrors:

- To set the left side mirror, rest your head against the closed left window. Set the mirror so you can barely see the rear left edge of your vehicle.
- To set the right side mirror, lean to the right so your head is directly below the rearview mirror. Set the mirror so you can barely see the right side of your vehicle.

## C. SAFETY BELTS

Always fasten your safety belt. Everyone in your vehicle must have a fastened safety belt or child seat. Safety belts reduce injuries and deaths in crashes. They keep you ~~from being thrown from~~ the vehicle. They help you keep control of your vehicle.

To wear the safety belt correctly:

- Pull the shoulder harness across your shoulder and chest until it ~~is~~ snug; the lap belt should fit across the hips, not your stomach.
- The shoulder harness should not be under your arm or behind your back.
- Fasten the buckle securely.

Motor vehicle crashes continue to be a major cause of death and injury ~~to~~ individuals in Utah.



## **SAFETY BELT FACTS:**

- Buckle up, It's the law. All passengers must wear safety belts, and children ages eight (8) and younger must be properly restrained in a car or booster seat.
- Your chances of being killed are 23 times greater if you are thrown from a car. Ejection from the vehicle is one of the most severe events that can happen in a crash. Safety belts help keep you in the car.
- 70% of crashes occur at speeds under 40 mph. A safety belt should be worn at any speed, regardless of how slow you are moving.
- In a crash, the forces exerted on your body equal your weight multiplied by the car's speed. For example, if you weigh 150 pounds and crash while traveling 30 mph, there would be 4,500 pounds of force on your body. There is no way you can brace yourself against that much force.
- Three (3) out of four (4) crashes resulting in death are within 25 miles of home. Not using a safety belt because you are just going to the store is a poor excuse—and dangerous.
- Less than half of one percent of all injury-producing collisions involve fire or submersion. If fire or submersion does occur, a safety belt may keep you from being injured or knocked unconscious, thus increasing your chances of escape.
- Drivers wearing safety belts have more control over their vehicles in emergencies and are more likely to avoid a crash.
- In Utah, approximately two (2) out of three (3) motor vehicle deaths would not happen if safety belts were worn.

## **SAFETY BELT VIOLATIONS**

Remember, safety belts save lives. If you or anyone in your vehicle isn't properly restrained, you can be issued a citation for each unrestrained passenger. The fine may be waived upon completing an online, 30-minute safety belt safety course. You may be stopped and cited if anyone under 16 years of age is unrestrained, and occupants of the vehicle 16 years and older may be cited for a safety belt violation if stopped for another reason.

For proper safety belt and car seat usage, visit [clickitutah.org](http://clickitutah.org).

## **D. CAR SEATS**

Make sure child safety seats are used correctly:

- All children aged eight (8) and under must be properly secured in an approved child safety seat unless they are 57 inches tall.
- Children must be rear-facing in the back seat until at least two (2) years of age and 30 pounds or longer if the car seat allows.
- Children must be forward facing with a harness in the back seat until at least four (4) years of age and 40 pounds, or longer if the car seat allows.

- Children from approximately four (4) years of age and 40 pounds need to be in a booster seat until the safety belt fits correctly and they are 57 inches tall.
- Children between eight (8) and 12 years old must be properly restrained in an appropriate child restraint device or by a safety belt. Children 12 years of age and younger should continue to ride in the back seat.

#### **CHILD CAR SEAT FACTS:**

- Approximately 500 Utah children under the age of five (5) are injured, and as many as 10 are killed each year in motor vehicle crashes.
- Authorized emergency vehicles, mopeds, motorcycles, school buses, and vehicles not equipped with safety belts by the manufacturer are exempt from the motor vehicle safety belt usage act.
- Child car seats must be crash-tested to be approved for use. Check the labels on your child's car seat to be sure it meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

#### **PROTECTION OF CHILDREN**

It is an infraction to be stopped for smoking in a vehicle while transporting children 15 years of age or younger.

## **E. AIR BAGS**

Air bags work! They save lives. Air bags are designed to work with safety belts, not replace them. They do their job best when everyone is buckled, and children are properly restrained in the back seat.

An air bag is not a soft, billowy pillow. To do its important job, an air bag comes out of the dashboard at up to 200 mph—faster than the blink of an eye. The force of an air bag can hurt those who are too close to it. Drivers can eliminate any danger to children from a deploying air bag by properly restraining children in the back seat. With or without an air bag, the back seat is the safest for children to ride.

Air bag related injuries can be prevented by following these critical safety points:

- Children twelve and under should ride buckled up in a rear seat, and child car seats should be approved for their age and size.
- Infants should **never** ride in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger-side air bag.
- Everyone should buckle up with both lap **and** shoulder belts on every trip.
- Driver and front seat passengers should be moved as far back as practical.
- If a child must ride in a seating position with an air bag, move the vehicle seat as far back as possible and ensure they are correctly secured in an appropriate child car seat. Many vehicles can also turn off the air bag when a child is present.

**Note:** It is a Class B misdemeanor if you remove, fail to have repaired, or modify your vehicle's air bag passive restraint system to render the air bag inoperable. Find more information at [safecar.gov](http://safecar.gov).

# SECTION 8: Basic Driving

## A. STARTING THE ENGINE

Be sure the vehicle is in “P” (park) or the clutch is engaged if operating a vehicle with manual gears. To start the engine, apply the brake, turn the ignition on and check the lights and gauges (fuel level, ABS, air bags, etc.) Turn the ignition switch to start, turn on the low-beam headlights and lock the doors.

### MOVING FORWARD:

- Put the vehicle in gear.
- Perform a traffic check and head check.
- Signal if needed.
- Smoothly accelerate.

When performing the following maneuvers, you are expected to perform required head checks, signals, and traffic checks.

## B. BACKING (Reverse)

### STEPS TO SAFELY BACK YOUR MOTOR VEHICLE UP:

- Check behind the vehicle before you get in. You cannot see children or small objects from the driver's seat.
- Start the vehicle.
- Apply the brake and shift to reverse.
- Grasp the steering wheel with your left hand.
- Put your right arm on the back of the seat and look through the rear window. Your mirrors do not show the area right behind your vehicle.
- Back slowly. It is hard to steer while backing. Steer in the direction you want the rear of the vehicle to move. If turning while backing, make quick checks to the front and sides. Keep looking to the rear until you are stopped. Do not back up on a freeway or interstate.
- Keep your vehicle on the right-hand side of the road, and do not back unnecessarily long distances.

## C. LANE CHANGES

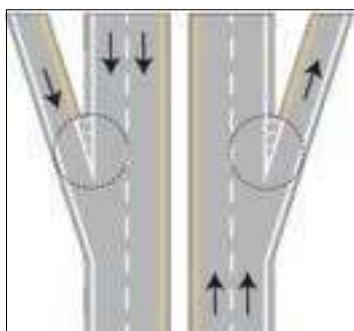
During the driving skills test, you will be asked to change lanes to the [left](#) and back to the [right](#). You should make the necessary traffic checks first by:

- Checking your mirrors.
- Signal for at least two (2) seconds in the direction you intend to move.
- Check your “blind spot” by turning your head and looking over your shoulder in the same direction.
- Drive defensively by making sure your lane change can be completed safely.
- Merge when safe.
- Maintain or adjust your speed to go with the flow of traffic.
- Cancel your turn signal.

## **PROPER LANE USAGE**

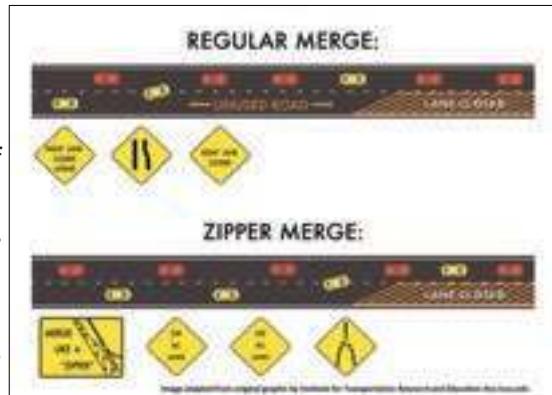
Do not put the vehicle over curbs, sidewalks, or lane markings. Complete a turn in the proper lane on a multiple-lane road (vehicle should finish a left turn in the left-most lane, the one directly to the right of the centerline.) Finish a right turn in the right-most (curb) lane. Move to or remain in the right-most lane unless the lane is blocked. Do not attempt lane changes at intersections.

## **MERGING AND GORE AREA**



If you are merging into a lane of traffic, you must yield the right-of-way to all vehicles traveling the continuing traffic lane that are close enough to be an immediate threat. It is against the law to cross over or to drive in the “gore area.” The gore area is between the solid white lines of a lane of traffic and a lane used to either enter or exit from that traffic lane. The gore area can also appear when two (2) highways merge or split.  
**Do not cross over the solid white line.**

Merge like a zipper. The **ZIPPER METHOD** is the idea of alternating when merging at a congested merge point (i.e., construction zone.) Use both lanes of traffic until the vehicles reach the merge point, and once the vehicles reach the merge point, alternate, yielding the right-of-way into the single-traffic lane. A violation of this section is an infraction.



## **REGULAR TRAFFIC CHECKS/HEAD CHECKS**

Check traffic and mirrors regularly. Check traffic and mirrors before, during, and after an intersection, turn, or lane change. Watch for hazards by searching left and right at intersections, driveways, store entrances, railroad tracks, or other areas where traffic intersects. Scan and check traffic in high-volume areas and areas where pedestrians are expected to be present. Check traffic by looking over your shoulder (head check) when necessary (i.e., lane change, merging.)

## **STOPPING AT STOP LINE, CROSSWALK, OR GAP**

Do not stop over a marked stop line, pedestrian crosswalk, sidewalk, or other markers when stopping at a stop sign or traffic signal. Do not stop the vehicle at the intersection. When stopping behind another vehicle, ensure you can see the rear wheels of the vehicle in front of you.

## **USE OF TURN SIGNALS**

Use turn signals when required. Do not signal too early or too late. Cancel turn signals upon completion of a turn or lane change.

## **D. PARKING**

You must ensure that your vehicle is not a hazard when parked. Always park in a marked parking area. When parking along the road, park your vehicle as far from traffic as possible. If there is a curb, park close to it. In the interest of public safety, there are several places where you are not allowed to park:

- On a sidewalk.
- In front of a public or private driveway.
- In an intersection.
- Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
- On a crosswalk.
- Within 20 feet of a crosswalk.
- Within 30 feet of any flashing beacon, stop sign, yield sign, or traffic control signal.
- In an area posted for pedestrian use or within 30 feet of the edges of that area.
- On any railroad track or within 50 feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing.
- Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station, if signs are posted, you may not park on the opposite side of the road if you are within 75 feet of the fire station entrance.
- Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping or parking would block traffic.
- On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street (no double parking.)
- On any bridge or other elevated highway structure or in a highway tunnel.
- At any place where official signs prohibit stopping.
- On the shoulder of any interstate highway—these areas may be used only if your vehicle breaks down or you are in physical distress.
- Red-painted curbs or red zones.

### **HILL PARKING**

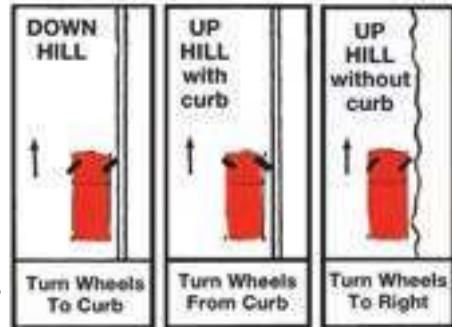
To downhill park:

- Signal to the right as you approach the curb.
- Perform a head check over your right shoulder and pull parallel to the curb.
- Turn your wheel toward the curb, ensuring your front tire touches the curb to secure the vehicle's position.

- Put the vehicle in park and set the parking brake.

To uphill park:

- Signal to the right as you approach the curb.
- Perform a head check over your right shoulder and pull parallel to the curb.
- Turn your wheel away from the curb while ensuring vehicle's front tire touches the curb to secure the vehicle's position (without a curb turn the wheel to the right.)
- Put the vehicle in park and set the parking brake.



Never leave your vehicle until you have set the parking brake, stopped the motor, and locked the doors. Pull as far off the road as reasonable to park. If parking next to a curb, the back wheel of your car must be no further than 12 inches away from the curb. If your parking would block the flow of traffic, find another place to park.

## NO PARKING ZONES

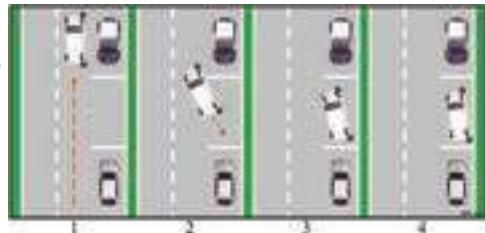


Check for signs or painted curbs that may ban or limit parking. Colored curb markings indicate some no-parking zones.

## PARALLEL PARKING

When initiating a parallel park:

- Find a parking space. Check traffic, signal, and head check.
- Pull up parallel to the vehicle you are parking behind.
- When traffic is clear, shift to reverse and look to the rear.
- Back slowly while turning the steering wheel quickly. Continue backing until your front bumper is in line with the rear bumper of the vehicle you are parking behind.
- Keep backing slowly while turning the steering wheel rapidly. Center your vehicle in the space and stop before touching the vehicle's bumper behind you. Shift to drive and adjust your position in the space. The vehicle should be no more than 12 inches from the curb.
- Ensure that your vehicle's front bumper will clear the vehicle ahead. If not, shift to reverse and adjust.
- Put the vehicle in park and set the parking brake.



When exiting:

- Check traffic and apply the brake. Shift to reverse and back up close to the vehicle parked behind you.
- Check for traffic and signal. Shift to drive and move forward slowly.
- Move into the traffic lane when your vehicle clears the rear bumper of the vehicle ahead of you.

## PERPENDICULAR AND ANGLE PARKING

Entering a perpendicular or angle parking space:

- Identify the space in which you will park and check traffic.
- Signal your intentions.
- Move forward slowly, turning the steering wheel left or right as appropriate until the vehicle reaches the middle of the space.
- Center the vehicle in the space.
- Move to the front of the parking space, stop, and secure the vehicle.



Perpendicular Parking



Angle Parking

Exiting a perpendicular or angle parking space:

- Check for traffic in all directions.
- Continue to check traffic and move straight back until your front bumper clears the vehicle parked beside you.
- Turn the steering wheel sharply in the direction that the rear of your vehicle should move.
- Stop and shift to drive when the vehicle clears the parking area space.
- Accelerate smoothly, steering as needed to straighten wheels.

## E. PASSING

On multi-lane roads, the left lane is for passing slower vehicles. Never pass on the shoulder. Pass as quickly and safely as possible. Do not stay alongside the other vehicle any longer than you have to.

How to pass:



- Check for oncoming traffic.
- Check your mirrors and do a head check for vehicles following or passing you.
- Signal and steer into the passing lane.
- Adjust speed and move entirely into the left lane.
- Return to the right-hand lane no less than 200 feet from oncoming vehicles.
- Wait until you can see the passed vehicles in your rearview mirror.
- Signal before returning to the lane, steer into the lane, and adjust speed.
- When passing on the right, it is illegal to leave the roadway.

If you are being passed, stay in your lane and keep your speed steady to allow the driver to pass.

Never pass:

- If there is an oncoming vehicle.

- If a curve or hill blocks your view.
- At intersections, or another car when stopped at a crosswalk.
- Before a railroad crossing or bridge.
- In a no-passing zone.
- Slow down when passing bicyclists to give them as much space as possible.

If a snowplow displays flashing yellow lights, an individual operating a vehicle near the snowplow may not pass or overtake a snowplow on the side of the snowplow where a plow blade is deployed. If three (3) or more snowplows operate in echelon formation, an individual operating a vehicle may not pass or overtake the snowplows on either side.

## F. SIGNALING

The use of turn signals, stoplights, or your hand and arm shall give signals. Good drivers always signal their intentions well in advance. Signals are required:

- For two (2) seconds before turning.
- For two (2) seconds before beginning any lane change.
- Any time you pull to or from a curb.
- When you intend to slow down or stop, your brake lights will accomplish this if they operate correctly and can readily be seen.
- In addition, most cars have an emergency flasher system for use when your car is disabled on the highway. Use it!

## G. STEERING

Keep both hands on the outside of the steering wheel at all times unless using other controls. Once you have completed using other controls, return both hands to the steering wheel. All steering methods are acceptable (i.e., hand-over-hand and push/pull) as long as both hands are on the outside of the wheel.

Always turn the steering wheel in the direction you want to go. This works whether you are going forward or in reverse.

Place your hands on the steering wheel; grip the steering wheel firmly but gently. Use your fingers, not the palms of your hands. Keep your thumbs up along the face of the steering wheel. Never hold the inside of the wheel.

### **HAND-OVER-HAND STEERING**

Use hand-over-hand steering when steering is critical, such as when parking, performing sharp right turns, or correcting a skid.

### **PULL-PUSH STEERING:**

- Use pull-push steering when turning.
- Pull down with one hand and push up with the other. This results in smooth steering and reduces the potential for oversteering, which can lead to loss of control.

- Keep your hands and thumbs on the outside of the wheel.

## H. STOPPING

Apply the brake smoothly and use steady pressure. Come to a complete stop at traffic signs and signals.

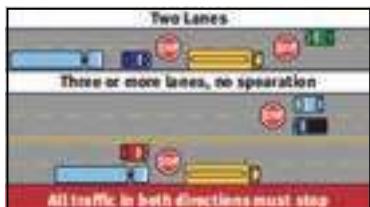
Check your mirrors for traffic to the rear. Move your foot to the brake pedal. Press steadily until your vehicle comes to a stop.

Many people seem to feel that a rolling stop is adequate when required to stop. The following situations are times when you must make a complete stop:

- Steady (non-flashing) red light or at a flashing red light.
- All stop signs.
- Railroad crossings are controlled by flashing signals, gates, a watchman, or stop signs. Stop more than 15 feet (but not more than 50 feet) away from the nearest rail until it is safe to continue. If there is a gate, wait for it to be raised.
- At the scene of any crash in which you may be involved as a driver. You must meet all legal requirements before leaving the crash scene.
- When a police or other officer requests you to stop.
- Before a sidewalk area or street, when coming onto a street or highway from an alley, private driveway, private road, or a building.

### SCHOOL BUS STOPPING:

- If a school bus displays alternating flashing red light signals visible from the front or rear. Stop immediately before reaching the bus. Do not proceed until the flashing red light signal ceases to stop.



- Traveling on a two-lane roadway, traffic in both directions must stop.
- If traveling on a divided highway with four (4) or more lanes with a median separating the traffic, it is only necessary for the vehicles in both lanes behind the school bus to stop, not the traffic traveling in the opposite direction.

- Traveling on a four-lane roadway without a median, traffic in both directions is required to stop.
- Traveling on a highway with five (5) or more lanes and a shared center turn lane is only required for the vehicle's in both lanes behind the school bus to come to a complete stop. Vehicles traveling in the opposite direction are not legally required to stop.



It is important to note that although you may not be required by law to stop when you see a stopped school bus, you should be aware that students will be getting on and off the bus. Children are unpredictable and could run into the road at any time. Use caution while driving near school buses and adjust your speed accordingly.

School bus drivers may report vehicles that improperly pass school buses. The report may be forwarded to the local law enforcement agency for investigation. Fines can run up to \$3000; remember, a conviction for passing a school bus illegally usually means an increase in insurance rates.

## I. TURNS

During the driving skills test, you will be asked to make turns; you should:

- Approach the turn and check traffic in all directions.
- Use the correct turn signal.
- Brake smoothly and evenly.
- Safely get into the correct lane needed for the turn.

If you must stop before turning because of traffic, signal, or signs, smoothly come to a complete stop without skidding behind the stop line, crosswalk, or stop sign (whichever comes first.) A safe gap when stopping behind another vehicle is to stop where you can see the vehicle's rear tires ahead of you. Keep the front wheels aimed straight ahead.

After turning, ensure you complete the turn in the correct lane and your turn signal has been cancelled. Accelerate to the speed of traffic, use your turn signal, check your blind spots by looking over your shoulder (head check), check your mirrors, and move into the right-most lane when it is safe to do so (if you are not already there.)

### **RIGHT TURNS**

- Signal right for two (2) seconds.
- Perform a head check over your right shoulder.
- While turning perform a traffic check looking for pedestrians and other objects.
- Do ***not*** cut the corner or make a wide turn.
- Maintain a safe speed while turning.
- As you complete the turn, accelerate smoothly up to the posted speed.

### **LEFT TURNS**

- Signal left for two (2) seconds.
- Perform a head check over your left shoulder.
- While turning, perform a traffic check by looking for pedestrians and other objects.
- Do ***not*** cut the corner or make a wide turn.
- Maintain a safe speed while turning. As you complete the turn, accelerate smoothly up to the posted speed.

### **MULTIPLE LANES**

- Identify and enter the lane from which you will turn.
- Stay in that lane until the turn is completed.

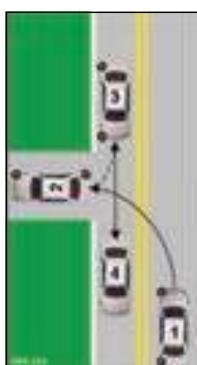
A person may not operate a vehicle over, across, or within any part of an island.



## **TWO-POINT TURN**

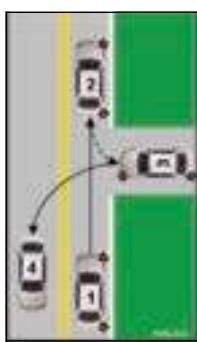
A street alley or driveway can be used to turn around when you cannot drive around the block.

## **FORWARD TWO-POINT TURN**



- Check that there is no oncoming traffic and signal a left turn.
  - Move close to the center of the road and turn into the driveway or alley.
  - Turn as near as possible to the right side of the drive.
  - Stop as the vehicle's rear clears the curb or edge of the driveway.
  - Check for traffic, signal a right turn, and shift to reverse.
  - When path is clear, back up while turning the steering wheel quickly to the right.
  - Straighten your wheels and stop when you are centered in the lane.
  - Shift to drive, cancel your signal, and drive away.

## **REVERSE TWO-POINT TURN**



- Check that there are no vehicles behind you.
  - Signal a right turn.
  - Drive one car length past the driveway or alley.
  - Put your right arm on the seat and look back over your right shoulder.
  - Back into the driveway.
  - Shift to drive and check traffic.
  - When clear, signal left, turn left into the proper lane, and drive away.

## THREE-POINT TURN

Use this only if the road is too narrow for a U-turn. It's best to go around the block if you can. This should only be used on a two-lane road.

- Check the mirrors, head check, and signal a right turn.
  - Stop on the right side of the road.
  - Turn on left turn signal, check traffic, and head check over your left shoulder.
  - When traffic is clear, turn hard left, drive to the other side of the road, and stop.
  - Shift to reverse.
  - Check traffic and head check over both shoulders.



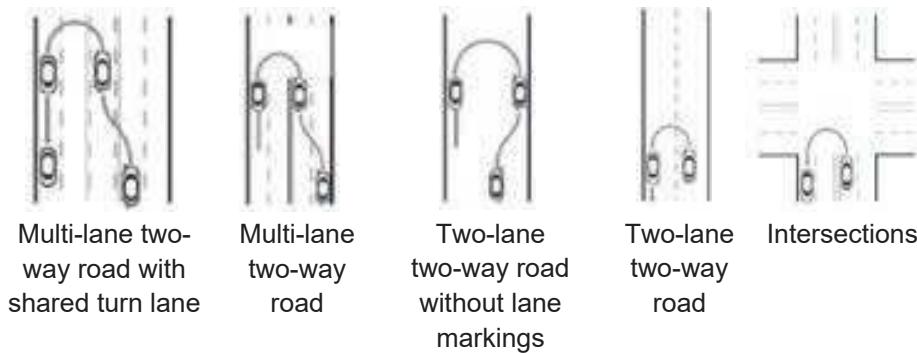
- When traffic is clear, turn hard right and back up.
- Put your foot on the brake and shift to drive.
- Check traffic and head check.
- When traffic is clear, merge into the traffic flow and accelerate smoothly.

## **U-TURNS**

Never make a **U-turn** on any curve near the top of a hill where you cannot see or be seen from both directions for 500 feet, where prohibited by an official traffic control device, on a railroad track, railroad grade crossing, or a freeway.

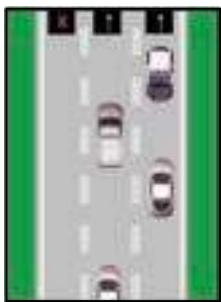
Each city has its laws concerning U-turns. Be sure you know the specific law of the city in which you are driving. A U-turn should only be made on a street or highway sufficiently wide enough to allow a turn to be made from the left-hand lane or just right of the center line or center of the street.

- Signal in the direction you are going to initiate the U-turn.
- Perform a head check over your shoulder in that direction.
- When traffic is clear, perform a traffic check while completing the turn.
- Continue down the road in the new direction.
- Cancel signal.

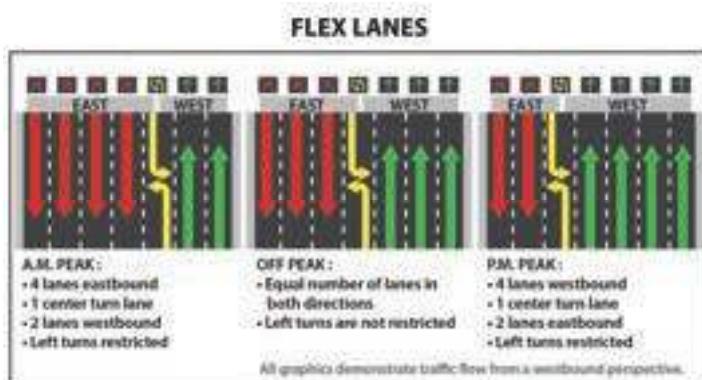


# SECTION 9: Rules of the Road

## A. FLEX LANES



A flex lane may be used during rush hours. The lanes may have double-dashed yellow lines to either side. Signals above the lanes show which lane is safe to travel. Some travel lanes are designed to carry traffic in one direction at certain times and in the opposite direction at other times. Before entering the lane, check to see which lanes can be used at that time. A green arrow means you can use the lane. A red X means you cannot use the lane.



## B. FREEWAY DRIVING

A freeway gets us where we are going faster and safer than ever. However, freeway driving is a skill in itself. People drive faster, and conditions are not the same as when driving normally.

### WHEN DRIVING ON THE FREEWAY:

- You should always maintain at least two (2) seconds following distance behind the vehicle ahead of you. Under adverse conditions, the time needs to be increased.
- Do not make U-turns on the freeway—it is illegal.
- Do not drive in the emergency lane—the area of the freeway on the outside of the solid white line is for emergency use only. Passing another vehicle or stopping to pick up passengers in this lane is illegal.
- You should generally drive at a speed similar to that of other cars around you. However, you may not legally drive faster than the posted speed limit. This also applies to getting off of the freeway.
- Do not use an entrance ramp to exit the freeway—it is illegal, even in a traffic jam.
- Do not pass unless it is safe.
- A vehicle traveling in the left lane must move safely to the right when approached from behind to prevent impeding traffic.
- Change lanes only to pass, get off the freeway or enter the correct lane for an upcoming route separation in the freeway.

**Note:** You can be issued a citation for impeding traffic if a vehicle is following behind you in the left lane of travel on a multi-lane highway and you do not change lanes and allow the other vehicle to pass.

## CARPOOL (EXPRESS) LANE



Express lanes are travel lanes on I-15 dedicated for high-occupancy vehicles. The express lanes may be used as a carpool lane for those vehicles with two (2) or more persons for free. Motorcycles, buses, and vehicles with registered clean fuel vehicle decal (C decal) may also use the express lane free of charge.

It is illegal to cross a double white line. Moving in and out of the carpool lane is not allowed except in specific locations (called access points) with white dotted striping rather than solid lines. Access points are about 3,000 feet long and located at nearly every interchange along the express lanes. Vehicles are recommended to exit the express lanes one interchange before the desired exit.

**Note:** When being followed by an emergency or police vehicle with flashing lights, it is permissible, when safe to do so, to make a right-hand lane change out of the express lane.

Drivers of single-occupant vehicles must purchase an express pass through UDOT and have an active account connected to a credit or debit card to utilize the express lanes. Express pass transponders mounted to the windshield are read at various locations throughout the I-15 express lanes corridor. These readers automatically charge users' accounts based on the current express lanes rate and distance traveled.

## C DECALS

C decals allow limited single-occupant clean fuel vehicles to use the express lanes without paying a toll after a one-time \$10 registration fee. The decals are small stickers placed inside the windshield to the right of the rearview mirror. Only certain clean fuel vehicles are eligible for C decals. For a list of qualifying vehicles and information on how to apply for a C decal, visit the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) website.

## ENTERING A MULTI-LANE HIGHWAY

When on a multi-lane highway, you should use the acceleration lane to match your speed with other vehicles before pulling onto the roadway. Find a gap in traffic, merge with the traffic, and cancel your turn signal.



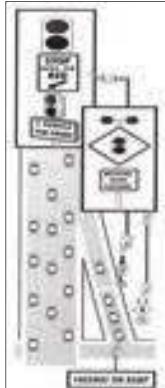
## EXITING A ROADWAY



When exiting a roadway, you should plan ahead to make a safe exit. Move to the exit lane early to avoid making a quick lane change, and keep a steady speed as long as you are on the main road. Signal, move to the exit or deceleration lane, and slow the exit speed. Check for posted speed in the exit or deceleration lane and cancel your signal.

## RAMP METERS

The population growth in Utah has increased the number of vehicles using our freeways, creating more frequent congestion and unpredictable travel times. Ramp meters help prevent slowdowns and "stop-and-go" conditions that freeway travelers frequently encounter at certain times of the day. There are currently some ramp meters along the Wasatch front.



Ramp meters look almost like traffic signals you see at intersections, except they only have red and green lights that alternate. Ramp meters are placed on the freeway on-ramps, and allow only one (unless posted differently) vehicle to pass each time the green light comes on.

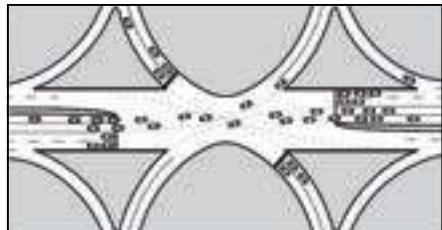
Ramp metering occurs only when many vehicles are attempting to enter the freeway. A lighted "meter on" sign at the entrance to an on-ramp will indicate when ramp metering is in effect. If the "meter on" sign is not illuminated, drivers can enter the freeway as usual. Because the "meter on" sign is at the entrance to the freeway on-ramp, drivers will be able to decide whether to enter the on-ramp or take an alternate route and avoid having to stop for the ramp meter.

## RUNAWAY VEHICLE RAMPS

You may **NOT** use a runaway vehicle ramp unless you are in an emergency requiring the use of the ramp to stop your vehicle. You are prohibited from stopping, standing, or parking on a runaway vehicle ramp or in the pathway of a runaway vehicle ramp.

## SINGLE-POINT URBAN INTERCHANGE

Single-point urban interchanges are becoming more common in constructing freeway interchanges today. It is a type of interchange located either above or underneath the freeway. It is designed so that the intersecting off-ramps and on-ramps are diagonally adjacent to each other.



These interchanges can be confusing. However, some things may help drivers when passing through a single-point urban interchange. Dash lines have been added to these interchanges to guide drivers into the proper lanes. There are also "wrong way" signs on the off-ramps and on-ramps to help drivers avoid entering a ramp against traffic.

It is legal to make a U-turn from the off-ramp at a single-point urban interchange and re-enter the freeway as long as you face a green arrow when you begin the maneuver. When you re-enter the freeway on the on-ramp, you will face a red arrow. The red arrow is intended for the traffic adjacent to the light. Do not stop your vehicle in the middle of the intersection; complete the maneuver once initiated.

If a power outage occurs, the single-point urban interchange **is not** handled like a four-way stop. It is important to proceed with extreme caution and courtesy. Most single-point urban interchanges will be supported by battery backup. However, if there is no a battery backup, an officer will be dispatched to the scene as soon as possible for traffic control.

## C. INTERSECTIONS

At all intersections, slow down and search for traffic controls, oncoming traffic and cross traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists, road conditions, and objects that block your view.

Do not rely on others to obey traffic signals or signs. They may not yield the right-of-way. Be prepared to avoid a crash.

Before moving after a stop, check for traffic and bicyclists. Look left, right, and then left again be-

fore entering the intersection. When a light turns green, make sure your path of travel is clear and there is no cross traffic.

Never think that another driver will give you any extra space. Do not turn into a lane just because an oncoming vehicle has a turn signal on. The driver may plan to turn after they pass you, or they may have forgotten to turn their signal off.

**As you approach an intersection**—check traffic thoroughly in all directions. Brake smoothly and evenly and maintain lane position.

**When stopping at an intersection**—come to a complete stop behind any stop signs, signals, sidewalks, or stop lines. If stopping behind another vehicle, maintain a safe gap. You should be able to see the vehicle's rear tires ahead of you.

**Driving through an intersection**—check traffic thoroughly in all directions. Keep both hands on the wheel, slow down, and yield to any pedestrians or traffic in the intersection. Do not change lanes while proceeding through the intersection.

**Once through the intersection**—continue checking mirrors and traffic behind you. Accelerate smoothly. If there are multiple lanes of traffic, accelerate to the speed of traffic, use your turn signal, check your blind spots by looking over your shoulder (head check), check your mirrors, and move into the right-most lane when it is safe to do so (if not already there.)

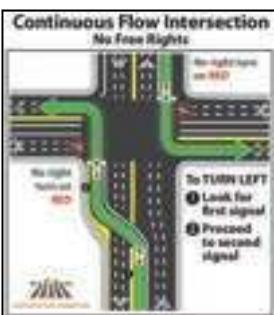
### CONTINUOUS FLOW INTERSECTION LEFT TURN

When making a left turn, watch for signs and a signal directing you to turn on the left-hand side of the road. Observe the first traffic signal direction, and proceed when green by crossing the oncoming lanes of traffic. Observe the direction of the second signal, which will be on the far left of the intersection, and proceed when green by making your left-hand turn at the intersection.



When traveling through a continuous flow intersection, proceed as you normally would, but watch for another light just past the intersection. It's possible to encounter a red light here, which allows left-turning cars to cross in front of you.

### CONTINUOUS FLOW INTERSECTION RIGHT TURN



When turning right, yield to traffic, cyclists, and pedestrians. Make your turn, merge with traffic, and keep going. In most intersections, motorists have free-right turn access or can make a right-hand turn on a red light after stopping and yielding to oncoming traffic. Free-right turns during a red light are restricted in this continuous flow intersection, along with a traditional right-on-red. Motorists should watch for traffic control signs to know when right turns are permitted.

### CONTINUOUS FLOW INTERSECTION FOUR-LEGGED

A four-legged continuous flow intersection functions as a regular, continuous flow intersection configuration, but with each leg of the intersection operating with displaced left turns instead of only two (2) legs of the intersection. Follow all directions as with a typical continuous flow intersection on all four (4) legs.



## DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERSECTION



A particular type of highway interchange is one in which two (2) directions of traffic on the non-freeway road cross to the opposite side of the bridge over or under the freeway. It requires traffic on the freeway overpass (or underpass) to briefly drive on the opposite side of the road from what they are accustomed to. Eliminating many of the left-turn conflicts at the ramps, improves interchange efficiency.

## THRU-TURN INTERSECTION

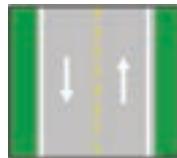
It helps to alleviate traffic congestion and improve traffic flow by eliminating left turn movements at the intersection. Instead, motorists travel through the intersection, make a signalized U-turn at a location removed from the intersection, and return to the intersection, where they will make a right turn.



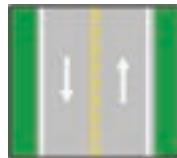
## D. PAVEMENT MARKINGS

Marks painted on the road give you directions or warnings. They divide lanes and show where you may pass other vehicles or change lanes. They also mark turn lanes and crosswalks. They show where to stop for signs or traffic signals.

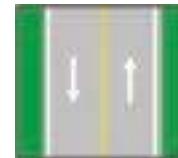
### YELLOW LANE MARKINGS



Two direction roadway,  
passing permitted



Two direction roadway,  
passing prohibited  
when dashed line is on



### WHITE LANE MARKINGS



One direction roadway,  
passing permitted



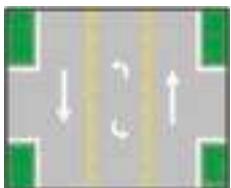
One direction roadway, separating  
express lane or carpool lane from  
general lanes—crossing prohibited

## CROSSWALKS AND STOP LINES

**Crosswalks** show where pedestrians may cross the road. At a stop sign or signal, you must stop behind the stop line or crosswalk. If crosswalks are not marked, you must stop before the intersection or stop sign. You must yield to pedestrians entering or in a crosswalk, even if it is not marked.



## **SHARED CENTER LEFT TURN LANE**



There is a shared left turn lane in the middle of the roadway on many streets where making a left turn safely is hard. When using a shared left turn lane, check your mirrors; for vehicles ahead, signal left and check your left blind spot. Steer smoothly into the shared left turn lane; when traffic is clear, make your left turn.

When making a left turn from a shared turn lane, you may not enter the lane more than 500 feet before making the turn unless the last car is more than 500 feet from the intersection.

## **E. SPEED**

In Utah, the basic speed law states that you may never drive faster than is reasonably safe. However, when there is no sign and where no special hazards exist, the following speeds are permitted:

### **20 MILES PER HOUR:**

- When passing a **school** building or grounds during school recess.
- While children are going to or leaving school during opening or closing hours or when flashing lights are operating.

### **25 MILES PER HOUR:**

- In any business or residential area.

### **55 MILES PER HOUR:**

- On major highways, as posted.

### **65/70/75/80 MILES PER HOUR:**

- On rural interstate highways.
- The transition zones in Utah are indicated with pavement markings and additional signs.

In addition to the above speed limits, there are times when the law requires that you slow down. Some of those times include:

- When approaching and crossing an intersection or railroad crossing.
- When approaching and going around a curve.
- When approaching the top of a hill.
- When traveling on any narrow or winding road.
- When special hazards such as people walking beside the road, heavy traffic, or dangerous road conditions exist.
- During poor weather conditions. Driving on an icy road at 10 miles per hour or on an open highway on a rainy night at 25 miles per hour may be too fast.
- Any time when you cannot see clearly.

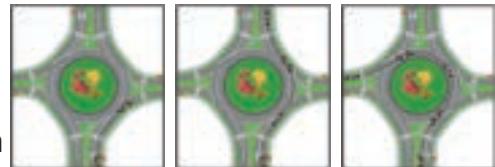
- In any highway work zone construction, maintenance, or utility work is done.
- When approaching any authorized vehicle flashing red, red and white, or red and blue lights.
- When speed causes the person to fail to maintain control of the vehicle or stay within a single lane of travel.

On the other hand, do not drive so slowly that you become a source of danger on the road. Peace officers are allowed to issue you a citation if you are impeding the normal flow of traffic.

## F. ROUNDABOUTS



- Slow down as you approach the roundabout.
- Yield to oncoming traffic, and pedestrians enter when it is clear.
- Proceed through the roundabout and signal your intention to exit at the desired street.



## G. TRAFFIC CONTROLS

Traffic controls include traffic signals, signs, and road markings. They also include directions from law enforcement, highway workers, and school crossing guards.

## H. TRAFFIC SIGNALS



Traffic lights are usually at intersections. They are red, yellow, and green from top to bottom. If traffic lights are horizontal, the red light is on the left, the yellow light is in the middle, and the green light is on the right. Some locations have single green, yellow, or red lights.

**GREEN TRAFFIC LIGHT**—you may go through with caution if the way is clear.

**GREEN ARROW LIGHT**—vehicles may proceed only in the direction of the arrow after yielding to vehicles and pedestrians still in the intersection at the time of the light change.

**YELLOW TRAFFIC LIGHT**—the light is about to change to red.

**FLASHING YELLOW TRAFFIC LIGHT**—slow down and proceed with caution. Be prepared to stop for any traffic.

**FLASHING YELLOW ARROW LIGHT**—turns are permitted, but first you must yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians. Oncoming traffic has a green light. Proceed with caution.

**RED TRAFFIC LIGHT**—you must stop before entering the intersection. You must wait behind the stop line, crosswalk, or intersection until the light turns green. You may turn right on a red light after coming to a complete stop unless posted otherwise.

**FLASHING RED TRAFFIC LIGHT**—stop and look both ways before entering the intersection.

**RED ARROW LIGHT (RIGHT TURN)**—right turns are prohibited. Stop and remain stopped until an indication to proceed is shown.

**RED ARROW LIGHT (LEFT TURN)**—left turns are prohibited. Stop and remain stopped until an indication to proceed is shown. If, for some reason, the light does not change and you have been stranded by the red arrow light (left turn), and it is safe to do so, you may make a left turn from a one-way street onto a one-way street.

## I. TRAFFIC SIGNS

Traffic signs tell you about rules, hazards, and road locations. They also give highway directions and show where road services are.

Regardless of what the traffic lights may indicate, always obey the instructions of a police officer at an intersection. For example, if the light is green and an officer tells you to stop, YOU MUST STOP. Also, even if you want to go straight and an officer indicates that you must turn, you are required to turn.

If you approach an intersection where the traffic lights are not working, you must first come to a complete stop before entering the intersection and yield the right-of-way to any vehicle on the right unless otherwise directed by a peace officer.

A driver turning left may see either the green arrow (protected), the solid green light (permitted), or a flashing yellow arrow (permitted) signal.

### GUIDE SIGNS

Square or rectangular and are green, brown, or blue. They advise you about intersecting roads and direct you to cities and towns. They mark points of interest and help you find hospitals, service stations, restaurants, and hotels.

**Note:** Vandalism and destruction of road signs cost taxpayers thousands of dollars each year and cause confusion and unsafe conditions for you and other travelers.



### RAILROAD CROSSING SIGNS



Most railroad crossings have signs or signals. A round yellow warning sign with an "X" symbol and black "RR" cautions you to slow down, look, and listen for a train or railroad vehicle. Be prepared to stop.



A white, X-shaped sign with "Railroad Crossing" cautions that a train or railroad vehicle is coming and that you must stop behind the stop line or before the intersection.



The number of tracks may be posted at crossings with more than one track. Not all crossings with more than one track have these signs. Always look for multiple tracks, trains, or railroad vehicles at each crossing.

When crossing railroad tracks, look both ways and cross the tracks quickly. Do not stop on the railroad tracks. If a train is crossing, wait until the train is well down the track before you drive ahead. If there are lights and gates, wait until they show it is safe to cross. If you must stop for traffic or a signal, wait at the stop line before the tracks.

## REGULATORY SIGNS

Square, rectangular, or may have a unique shape. They are white with black, red, or green letters or symbols. These signs tell you about traffic directions, lane use, turning, speed, parking, and other special situations. Some signs have a red circle with a red slash across the symbol. This means you cannot do certain things. Here are a few common regulatory signs that we see.



No Left Turn



No Right Turn



No U-Turn



Left Turn Only



Do Not Enter



Straight or  
Turn Right



Posted Speed  
Limit



Stop

## ROUTE NUMBER SIGNS

The shape and color of route number signs indicate the type of roadway: interstate, U.S., state, city, county, or local. When planning a trip, use a map to determine the route. During the trip, follow the route signs to avoid getting lost in an unfamiliar area.



Interstate Route



U.S. Route



State Route

## WARNING SIGNS

These signs warn of possible danger ahead. They are usually diamond shaped and yellow with black lettering or symbols. Some common signs are.



Lane Ends



Merging Traffic



Added Lane



Sharp Curve  
Ahead



Curvy Road  
Ahead



Right  
Curve



Divided  
Highway  
Begins



Divided  
Highway  
Ends



Intersection



Side Road



T-Intersection



No Passing

Stop Sign  
AheadTraffic Signal  
AheadAdvisory  
Speed  
Around CurveSchool  
CrossingPedestrian  
CrossingShare the  
Road with  
BicyclesBicycle  
CrossingSlippery  
when Wet

A yield sign means you must slow down and yield to traffic that has the right-of-way.



This sign marks a lane that is only for left turning vehicles. It is not for through traffic or for passing other vehicles.



Traffic moves only in the direction of the arrow. Do not turn in the opposite direction of the arrow. Never drive the wrong way on a one-way street.

## WORK ZONE SIGNS

Diamond or rectangular and orange with black letters or symbols. These signs warn you of work zones and people working on or near the road. The warnings include: workers ahead, reduced speed, detours, slow-moving road machinery, or surface changes.

Barriers keep you from entering closed roads or other areas with danger. If there is a short-term signal, stop at the white line (if there is one.)

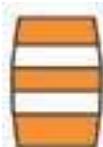
Slow down in work zones and be ready to stop quickly. Do not tailgate. Fines for speeding in a work zone are doubled.

Flagger  
AheadWorkers  
AheadRoad  
ConstructionOne Lane  
Road Ahead

Detour



A flagger may direct traffic in a work zone.  
You must do as the flagger directs.



Barrel



Cone



Tube



Barrier



Road Closed

## **J. YIELDING RIGHT-OF-WAY**

Right-of-way rules tell you and other drivers what to do. These rules say who has right-of-way when two (2) or more streets come together. They also cover different situations.

Never think that you have the right of way. Always look at the situation and think about safety.

Yield the right-of-way to:

- A driver who is at the intersection before you.
- Drivers in the opposite lane when you are making a left turn.
- The driver on your right at a four-way stop if both of you arrive at the same time.
- Drivers on a public road if you are coming from a driveway or a private road.
- Drivers already on an interstate highway if you are on the entrance ramp.
- Pedestrians, bicyclists, and others that are still in the intersection.

**Remember, courtesy is the key.**

# SECTION 10: Alcohol/Drugs and Driving

Alcohol and other impairing drugs are involved in approximately 40% of all traffic crashes in which someone is killed yearly. If you drink alcohol or use other impairing drugs and drive even a little, your chances of being in a crash are much greater than if you did not drink any alcohol or use any other drugs.

## A. EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Alcohol and other impairing drugs reduce the following:

- **Judgment**—a brain-centered activity that stores your experiences and knowledge to be used quickly when facing a new problem.
- **Vision**—blurs your vision, slows your ability to focus, causes double vision, and reduces the ability to judge distance, speed, and the movement of other vehicles. Vision is impacted at 0.02 blood alcohol content (BAC) for all drivers. The most important sense you use in driving is vision.
- **Color distinction**—reduces your ability to distinguish colors.
- **Reaction time**—slows your ability to process information and respond to the driving task.

The best advice is not to drive a vehicle if you have consumed alcohol or other drugs. Impairment starts with the first drink. Even one drink of alcohol can affect a person's ability to operate a motor vehicle. With one or more drinks in the bloodstream, a person is visibly impaired and could be arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Never let a friend or relative drive if they have been drinking.

Drugs and alcohol should not be taken at the same time. Alcohol can have an unpredictable effect on drugs, which will react much differently in your body.

### IMPAIRING DRUGS AND DRIVING

Drugs can impact your driving and affect your reflexes, judgment, vision, and alertness, like alcohol. These can include:

- Illegal
- Over the counter
- Prescribed drugs

### EMOTIONS

Emotions can increase your risk by interfering with your thinking ability, creating a lack of attention, and interrupting your ability to process information. You may not be able to drive well if you are overly worried, excited, afraid, angry, or depressed.

There are ways of dealing with your emotions:

- If you are angry or worried, give yourself time to cool off. Take a short walk or nap, but stay off the road until the symptoms have passed.

- Give yourself extra time for your driving trip. Leave a few minutes early.
- Have someone else drive.

## B. 21 and Under

If you are under the age of 21, it is illegal to purchase, possess, and drink alcoholic beverages. Alcohol and other impairing drugs affect people's ability to perceive their surroundings, react to emergencies, and skillfully operate a motor vehicle. For new drivers learning complex skills, the effects of alcohol and other impairing drugs are greater. All states have "zero tolerance" laws (no alcohol in the circulatory system) or similar laws for drivers under the age of 21.

An individual between the ages of 13 and 20 who are convicted in court for possession or consumption of alcohol or for being in a bar and being underage will have their driver license suspended for one year for the first offense and two (2) years for the second or subsequent offense as ordered by the court. If the court orders suspension for a driver under the age of 16, the suspension time will begin on the date of conviction and extend for one to two (2) years from the 16th birthday.

Not-a-Drop Act provides that a person under 21 years of age driving with **any measurable amount** of alcohol in their body will have all driving privileges denied for six (6) months for a first offense. A second or subsequent offense within 10 years of a prior denial will result in losing driving privileges for two (2) years or until they reach 21, whichever is longer. An individual who has yet to be issued a license will be denied or suspended even though they have yet to obtain a license.

If suspended for a Not-a-Drop arrest, the individual must obtain an assessment and recommendation for appropriate action from a substance abuse program to reinstate their driver license. An individual can request an assessment through the [local substance abuse authority programs](#). The division will also accept evidence of completion of a [Prime For Life](#) DUI class instead of an assessment and completion from the local substance abuse authority.

## C. ALCOHOL AND THE LAW

If you are over 0.05 BAC (0.04 for CDL), you violate the law. Utah law also states that driving is a violation if you are impaired to the degree that it is unsafe to operate a vehicle, even if you are under the legal limit.

On the first conviction of a DUI for a driver 21 and older, the driver license will be suspended for 120 days and two (2) years for a second or subsequent offense.

Utah's law allows a peace officer to confiscate your Utah driver license upon arrest, and the division will suspend the license beginning on the 45th day after the date of arrest.

A plea of "guilty" or "no contest" for a criminal charge of DUI that is held in abeyance by the court will not appear on the Motor Vehicle Report (MVR) unless you hold a CDL license or were operating a commercial motor vehicle at the time you were cited. Although a plea held in abeyance for the DUI violation will not result in suspension or revocation of your regular operator privilege, it will disqualify your CDL privilege. In addition, the abeyance will be considered a "prior offense" in combination with subsequent offenses. This law applies to the following convictions:

- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Reckless driving.
- Negligent homicide.

## **IMPLIED CONSENT LAW**

When you drive a vehicle or a motorboat in Utah, it is implied that you will submit to a chemical test of your breath, blood, urine, or oral fluids to determine the alcohol or drug content if asked to do so by a peace officer. This is called the implied consent law.

Utah accepts the results of the chemical tests to help determine whether an individual has been driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle or a motorboat while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or both if an officer arrests you for driving. At the same time, in such a condition, you must submit to the chemical tests selected or designated by the officer.

If you refuse to do so, your driver license would be revoked for 18 months for the first offense and 36 months for the second or subsequent offenses. If under 21, the license will be revoked for two (2) years for the first offense, and for the second or subsequent offenses, it would be 36 months or until the age of 21, whichever is longer.

Any time your driver license is suspended/revoked for an alcohol-related offense, you may apply for a new driver license after the suspension/revocation period by paying the reinstatement and the regular license fees and by taking the required examinations. An additional administrative fee may be required in some cases. If a driver does not comply with the court orders, the court will notify the Driver License Division, suspending the driver license until the driver has done all that the court ordered. More information regarding DUI license suspensions can be found at [dld.utah.gov/dui](http://dld.utah.gov/dui).

## **D. ALCOHOL-RESTRICTED DRIVER**

When action is taken against a driving privilege for an alcohol-related offense, the driver is placed under an alcohol-restricted status for 2, 3, 5, or 10 years, depending on the number and type of offenses. A lifetime alcohol-restricted status will result when a driver is convicted of negligent homicide or a felony DUI.

The alcohol-restricted status begins on the effective date of revocation or suspension for DUI, alcohol-related reckless driving, impaired driving, homicide, per se arrest, refusal to submit to a chemical test, driving with alcohol in the body while on an alcohol-restricted status, or driving without an ignition interlock device installed in the vehicle while on an ignition interlock restricted device.

Once a driver has reinstated the driving privilege following an applicable alcohol offense, the alcohol-restricted status remains in effect for a 2, 3, 5, or 10-year period or lifetime from the effective date of the original suspension or revocation action. Following the reinstatement of the driving privilege, the driver will retain full driving privileges; however, if convicted of driving with any measurable amount of alcohol during the alcohol-restricted period, the driver license will be revoked for one year.

## **E. BOATING WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE**

If you operate a motorboat while under the influence of alcohol/drugs, the same laws apply as if you were operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

If you have been drinking any alcoholic beverages, don't take a chance. Let someone who has not been drinking alcoholic beverages do the driving.

## **F. IGNITION INTERLOCK RESTRICTED DRIVER**

Your driving privilege will be suspended when you are an ignition interlock-restricted driver. The suspension may be reinstated by installing an ignition interlock device (IID) in your vehicle and paying the required reinstatement fee to the Driver License Division. If the IID is removed from the vehicle before your alcohol-restricted driver restriction period ends, your driving privilege will be re-suspended.

For a list of certificated ignition interlock system providers, visit [dld.utah.gov/IID](http://dld.utah.gov/IID).

When an individual has been convicted of a first DUI, they are automatically restricted to driving a vehicle that has an IID installed for 18 months from the date of conviction or the effective date of the license suspension or three (3) years if they are under the age of 21 when they are arrested.

When an individual has been convicted of a second or subsequent DUI impaired driving or alcohol-related reckless driving violation, or they have been revoked for refusal to submit to a chemical test after being arrested for driving under the influence, they are automatically restricted to driving a vehicle that has an IID installed for three (3) years from the date of conviction or the effective date of the revocation.

Felony DUI carries a six-year IID restriction, and negligent homicide carries a ten-year IID restriction.

If an individual drives a vehicle without an IID installed when restricted, the vehicle may be impounded. In addition, the driver may be cited for violating the interlock-restricted driver (IRD) law. A conviction for violating the IRD law will result in the driver license revocation for one year and an additional three-year IID restriction from the date of conviction.

Ignition interlock-restricted drivers are required to have the device monitored at least every 60 days. If a driver fails to have the device monitored or if they attempt to start the vehicle with a measurable amount of alcohol, the ignition interlock requirement will be extended by 60 days for **each** occurrence.

## **G. IMPOUND OF VEHICLE**

If a driver is arrested for DUI, the officer may have the vehicle or motorboat impounded. If a vehicle is impounded, the DMV will notify the owner of the vehicle and provide information on what must be done to get the vehicle out of impound. The impounded vehicle will be released to the owner once all requirements have been met and all fees paid. Fees the owner must pay include towing, storage charges, and administrative costs. If an impounded vehicle is not claimed within the allowed time, it shall be sold.

The court may order the arrested person to pay all fees associated with the impound or reimburse anyone who may have paid the fees.

If a driver is convicted in court for a violation of DUI, driving with a controlled substance in the body, or negligent homicide, and was previously convicted for a felony DUI, a felony drug-related driving violation, or negligent homicide for a violation that occurred after May 1, 2009, and had their license suspended or revoked in connection with the violation, their impounded vehicle may be subject to criminal forfeiture, and may be sold.

More information regarding DUI license suspensions can be found at [dld.utah.gov/dui](http://dld.utah.gov/dui).

# SECTION 11: Distractions & Driving Challenges

A distraction is anything that takes your mind or body away from driving. Distractions can cause crashes, injuries, and deaths. Not looking at the road or taking your hands off the steering wheel is dangerous. Anything that takes your mind away from driving is a hazard.

Avoid distractions before driving by turning off mobile devices, setting navigation systems, eating and grooming before you leave, and securing all loose items.

When driving:

- Do not talk on the phone, and do not text.
- Don't argue with passengers.
- Do not eat while driving.
- Be sure children are safely buckled up.
- Keep pets in a pet carrier, not loose in a vehicle.
- Eliminate things that take your mind away from driving.

Sometimes, while driving, you may drop something, lose a contact lens, be stung by a bee, or be distracted in another way. Some people panic when something like this happens. They become more concerned with the problem than about their driving and often run off the road or into the car in front of them. Don't let this happen to you. If you have a problem or there is a distraction, immediately pull over to the side of the roadway and take care of the problem.

## A. AGGRESSIVE/ROAD RAGE DRIVING

Aggressive driving is when you commit moving traffic offenses so as to endanger other persons or property; an assault with a motor vehicle or other dangerous weapon by the operator or passenger of one motor vehicle on the operator or passengers of another motor vehicle. Don't get angry when other drivers make mistakes or act rudely. Be patient and courteous to others.

Road rage is on the rise in Utah. Utah law defines road rage as the commission of a criminal offense by:

- An operator of a vehicle;
- In response to an incident that occurs or escalates upon a roadway; **and**
- With the intent to endanger or intimidate an individual in another vehicle

The court may order that your license be suspended for one (1) year on the first conviction.

## B. AVOIDING COLLISIONS WITH ANIMALS

You can reduce your chances of colliding with an animal by:

- Using caution when driving at dawn and dusk when animals are most active.
- Being alert when driving on roadways marked with deer crossing signs. These signs

are placed in areas with many deer/vehicle collisions.

- Look well down the road and at the sides of the road. Slow down and use caution when approaching animals standing near the roadway; they may bolt or change direction at the last minute, and other deer may follow.
- Do not swerve to avoid the animal; your risk of personal injury may be greater if you do.
- Keep your vehicle under control and in the travel lane.
- Watch for dogs and cats in residential areas and try to avoid hitting them.

If you need help pull, to the side of the road, turn on your emergency flashers, raise your hood, and tie something white or orange on the antenna or left door handle.

## C. DESERT DRIVING

Desert driving is generally done on reasonably good roads with gas, food, water, and accommodations available at convenient intervals. Unless you go off-road, most roads will be paved or gravel. Except during the summer, deserts get hot, with daily temperatures in the 100 degrees Fahrenheit range and low to zero humidity. Some tips to use when driving in the desert:

- If you are not used to high temperatures, do not drive through the desert in the summer. If you must drive through the desert in the summer, stay on the freeways and use a vehicle with air conditioning.
- Always carry enough water for you and your passengers to survive in the desert if your vehicle breaks down.
- Carry water for your vehicle's radiator. The vehicle's cooling system can be affected, so watch the radiator temperature and coolant levels.
- If your vehicle breaks down in the desert, stay with it. Do not wander away from the vehicle unless it is to get help from a visible call box on the road or an inhabited building within a few minutes' walk.
- When off the freeways or major highways, ensure you have enough gas and water. You can never have enough water and gas while driving in the desert.
- Do not take side roads off the freeway or highway unless you know where they go.

## D. FATIGUE

When you are physically or mentally tired, that is called fatigue. It can be caused by physical or mental strain, illness, or lack of sleep. Fatigue can make you see less clearly. Fatigue can also make your mind and body slow down. When your mind and body slow down, you cannot do things as quickly. You may not stop as fast as you need to if a car suddenly stops in front of you. Do not drive if you are tired. You do not want to fall asleep while you are driving.

### TAKING A ROAD TRIP

Before you take a trip, do the following:

- Get enough sleep—most people need 7 to 9 hours to stay awake during the day.

- Plan to stop every two (2) hours during long trips to take a break from driving.
- Have another person go with you to watch your driving.
- Check the labels on your medicine; some will make you sleepy.
- Do not drink alcohol and drive.
- Do not take other drugs when you drive.

Ways to avoid fatigue:

- If you start to feel tired, stop driving, pull off at an exit or rest area and take a 20-minute power nap, or find a place to sleep for the night.
- Do not drive late at night.
- Driving is hard mental work; you will have a much better trip if you are rested and ready.

Warning signs of drowsiness:

- Can't remember the last few miles driven.
- Hit a rumble strip or drift from your lane.
- Keep pulling the vehicle back into the lane.
- Thoughts are wandering and disconnected.
- Yawn repeatedly.
- Have difficulty focusing or keeping your eyes open and your head up.
- Tailgate or miss traffic signs.
- Narrowly missed crashing.

## E. FLOODING

Flooding can occur when streams and rivers flow over their banks, dams or levees break, runoff from deep snow, or heavy rainfall. Floodwaters can be found on roads, bridges, and low areas. Flash floods can come rapidly and unexpectedly. They can occur within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall.

Do not drive through flooded areas:

- If you see a flooded roadway ahead, turn around and find another route to get to your destination.
- Be cautious, especially at night, when visibility is limited.
- Six (6) inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control or possible stalling.
- Two (2) feet of moving water can carry away most vehicles, including sport utility vehicles and pick-up trucks.
- If the water appears shallow enough to cross, do not attempt to cross a flooded roadway. Water can hide dips, or worse, floodwaters can damage roadways by washing

away the underlying road surface.

- If there is no other route, proceed to higher ground and wait for the waters to subside.

## F. HANDHELD WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE (HWC)

A person may not use an HWC device while operating a moving motor vehicle on a highway in this state to manually write, send, or read a written communication, including: a text message, instant messenger, electronic email, dial a phone number, access the internet, view or record a video, take a photograph, or enter data into a wireless communication device.

Utah law allows drivers over 18 years of age to talk on an HWC device while driving as long as voice commands are used to connect to a call. When using hands-free and voice-activated technology, the law allows using GPS functions, reporting safety hazards, criminal activity, and medical emergencies.

Drivers under the age of 18 may only use an HWC device while operating a motor vehicle during a medical emergency, reporting a safety hazard, reporting criminal activity, or communicating with a parent or legal guardian.

A person convicted of a texting violation is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$100 or a Class B misdemeanor if they inflict bodily injury or have a previous violation for this offense. Officers may pull a driver over if they observe a driver texting, etc.

## G. HIGHWAY WORK ZONES



**Highway work zones** are those portions of a street or highway where construction, maintenance, or utility work is being done to the road, its shoulders, or any other items related to the roadway. This includes underground and overhead utility work, tree trimming, and surveying activities. Highway work zones are easily recognized by the presence of orange signs and other orange traffic control devices, flashing lights on equipment, and workers dressed in highly visible clothing.

Each year, nearly a thousand people are killed, and thousands are injured as a result of crashes in highway work zones. Some of these are highway workers, flaggers, or law enforcement officials. However, over 80% of the fatalities and injuries are suffered by drivers, passengers, and pedestrians. Many of these work zone crashes are preventable.



Highway workers are trained to set up safe work zones with directional traffic signs and devices. Motorists and pedestrians are responsible for knowing how to read and react to these directions. Paying attention and driving cautiously and courteously are the most critical steps in preventing crashes while driving through highway work zones.

Work zones may involve lane closings, detours, and heavy equipment moving on or near the road. Watch out for signs, cones, barrels, large vehicles, and workers in work zones. Work zone signs have an orange background and black letters or symbols. Always slow down even if there are no workers. Narrow lanes and rough pavement can be dangerous.

The courts are required to fine a driver who speeds in a highway construction zone at least twice the amount of the regular fine for speeding.

Slow down in a work zone, increase your following distance, and be prepared to stop. Be careful when driving through a work zone at night, even if no workers are there. Stay well away from workers and construction vehicles. Obey the posted work zone signs until you see "end road work." Expect delays, plan to leave early, and finish your trip on time. If possible, use a different route to avoid work zones.

## H. LIGHTNING

Only a hard-topped vehicle will protect you in a lightning storm. Make sure all doors are closed and windows are up. Do not touch any metal surfaces. Do not use radios connected to an external antenna mounted on the vehicle. Otherwise, the safest place during a thunderstorm is inside a well-constructed building with plumbing and electric wiring.

## I. MOUNTAIN DRIVING

Mountain driving can be very different from normal driving conditions. Some hazards you should be aware of are steep hills, wildlife, rocks in the roadway, and changing weather conditions. Gravity plays a significant role in mountain driving because it slows your vehicle down on an upgrade. You need to use lower gears to drive up hills and steep mountains. When coming down steep hills or mountains, gravity causes the speed of your vehicle to increase. Therefore, you must select a safe speed, use proper braking techniques, and use a low gear.

You should try to plan and obtain information about any long steep grades along your planned travel route. If possible, speak to other drivers familiar with the grades to determine safe speeds. Here are some more tips to use when driving up hills or mountains:

- If your vehicle experiences difficulty traveling up steep roadways, pull off the road at a safe place or stay in the right lane to allow other vehicles to pass.
- Pay special attention to speed limit signs and warning signs, such as warnings about curves, steep hills, or other hazards.
- If a speed limit is posted or a sign indicates maximum safe speed, never exceed the speed shown.
- You must yield to vehicles going uphill if traveling downhill on a narrow road.
- Do not coast downhill by shifting into neutral or disengaging the clutch.
- Stay close to the right edge of the road to avoid oncoming traffic.
- Sound the horn when approaching any sharp curve on a narrow road where the view is obstructed.

## J. NIGHT DRIVING

Driving at night is more complex and dangerous than driving in daylight. The distance you can see is limited:



- Ensure the headlights and taillights of the vehicle are illuminated.
- If your vehicle is being operated on a highway at any time from sunset to sunrise, or when persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions.
- If your vehicle's high beam lights are on and a car is coming toward you, dim your lights before you get within 500 feet of the oncoming car.
- Dim your high beams for oncoming traffic. If an oncoming vehicle does not dim, look at the right side of the road. This helps avoid being blinded by the headlights.
- If you are following a car, dim your lights when you are within 300 feet of the vehicle ahead of you.
- Use your lights any time conditions keep you from seeing 1,000 feet ahead.
- Avoid looking directly into headlights.
- Keep your eyes searching the road in front of your vehicle and look for dark shapes on the roadway. Glance to the right and left to check for the edge of the pavement and hazards on the sides.
- Do not wear sunglasses or colored lenses at night. Tinted or colored lenses reduce the light you need for good vision.
- Increase your following distance at night by at least two (2) seconds.
- The law requires that you drive at a reasonable and prudent speed. That means, especially at night, if you drive the posted speed limit, it may be too fast.

## K. RURAL ROADS

Driving on rural roads can be dangerous. Stay alert, watch for warning signs, and obey the speed limit. Some problems and driving hazards are unique to rural roads.

**GRAVEL OR DIRT**—there is less traction on gravel or dirt roads. Slow down and increase your following distance. You may skid when stopping your vehicle.

**NARROW ROADS**—rural roads are narrower and may have ditches or drop-offs instead of shoulders. Slow down and center your vehicle in your lane. Look out for oncoming traffic that may be in your lane.

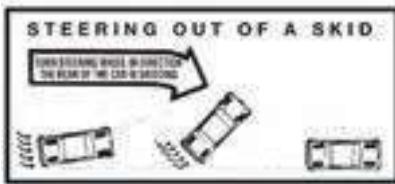
**NARROW BRIDGES AND SINGLE-LANE BRIDGES**—the first driver to the bridge has the right-of-way. Take turns crossing the bridge.

**OPEN BRIDGE GRATINGS OR STEEL BRIDGES**—reduce your speed, increase your following distance, and keep a firm grip on the steering wheel.

**LIMITED VIEW**—wooded areas, crops growing in fields, and steep hills can block your view. In these areas, slow down and be ready to stop.

**UNCONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS**—these intersections can be very dangerous. Approach them with caution. Slow down and be ready to stop for crossing or oncoming traffic.

## L. SKIDDING



Most of us think of ice and snow when we think of skidding. Remember that skidding can also happen on wet roads. Your car may start to hydroplane at speeds over 35 mph. Hydroplaning occurs when your front tires ride on water instead of the road. As you go faster, the problem worsens, and you will lose control of your steering.

In Utah, we also have a particular problem with black ice. Black ice is difficult to see on the roadway and appears more like a wet spot than a patch of ice.

Unfortunately, many crashes occur each year from skids caused by black ice.

The best policy is to keep a skid from happening:

- Slow down to a speed at which you can control the car.
- If you do skid, slowly take your foot off the gas pedal.
- If your rear wheels skid to the right, turn your front wheels to the right.
- If the rear wheels skid to the left, turn left.
- Do not steer too far, though, as that will make the car skid in the other direction.
- Do not slam on your brakes.
- Once your car regains traction, straighten out your wheels.

## M. TRIP PLANNING

To prepare a vehicle for any trip, check the important mechanical components such as windshields and windows, lights, tires, all fluid levels, belts, hoses, and brakes. Get a good night's sleep the night before the start of the trip.

Before going on a trip, consider the time of day to avoid congestion in city areas. Have a plan for the route, including the route number and entrance and exit numbers of the final destination. Consider rest stops, fuel stops, food stops, and potential construction areas.

## N. VEHICLE SUBMERGED UNDERWATER

If you are in a crash and your vehicle enters a pond, lake, river, or other body of water, you should remain calm and assess the situation:

- If your vehicle enters water, it will only float on the surface for 30 to 60 seconds so immediately attempt to get out of the vehicle.
- First, remove your safety belt.
- Lower the window, and climb onto the vehicle's top.
- Before trying to swim away, assess the current of the water.

If the vehicle is sinking quickly and you cannot open the door or window, you will have to wait for the pressure to equalize:

- Take off heavy clothing that will cause you to sink, but keep your shoes on in case you have to kick the window to escape.

If you cannot open the door or window, there will be a small air pocket near the part of the vehicle that is highest in the water. If you can't get a side window open, take a breath and kick the window out. Go to the air pocket for one more breath and then escape.

## O. WEATHER

### HOT WEATHER

When driving in very hot weather, pay special attention to these items:

**TIRES**—check the tire mounting and air pressure. Inspect the tires every two (2) hours or every 100 miles. Air pressure increases with the temperature. Do not let the air out; the pressure will be too low when the tires cool off.

**ENGINE OIL**—the engine oil helps keep the engine cool. Make sure there is enough oil. If you have an oil temperature gauge, ensure the temperature is within the proper range while driving.

**ENGINE COOLANT**—ensure the engine cooling system has enough water and antifreeze before driving. When driving, check the water temperature or coolant temperature gauge occasionally. Make sure that it remains in the normal range. If the gauge goes above the highest safe temperature, something wrong may lead to engine failure and possibly fire. Stop driving as soon as safely possible to find out what is wrong.

**WATCH FOR BLEEDING TAR**—tar in the road pavement frequently rises to the surface in hot weather. Spots where tar bleeds to the surface can be slippery, so use caution when you see them.

### COLD WEATHER

Winter is the most challenging driving season. There are fewer hours of daylight and you can encounter conditions such as: fog, stormy weather, snow, or ice. Use your low beams to avoid glare in fog, rain, or snow. Before winter weather arrives, make sure your vehicle is in good condition and has good snow tires. Put them on the vehicle before the first snowfall. For front-wheel drive vehicles, it is best to put snow or “all-season” tires on all four (4) wheels, not just the front. Snow tires with metal studs may be used from October 15 through March 31 of each year.

During ice or snowstorms, especially when a weather advisory is issued, do not drive unless it is essential. If you must drive, first clear the ice and snow from your vehicle, including the headlights, taillights, windshield wipers, and all windows. Use a freeze-resistant cleaning solution for the wipers and that the reservoir is filled adequately.

Even if your vehicle has good traction in ice and snow, drive slowly. Other drivers will be traveling with caution. Do not disrupt the traffic flow by driving faster than everyone else. When sleet, freezing rain or snow starts to fall, remember that bridges, ramps, and overpasses are likely to freeze first. Also, be aware that slippery spots may remain after road crews have cleared the roadways.

An emergency on the road can happen at any time. Be prepared with a survival kit that should always remain in the vehicle and replenished after each use. Supplies include a properly inflated spare tire, a shovel, jumper cables, tow and tire chains, a bag of salt or sand, and a tool kit. Working flashlight and extra batteries, reflective triangles and brightly colored cloth, compass, first aid kit, exterior windshield cleaner, ice scraper, snow brush, matches in a waterproof container, blankets, woolen gloves, socks, hat, water, and non-perishable foods that give you energy such

as unsalted canned nuts, dried fruits, and hard candy.

If you become stranded while traveling in cold weather, stay with your vehicle. Do not leave your vehicle unless you know exactly where you are and how far it is to help. Most deaths under these circumstances occur when people get out of their vehicles, become lost, and suffer prolonged exposure to the cold. Stay calm, wait for help to arrive, and use the following tips:

- Turn on your hazard warning lights.
- To attract attention, light two (2) flares and place one at each end of the vehicle a safe distance away. Hang a brightly colored cloth from your driver-side window, mirror, or door handle.
- Keep the exhaust pipe clear of snow and debris. Fumes from the exhaust can leak into the vehicle and can cause you to black out or even cause death.
- Run the engine and heater until the vehicle is reasonably warm, then turn it off. Repeat this process as long as fuel is available. Running the engine for approximately 10 minutes each hour to charge the battery and warm the interior is recommended.
- Even in frigid temperatures, leave at least one window open to let fresh air in. Occupants of an idling vehicle can suffer carbon monoxide poisoning if ventilation is inadequate, and heavy snow and ice can seal a vehicle shut.
- At least one person in the vehicle should remain awake at all times.
- To protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia, use blankets to keep warm.

In freezing weather, several things can happen to your brakes:

- They may be ineffective for several hundred feet, then suddenly grab as the friction dries out the brakes.
- All moving parts can freeze solid, resulting in the complete loss of brakes.
- The brakes may not release once they are applied.
- To help prevent problems from occurring, lightly touch your brakes occasionally.

## SECTION 12: Crashes and Insurance

If you are involved in a crash—stop immediately. You may be penalized severely for not remaining at the scene of a crash in which you are involved. Your driver license may be suspended or revoked for up to one year. In addition, you may receive a jail sentence of up to one year, a fine of up to \$2500, or both.

You are required to render reasonable assistance to any person injured in the crash, including transporting or making arrangements for transporting the injured person to a physician or hospital for medical treatment if it is apparent that treatment is necessary or the injured person requests transportation. Avoid moving anyone who appears to be seriously injured unless such action is necessary to prevent further injury.

**Note:** It is a third-degree felony for a person to fail to stop at the scene of an injury crash.

If the crash results in property damage only and there are no injuries, the law allows for the operator of a vehicle with knowledge that the operator was involved in, or who has reason to believe that the operator may have been involved in, an accident resulting only in damage to another vehicle or other property; may move the vehicle as soon as possible out of the travel lanes on any roadway to an adjacent shoulder, the nearest suitable cross street, or other suitable location that does not obstruct traffic; or off the freeway main lines, shoulders, medians, or adjacent areas to the nearest safe location on an exit ramp shoulder, a frontage road, the nearest suitable cross street, or other suitable location that does not obstruct traffic; and shall remain at the scene of the accident or the location described until all other requirements are fulfilled.

If the crash results in injuries, death, or at least \$2500 in total property damage, you must notify law enforcement (911) immediately. This rule applies to all crashes, regardless of whether another driver was involved. You may also be requested to provide insurance information to the Financial Responsibility Section, Driver License Division.

The following information must be exchanged between drivers or other persons involved in the crash:

- Your name and address.
- Vehicle registration number.
- Your insurance information, including the agent or provider's name and phone number.

If the owner of an unattended vehicle is not available or cannot be found, leave a note providing this information:

- Name and address of the driver of your vehicle.
- Vehicle plate number of the vehicle that caused the crash.

**Note:** The operator of a vehicle that provides the information required to a police officer at the scene of the crash is exempt from providing the information to other persons involved.

### A. DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Just knowing the rules of the road is not enough. You need to develop particular skills for special situations. One skill that is useful in all situations; however, is defensive driving. Defensive driv-

ing involves looking for possible crashes and mistakes other drivers may make. Learning how to be aware of everything that happens around you is essential.

- Over half the drivers killed in two-car crashes in Utah were not at fault.
- One in four (4) persons will be in a crash in the next four (4) years. There are ways to reduce your chances of being that person.
- A national study revealed that driver error is a factor in 75% of all car crashes.
- The time of day when most crashes happen is between 2 pm and 6 pm.
- The highest rate of reported car crashes occurs in shopping and business areas.
- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for ages 1—24 years of age.

Studies show your chances of being in a crash will be much less if you take a defensive driving course. Even a defensive driver needs to have some special skills. These skills include freeway driving, night driving, and emergency measures.

## B. EMERGENCIES AND AVOIDING CRASHES

Emergencies happen. You will be less likely to panic and know what to do if you think about emergencies and plan for them before they happen. When driving, paying attention to the road and other cars and objects around you is important. You never know when something unexpected is going to happen.

**Note:** Motorists have been seriously injured or even killed when attending to vehicle malfunctions such as a flat tire, out of gas, and other equipment problems on and off the roadways.

The majority of these incidents are preventable to minimize death or injury follow these simple rules:

- Ensure your vehicle, including the internal engine components, is properly maintained.
- Maintain adequate tire pressure and tread.
- Be sure your vehicle has a sufficient amount of fuel.
- If you experience a vehicle malfunction, pull off the road as far as possible or exit the freeway completely. A shredded tire or bent rim is better than risking your life.
- If you are off to the side of the road and need help, stay in your vehicle as much as possible and keep walking on the road to a minimum.
- Use your mobile device to call the local dispatcher if you need assistance. If you do not have access to a mobile device, leave the hood of your car up and your hazard lights on. This will advise the traveling public that you need assistance.
- Inform family members or other persons when to expect you at your destination.
- Have an emergency kit in the trunk of your vehicle with blankets, extra food and water to sustain you and your family.

### BRAKING AND BRAKE FAILURE

During an emergency, the first action for most drivers is to stop. A brake warning light tells you that your brakes are not working. Do not drive if you see this warning light.

- If your brakes stop working while driving, use the parking brake.
- Apply the parking brake slowly to avoid locking the rear wheels.
- Be ready to release the brake if you start to skid.
- If the parking brake fails, turn off the engine and look for a safe place to stop. Make sure the vehicle is well off the roadway. **Do not drive without brakes.**
- Many new vehicles have ABS (Anti-lock Braking Systems.) ABS helps you stop without skidding. It helps keep steering control. Be sure to read the vehicle owner's manual on how to use the ABS.
  - To use ABS, press the brake pedal as hard as possible and apply pressure. ABS only works if you stay on the brake pedal. The pedal may vibrate and hear a clicking noise; this is normal, and you can still steer with ABS on.
  - If your vehicle does not have ABS, refer to your vehicle's owner's manual for how to use the brakes.

## **BREAKDOWNS**

If your vehicle breaks down, ensure other drivers can see it. Crashes often happen because drivers do not see a disabled vehicle until it's too late to stop.

- If you have a breakdown, get your vehicle off the roadway and away from traffic.
- Turn on your emergency flashers, raise your hood, attach something white or orange to the antenna or door handle.
- Put emergency flares or triangles 200 to 300 feet behind your vehicle, giving other drivers time to change lanes or slow down.
- Call law enforcement (911) about the breakdown.

## **POWER FAILURE**

Keep a firm grip on the steering wheel if the engine shuts off while driving. The steering wheel may be hard to turn, but you can turn it. Look for a safe place to pull off, brake gently, and use steady pressure on the pedal. Slow down and pull off the road. Try to start the engine; if it doesn't start, raise the hood, turn on the emergency flashers, and call for help.

## **STEERING**

You may be able to avoid a collision by steering around a hazard. This is sometimes called swerving. To quickly steer around a hazard, ensure you have a good grip with both hands on the steering wheel and steer in the direction you want, but try to avoid other traffic. Once you have missed the hazard, straighten your vehicle and slow down.

## **STUCK GAS PEDAL**

If your vehicle is speeding out of control, shift to neutral and look for a safe place to pull off, steer smoothly, brake gently, and pull off the road.

## **TIRE BLOWOUT**

If a front tire blows out, your vehicle will pull hard toward the blown tire. Do not slam on the brakes.

- If a rear tire blows out, the vehicle will wobble, shake, and pull toward the blown tire.
- If a tire goes flat, grip the steering wheel firmly, steer straight, slow gradually, and take your foot off the gas pedal; do not brake.

Allow the vehicle to slow down. Brake gently only if you must, and do not stop on the road. Pull off the road in a safe place and turn on the emergency flashers. If possible, pick a level spot, and turn on your emergency flashers, and change the tire.

### **UNEVEN SURFACES/DROP-OFFS**

Drop-offs can cause crashes unless you handle them right. Don't panic if your wheels drop off the paved road surface. Slow down gradually and then turn back onto the roadway.

## **C. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT**

The Financial Responsibility Act is designed to protect the public from losses due to motor vehicle crashes. This law requires that you have your vehicle or yourself, as a driver, insured. Anyone who knowingly operates a motor vehicle or permits one to be operated without owner's security is guilty of a class B misdemeanor, which may result in losing your driver license, motor vehicle registration, and license plates. To regain these items, you must provide proof of adequate financial security, pay the required reinstatement fees, and pay any applicable fines.

Motor vehicle insurance is the most convenient and least expensive way to comply with this law.

### **PROVIDING SECURITY AFTER A CRASH**

There are two (2) ways you can provide the required security after a crash in which you were the at-fault driver:

1. Depositing money with the Financial Responsibility Section in the amount of the loss suffered by the other parties involved; **or**
2. Showing you were covered by automobile liability insurance at the time of the crash. If you were not covered by such insurance, you must file one of the following:
  - Evidence that all parties involved in the crash have released you from liability.
  - Evidence that you have agreed in writing to make payments for any damages or injuries suffered by the other party or parties.
  - Evidence that you have been found not liable by a court of law.
  - Evidence that the operator complied with the operator's security requirement.

If your driving privilege is suspended under this act, it may be reinstated by complying with one of the above-listed procedures or one year following the effective date of suspension if no civil action arising out of the accident has been instituted.

### **UNSATISFIED JUDGMENT**

A court may render a judgment against you for damages to other injured parties. If this judgment is not satisfied within 60 days after the court decision, your driving privilege will be suspended. This rule may apply not only to drivers but also to those who own or maintain the vehicle. If your driving privilege is withdrawn, the suspension will be in effect until the judgment is satisfied and you have filed "future proof" of financial responsibility in the form of an SR22.

## **SR22 INSURANCE**

“Future proof” of financial responsibility is evidence that you pay for any damage to others if you are responsible for a future accident. It is required if you have failed to satisfy a judgment as explained above or if your driving privilege is suspended for violating the financial responsibility laws. This proof must be maintained for **three (3) years** following the date of the suspension or revocation or, in the case of an unsatisfied judgment, three (3) years from the date of reinstatement.

The most common way to file “future proof” is to furnish evidence that you are covered by an SR22 automobile liability insurance policy.

## **UNINSURED MOTORIST**

If a vehicle owner is convicted of driving without insurance, is suspended for driving without insurance, or is identified in the computer records as having no insurance, the Department of Motor Vehicles must revoke the vehicle registration unless insurance is purchased within 30 days.

**Note:** The law states that **any time** anyone drives a motor vehicle, proof of insurance for the vehicle and/or the operator **must be in the vehicle** and shown to any peace officer asking to see it. You can provide proof of insurance to a peace officer electronically using a **mobile electronic device**. UCA [41-12a-303.2\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) and [41-12a-303.2\(2\)\(d\)\(i\)\(B\)](#)

## **D. INSURANCE COVERAGE**

**BODILY INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE LIABILITY**—mandatory coverage that provides payment for injuries or damages caused by your negligence to another person or property. This coverage can be used to meet the Utah Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law requirements.

**UNINSURED MOTORIST**—covers injuries to you and your passengers if you are in a crash that is caused by another driver who does not have insurance or by a “hit-and-run” driver. Property damage losses are generally not paid under this coverage.

**PERSONAL INJURY PROTECTION** (also known as “no-fault” or “PIP”)—mandatory and provides some basic benefits and coverage for bodily injury to you and others without having to determine “fault” in a crash.

**COLLISION**—covers repairs to your vehicle for damage caused by a collision, subject to a deductible, usually when no other person is at fault. This coverage is not required by law but is generally required by a lien holder.

**COMPREHENSIVE**—covers repairs to your vehicle for damage caused by reasons other than collisions, such as fire, theft, vandalism, or glass breakage. This coverage is not required by law but may be required by a lien holder.

**Note:** If you are convicted in a court of law of a violation for driving without insurance or driving without proof of insurance, you will be required to carry an SR22 for three (3) years and pay a \$40 reinstatement fee.

## **E. RELEASE OF CRASH REPORT INFO**

Crash reports are protected and may be released only as provided by the law. A report may be

released to persons involved in the crash, excluding witnesses; anyone they name as a representative, with signed permission from the person involved in the crash; parents or legal guardian, attorney, insurance company, licensed private investigator, or the media.

Information released to the news media is limited to name, age, sex, city of residence, vehicle make and model (whether or not the vehicles were insured), and the location and description of the crash.

# **SECTION 13: Suspensions and Your Record**

Some drivers do not meet acceptable driving standards. The Driver License Division is here to help those drivers, if possible, and to take corrective action, if necessary. The division also deals with cases of license fraud and alteration.

The various driver control programs are designed to improve driver attitude and performance. In most cases, the treatment programs are successful. However, some drivers are unable or unwilling to correct their bad habits. Those drivers can expect revocation, suspension, denial, or disqualification of their driving privileges.

## **A. ALTERED OR FICTITIOUS LICENSE**

It is unlawful to display a license you know has been canceled, suspended, or altered. It is also illegal to alter a driver license. Either of these actions could result in your license being suspended.

## **B. DRIVING RECORD (MVR)**

The Driver License Division maintains a computerized driving and crash record of every driver in the state. It contains a record of convictions for moving traffic violations and suspensions within the past three (3) years. All alcohol/drug-related violations, suspensions, and revocations remain on the record for 10 years. When a driver is convicted of a moving traffic violation, a notice of the court action is sent to the division for posting on the driver's record.

If you are a commercial driver, your driving record will be submitted to the commercial driver license information system, and a record of suspensions and revocations will be forwarded to the national driver register.

## **C. DRIVING WHILE DENIED, SUSPENDED, OR REVOKED**

If you drive while your driver license is denied, suspended, or revoked, you may be sentenced to jail for 90 days and be required to pay a fine.

Also, the length of time your driver license was originally denied, suspended, or revoked will be increased by the amount of the original time period. For example, your license was originally suspended for three (3) months, an additional three (3) months would be added to your suspension.

If your original suspension or revocation is based upon an alcohol-related offense, the fine may be up to \$1000, and you may be imprisoned for up to six (6) months. If you drive while your license is suspended or revoked for DUI, metabolite of a drug, negligent homicide, a violation of the alcohol-restricted driver law, or refusal to submit to a chemical test, your vehicle may be impounded.

## **D. LICENSE SUSPENSIONS**

Your driving privilege will result in a mandatory suspension and may be suspended for as long as two (2) years or until your 21st birthday for any of the following:

- You have been convicted of an offense for which mandatory suspension is required.
- You have caused or contributed to a crash by reckless or unlawful conduct in which someone was injured or killed or which resulted in serious property damage.
- You have unlawfully or fraudulently used or permitted your license by someone else.
- You have been convicted of sufficient traffic violations to be subject to the division point system.
- You have been arrested for DUI or have been found guilty of any drug offense.
- As a Utah driver, you failed to appear in court for a traffic violation when it occurred in Utah or a Non-Resident Violator Compact member state, or you were unable to satisfy fees, fines, or restitution to the court on any criminal charge.
- You failed to show proof of no-fault insurance or other security as required under the Utah Automobile No-Fault Insurance Act.
- You operated a vehicle or allowed a registered vehicle to be operated without required insurance or proof of financial responsibility.
- You failed to pay child support.
- You have been convicted of a texting violation and the judge has ordered the suspension of your license.
- You are under the age of 21 and have used false or improper proof of age to obtain or consume alcohol or gain admittance to a bar.
- You have been convicted of custodial interference.
- You have been convicted for a violation related to approaching an emergency vehicle and have failed to complete a four-hour live classroom course on driving safety offered by an approved entity.
- The court may order that your license be suspended for one (1) year on the first conviction for a citation with a road rage enhancement.

## **E. LICENSE REVOCATIONS**

Your driving privilege will result in a mandatory revocation if a court finds you guilty of any of the following:

- Manslaughter or negligent homicide while driving.
- A second or subsequent conviction for driving or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle or a motorboat while intoxicated or while any measurable controlled substance or metabolite of a controlled substance is in your body (including prescribed medications.)
- Making a false statement under oath when applying for a driver license.
- Using a motor vehicle to commit or facilitate a felony, including negligent homicide.

- Failure to stop and give aid if you are involved in a motor vehicle crash resulting in the death of or personal injury to another.
- Two (2) reckless or impaired driving charges in one year. (The court may recommend that your license be suspended for three (3) months on the first conviction.) Reckless driving is defined as operating a vehicle in a willful and/or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.
- Attempting to flee or refusing to stop after receiving a visual or audible signal from a police officer.
- Discharging or allowing the discharge of a firearm from a vehicle.
- Using, allowing the use of, or causing to be used any explosive, chemical, or incendiary device from a vehicle.
- Driving with a measurable or detectable amount of alcohol in your system when you have an alcohol-restricted status.
- Driving a vehicle without an ignition interlock device installed when you have an ignition interlock restricted status.
- You have been convicted of careless driving, and a judge has ordered the revocation of your driver license. If you forfeit bail after being arrested for one of the above, your driver license will be revoked/suspended as if you had appeared in court and been found guilty.
- You have been convicted of negligent homicide using a handheld wireless communication device.
- Refusal to submit to chemical testing as requested by law enforcement.
- You have two (2) citations that have been enhanced as a road rage violation in one (1) year.

## F. POINT SYSTEM

### POINT DISTRIBUTION

Reckless driving	80
Speeding (depending on severity)	35-75
Failure to yield right-of-way	60
Following to closely (tailgating)	60
Wrong side of road	60
Wrong way on one-way street	60
Red light	50
Stop sign	50
Improper lookout	50
Improper passing	50
Texting while driving	50
Other moving violations	40

The point system is part of Utah's Driver Improvement Program. Points are assigned for specific types of violations:

- **OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE**—if you acquire 200 or more points within a three (3) year period, you will be asked to appear for a hearing.
- **UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE**—if you acquire 70 points or more within a three (3) year period, you will be asked to appear for a hearing.

Based on the hearing, you may be placed on probation, requested to take the defensive driving course, or have your driving privilege denied, or suspended. The denial/suspension may be for one month to one year, depending on your driving record.

### **CLEAR POINTS FROM RECORD**

By driving safely, you can clear points from your record.

- The point system provides that half of the total points on your record will be removed when you drive one full year without being convicted of a moving traffic violation.
- If you drive two (2) successive years without a conviction, all points will be removed from your record.
- Points for individual convictions are automatically removed from your record three (3) years after the date of the violation.

As a further incentive, 50 points may be removed from your record upon completing a defensive driving course recommended by the division. This 50-point reduction will be permitted only once during any three (3) year period. For more information, view the Utah Safety Council website at: [utahsafetycouncil.org/defensive\\_driving/](http://utahsafetycouncil.org/defensive_driving/).

**Note:** The defensive driving course required to reduce 50 points from your driving record is different than the traffic school offered by some courts.

# SECTION 14: Sharing the Road

Everyone has a right to the roadway. Remember to be courteous. Communicate to let others know where you are and what you plan to do.

## VULNERABLE USERS OF THE HIGHWAY

Utah law defines a vulnerable user of the highway as a pedestrian, including a person engaged in work upon a highway or utilities facilities along a highway or providing emergency services within the right-of-way of a highway, a person riding an animal, and a person operating any of the following on a highway: farm tractor or implement of husbandry without an enclosed shell, skateboard, roller skates, in-line skates, bicycle, electric-assisted bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, moped, motor-driven cycle, motorized scooter, motorcycle, and wheelchairs.

A person who distracts or attempts to distract a vulnerable user of a highway with the intent to cause violence or injury or force a vulnerable user off the roadway may be given a traffic citation. If convicted in court, this type of traffic citation will appear on a person's driving record, and points will be assessed.

People walking, jogging, riding bicycles, or operating pedestrian vehicles on the roadway can cause special problems for drivers. Besides being hard to see, they sometimes do the unexpected. As a driver, you must always have your car under control and be ready to react to any sudden action of others using the roadway.

## A. BICYCLES



Bicycles are considered vehicles when on roadways. Bicyclists are required and expected to follow the same rules of the road as motorized vehicles. As a motorist, you should know that a bicyclist has the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as you. Respect for each other will aid in the smooth flow of traffic.

Bicyclists may not be easily seen in traffic. You must be alert for bicyclists and be extra careful when approaching them. Just as motorists have different skill levels, bicyclists also have varying skills. A skillful bicyclist rides predictably and holds a steady line. An unskillful bicyclist may swerve unpredictably, ignore traffic signs and signals, and ride without a light at night. If you see an unskillful bicyclist, be ready for any sudden movements.

As a driver, you must:

- Yield to bicyclists in intersections as you would for pedestrians and other vehicles.
- Yield right-of-way when a bicycle path or bike lane intersects a road. Do not stop, park, or drive on a designated bicycle path or lane unless you are entering or leaving an alley or driveway, performing official duties directed by a police officer, or an emergency exists. Dedicated bicycle lanes are marked with solid white lines.
- Allow as much space as possible and slow down when approaching or passing a bicyclist. You should slow down and let the cyclist clear the intersection before turning.
- Avoid slowing down or stopping quickly. A motor vehicle's brakes are more powerful than a bicycle's, and you could cause a crash.

- Avoid sounding your horn close to the bicyclists unless there is a chance of a crash. Sounding your horn to alert your presence may startle bicyclists and cause them to steer into your path and crash.
- Watch carefully for bicyclists entering your lane. Be especially careful if you see children riding bikes on the sidewalk. They may come onto the road, and they cannot see things out of the corner of their eyes as well as adults can. Therefore, even though children glance toward you, they may not see you before they pull out in front of you. They also have trouble judging the speed and distance of oncoming cars and lack a sense of danger.
- Avoid turning sharply in front of bicyclists, and do not force a bicyclist off the road.
- Although bicyclists are required to ride in the direction of traffic, you should look for them riding anywhere on the roadway. Utah law requires a minimum of three (3) feet of distance from any bicyclist or vulnerable user of the highway you are passing.
- If a bicyclist travels at less than a reasonable speed, you may drive in a center lane, that is, a two-way left turn lane; the center lane is on a roadway divided into three (3) or more lanes that provide for two-way movement of traffic.
- Dim your headlights within 500 feet when approaching or overtaking bicyclists at night.
- Be careful around bicyclists when the roadway is wet or covered with sand or gravel. These conditions affect bicycles much more than vehicles.
- When parking on the street, check to the sides and rear for bicyclists before opening your vehicle door.
- You should always check for bicyclists in your path before backing. Be especially cautious near schools or residential areas where bicyclists may be present.
- Cooperate with bicyclists. They are required to use hand signals, as shown when turning and stopping. However, remember bicyclists may be unable to signal if road or traffic conditions require them to keep both hands on the handlebars. Look for other clues of a bicyclist's intent, such as turning their head or looking over their shoulder before changing lane position.



**Note:** When turning left, a bicyclist can use the left-turn or two-way left-turn lanes in the same manner required of motor vehicles.

When overtaking and passing a bicycle or moped under Subsection (1)(c), a person operating a vehicle may not pass a bicycle or moped proceeding in the same direction if the pass cannot be made safely, including under any of the following conditions:

- When approaching or upon the crest of a grade or a curve in the highway where the operator's view is obstructed.
- When approaching within 100 feet of, or traversing, any intersection or railroad grade crossing unless otherwise indicated by an official traffic control device.
- When the view is obstructed upon approaching within 100 feet of any bridge, viaduct, or tunnel.
- When the pass cannot be made in accordance with Section [41-6a-706.5](#) and shall

move the vehicle to the left of the lane the vehicle is traveling in if there is at least one lane to the left of the vehicle that is proceeding in the same direction and the movement can be made in accordance by UCA **41-6a-804.1**.

As a bicyclist, you must:

- Never attempt to ride a bicycle while impaired. Alcohol can affect your balance and judgment.
- Keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times. Never carry any package, bundle, or article, which prevents using both hands in the control and operation of the bicycle.
- Every bicycle must have a brake or brake system that enables the rider to stop the bicycle within 25 feet from a speed of 10 mph.
- Wearing a CPSC (Consumer Product Safety Commission) approved bicycle helmet when riding is always recommended, which dramatically improves the chances of surviving a crash.
- You are required to have a white headlight, red taillight or reflector, and side reflectors, all visible for at least 500 feet any time you ride earlier than a half-hour before sunrise, later than a half-hour after sunset, or whenever it is otherwise difficult to make out vehicles 1000 feet away. The lights may be on the bicycle or the rider.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals and never ride against the traffic. Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing balance or swerving left. Some riders use rear-view mirrors.
- Make eye contact with drivers; you must assume they do not see you and may pull out in front of you.
- Bicyclists approaching a stop sign may proceed through the intersection without stopping at the stop sign if the bicyclist slows to a reasonable speed and yields the right-of-way to any pedestrian within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk.
- When riding a bicycle on a sidewalk or crosswalk, bicyclists must ride slowly, yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian, and give an audible signal before overtaking and passing any pedestrian.
- Always ride to the right side of the road or street, as it is safe and practical. On a one-way street in a city, bicyclists may ride as near as possible to either the right or left side of the street or roadway.
- While cycling, never attach yourself or the bicycle to any vehicles moving on the highway.
- You cannot have a siren or whistle on your bicycle.
- Ride no more than two (2) abreast and only if you would not impede traffic.
- A bicycle may not carry more persons than the number it is designed or equipped for, except that an adult rider may carry a child securely attached to their person in a backpack or sling.

## ELECTRIC ASSISTED BICYCLE

This is a bicycle with an electric motor that:

- Has fully operable pedals.
- Has permanently affixed cranks installed at the time of the original manufacture.
- Is fully operable as a bicycle without the use of an electric motor.
- Is listed as one of the following:
  - **CLASS 1**—equipped with a motor or electronics that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to assist when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
  - **CLASS 2**—equipped with a motor or electronics that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and is not capable of assisting when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
  - **CLASS 3**—equipped with a motor or electronics that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to assist when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour. This class is equipped with a speedometer.

## B. EMERGENCY VEHICLES



**ROAD AND STOP** until the emergency vehicle has passed.

Unless you are on official business, do not follow within **500 feet** of any fire vehicle responding to an alarm. You may not drive or park on the same block where the fire vehicle has stopped to answer an alarm.

### MOVE OVER LAW

The incidents of law enforcement officers, emergency medical services, and fire department personnel being struck while performing roadside duties are increasing frighteningly. [\*\*Move over laws\*\*](#) have been enacted to lessen the problem, requiring drivers to slow down and change lanes when approaching a roadside incident. Signs are posted on the highways.

When approaching a stationary vehicle adjacent to a highway that is not parked in an apparent legal parking area that has flashing hazard lights illuminated, the driver shall reduce the speed of the vehicle, provide as much space as practical to the stationary vehicle, if practical and with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, make a lane change into a lane not adjacent to the stationary vehicle.

Upon approaching a stationary vehicle displaying amber lights, the driver of a vehicle traveling in the HOV lane shall, if practical, with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, make a lane change out of the HOV lane into a lane not adjacent to the stationary vehicle.

If you are convicted for NOT making a lane change or slowing down when approaching a stopped

stationary vehicle, you must attend a four (4) hour live classroom defensive driving course within 90 days of conviction. If you fail to attend the defensive driving class, your license will be suspended for 90 days.

## C. LARGE TRUCKS



It may sound obvious, but trucks are not large cars. To reduce the chance of a crash with a large tractor-trailer, the so-called "18-wheeler", motorists must be familiar with a truck's physical capabilities and common maneuvers. According to the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 71% of fatal crashes involving two (2) or more vehicles, one of which is a truck, are caused by another vehicle, usually a car.

### **SIZE AND WEIGHT REGULATIONS**

Moving any vehicle that exceeds the legal size and weight limits on any highway is illegal except with a special permit. This section describes some of those limits. Remember, no local authority has the power to alter these limitations.

#### **WIDTH**

No vehicle shall have a total outside width, including load, of more than 8 1/2 feet. One exception to this rule is farm tractors. Their width may not exceed 9 feet. In addition, farm machinery may move short distances on the highway, regardless of their size, if they are engaged in farm operations.

#### **HEIGHT**

No vehicle shall exceed a height of 14 feet, including any load that may be carried.

#### **LENGTH**

No single vehicle, except for fire-fighting equipment, shall exceed an overall length of 45 feet, including the front and rear bumpers. A truck tractor coupled to a semi-trailer or trailers is considered two (2) vehicles.

**Note:** All other combination of vehicles, with or without a load (such as a motor home pulling a boat), may not exceed a total length of 65 feet, 8 feet in width, and 14 feet in height.

#### **POSTING OF REGISTERED GROSS LADEN WEIGHT**

The Utah State Tax Commission requires that every vehicle registered for 16,001 pounds or more have the weight for which it is registered displayed on both the left and right sides of the vehicle. This can be done with paint, stencils, or decals. The information must be in letters not less than two (2) inches high and placed in an easily visible location.

#### **CLEARANCES**

As you drive, you need to be aware of your vehicle's increased height, width, and length. Bridges, tunnels, and overhanging trees that were not a problem when driving your car can be a safety hazard when driving a larger vehicle. Some precautions you can take include:

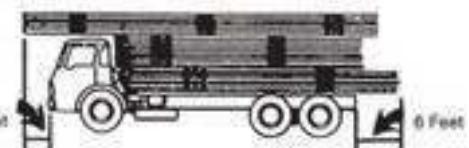
- Knowing the dimensions of your vehicle. Squeezing through a tight place is risky.

When your clearance is under six (6) inches, be safe and slow down. Hazards like rough roads might cause you to bounce into a low ceiling or swerve into a close wall.

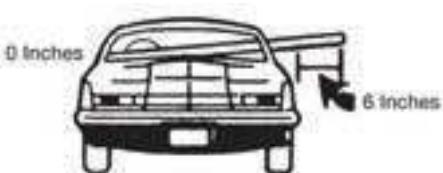
- Being aware that some bridges and tunnels are not made for a car and a truck to pass through at the same time. If you have any doubts, let the other vehicle go through first.
- Watch for fire escapes, low-hanging tree limbs, and filling station canopies. Be especially alert when you bring your vehicle in for a driving skills test. A few Driver License offices have canopies that are prime targets for unaware drivers.

## LOADS PROJECTING TO THE FRONT AND REAR

No train of vehicles or single vehicle shall carry a load extending more than three (3) feet to the front nor more than six (6) feet to the rear of the vehicle's body. Requirements for placement of flags, if required, are listed later in this chapter.



## LOADS PROJECTING TO THE SIDES



No vehicle, including a passenger vehicle, may carry any load extending beyond the line of the fenders on the left side of the vehicle nor extending more than six (6) inches beyond the line of the fenders on the right side. Requirements for lighting and flagging loads that project beyond the sides or ends of a vehicle are discussed later in this section.

## MANEUVERABILITY

Trucks are designed to carry products to and from towns and cities; they are not designed to be as maneuverable as cars. Trucks have longer stopping and accelerating distances, wider turning areas, and weigh more. On multi-lane highways, tractor-trailers stay in the center lane to help with local traffic flow on and off the highway. Staying in the middle lane also increases a truck driver's options if they switch lanes to avoid a dangerous situation or a crash.

Listed below are common mistakes motorists must avoid when driving around trucks:

- Cutting off a truck in traffic or on the highway to reach your exit or turn. Cutting into the open space in front of a truck removes the truck driver's cushion of safety. Trying to beat a truck to a single-lane construction zone is particularly dangerous. Take a moment to slow down and exit behind a truck—it takes only a few extra seconds and can avoid causing a crash.
- Don't linger alongside a truck when passing. Always pass a tractor-trailer completely and always on the left side. If you linger when passing, your position makes it impossible for the trucker to take evasive action if an obstacle appears in the road ahead.
- Following too close or tailgating. When following behind a truck, if you can't see the truck driver's rear view mirrors, there is no way the truck driver can see you. Tailgating a truck or car is dangerous because you take away your safety cushion if the vehicle in front of you stops suddenly. If the vehicle you are following hits something in the road, you will have no time to react before it hits your car.
- Never underestimate the size and speed of an approaching tractor-trailer. Because of its large size, a tractor-trailer often appears to be traveling slower than it is. A substan-

tial number of car-truck collisions occur at intersections because the driver of the car does not realize how close the truck is or how quickly it is approaching.

## BRAKING

Tractor-trailers take longer to stop than a car traveling at the same speed. The average passenger car traveling at 55 mph can stop in about 130-140 feet, less than half the length of a football field. A fully loaded tractor-trailer may take more than 400 feet to come to a complete stop or one-third more than the length of a football field.

## TURNING AND ONCOMING LARGE VEHICLES

Watch for large vehicles' turn signals and give them lots of room. Large vehicles sometimes swing wide to the left to clear a curb on a right turn. Avoid a crash by not turning until the vehicle has finished its turn. Avoid wind blasts when you meet a truck by moving as far as you can to the right side of the road. Stop lines at intersections are designed to give larger vehicles more turning space. Always stop behind the stop lines. Do not cut in front of a truck in traffic. Do not try to beat a truck into a single-lane construction zone. Trying to save a few seconds could cost your life.

## TURNING

With any turning vehicle, the rear wheels follow a shorter path than the front wheels. The longer the vehicle, the greater the difference. That's why the drivers of tractor-trailers must often swing out to the left as the first step in making a right turn. When following a tractor-trailer, observe its turn signals before trying to pass. If it appears to be starting a left turn, wait a moment to check and see which way the driver will turn before passing on the right.

## A TRUCKER'S BLIND SPOT



It is important to be seen whenever you are driving. Many motorists falsely assume that truckers can see the road better because they sit twice as high as the driver of a car. While truckers do enjoy a better forward view and have bigger mirrors, they still have SERIOUS BLIND SPOTS into which a car can disappear from view — UP TO 20 FEET IN FRONT OF THE CAB, ON EITHER SIDE OF THE TRACTOR-TRAILER, PARTICULARLY ALONGSIDE THE CAB, AND UP TO 200 FEET IN THE REAR.

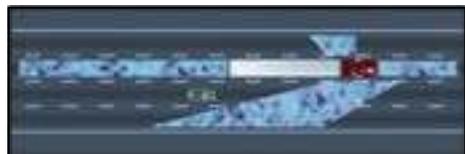
Motorists lingering in blind spots on the sides or at the rear of large trucks hamper the truckers' ability to take evasive action to avoid dangerous situations, thus increasing the possibility of a crash. An excellent rule of thumb for motorists sharing the road with a tractor-trailer is, "if you can't see the truck driver in their side mirror, they can't see you."

## THE NO-ZONE

The no-zone is the area around large vehicles in the driver's blind spots. These blind spots are on the sides, rear, and front.

## SIDE NO-ZONE

Large trucks and buses have big no-zones on both sides. A truck's largest blind spot is on the right side. It starts behind the cab and goes the length of the truck. If you cannot see a driver's face in the side view mirror, they cannot see you. Do not drive



alongside a large vehicle any longer than you have to. If the driver needs to swerve or change lanes, you could collide.

### **FRONT NO-ZONE**

Because they are so big and heavy, large vehicles take longer to stop than cars. A loaded truck at 55 mph takes at least 335 feet to stop. That's more than 1.5 times the distance a car takes. Never pull out in front of a large vehicle or change lanes in front of them. When passing, make sure you can see the whole front of the vehicle in your rear-view mirror before pulling back into the lane.



### **REAR NO-ZONE**



Large vehicles have huge blind spots up to 200 feet behind them. If you are too close, the driver cannot see your vehicle, and you cannot see what is ahead of you. Do not follow too closely. Place yourself so the driver can see you in their side mirrors. When stopped behind a large vehicle on a hill, be aware the vehicle may stall or roll backward colliding with your vehicle.

## **D. MOBILITY VEHICLES**

A mobility vehicle is used by a person with a physical disability that meets the specifications outlined by the division and can be driven on a public roadway, within appropriate restrictions, and by an individual who holds a valid mobility vehicle permit. This permit issued by the division grants authority and specifies the conditions for a person with a physical disability to operate a mobility vehicle on a public highway.

**Note:** Pedestrian and mobility vehicles may be used on the highways and are exempt from registration, inspection, and the usual operator license requirements. The commissioner of Public Safety governs the authority to operate pedestrian vehicles.

## **E. MOTOR-ASSISTED SCOOTERS**

Follow the same rules as a bicycle, moped, or motorcycle. A person under the age of **15** may **not** operate a motor-assisted scooter unless the person is under the direct supervision of the person's parent or guardian. A person may **not** operate a motor-assisted scooter:

- In a public parking structure.
- On public property posted as an area prohibiting skateboards.
- On a highway with four (4) or more lanes.
- On a highway with a posted speed limit greater than 25 mph.

## **F. MOTORCYCLES**

To operate a motorcycle on Utah highways, your driver license must have a motorcycle endorsement. The requirements for this endorsement are the same as for obtaining an operator driver license, except that the tests are different. If you have not previously been licensed to operate a

motorcycle, you may be issued a motorcycle learner permit. You can apply for a motorcycle learner permit by scheduling a duplicate license appointment at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov).

For further information on the motorcycle learner permit, refer to the motorcycle operator manual. The division may waive the rider skills portion of the test upon completing a division-approved motorcycle education course. Any motorcycle operator or passenger who is under 21 years of age must wear an approved DOT helmet. Also, all motorcycles licensed for street use must have liability insurance coverage. The signature of a parent or guardian is required for motorcycle applicants under 18 years of age.

Motorcyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as other drivers. There are things you need to share the roadway with motorcycles safely:

- Give motorcycles an entire lane. Do not share the lane. Motorcycles need space to react to other traffic.
- Motorcycles are small and can be challenging to see. Always check your mirrors and blind spots for them.
- Before turning left, be alert for motorcycles. Look carefully at the front and sides.
- Do not believe a motorcycle is turning when it has a turn signal flashing. Many motorcycle turn signals do not self-cancel. The rider may have forgotten to cancel the signal.
- When following a motorcycle, stay at least two (2) seconds back. When it is wet on the roadway increase this distance. Riders may suddenly change speed or lane position to avoid potholes, gravel, wet, or slick places. They may also change speed or direction because of pavement seams, railroad crossings, and grooved paving. All of these can be deadly to a motorcyclist.
- Remember that scooters and mopeds travel at a much lower speed than motorcycles.

## LANE FILTERING

Motorcycle operators may pass another vehicle stopped in the same direction of travel in the same lane when the following conditions exist:

- The individual is on a roadway, or an off-ramp, divided into two (2) or more adjacent traffic lanes in the same direction of travel.
- The individual is on a roadway with a speed limit of 45 miles per hour or less or an off-ramp. Lane filtering is not permitted on an on-ramp.
- The motorcycle is traveling at a speed of 15 miles per hour or less.
- The vehicle being overtaken in the same lane is stopped.
- The movement may be made safely.
- For more information on lane filtering, visit: [dld.utah.gov/motorcycle/](http://dld.utah.gov/motorcycle/)



**Note:** An operator of a motorcycle, moped, or bicycle who is 16 years of age or older may, after bringing the vehicle to a complete stop at the intersection or stop line and determines that the traffic-control signal has not detected the operator's presence by waiting a reasonable period of time and not less than 90 seconds at the intersection or stop line may proceed across the roadway if there is no other vehicles or pedestrians near the intersection.

## G. PEDESTRIANS



A driver must yield to all pedestrians, even if they are not in a marked or unmarked crosswalk. Be aware of pedestrians crossing at mid-block crosswalks. They may not be marked by warning signs and road markings. Always yield to the visually impaired. When a pedestrian is crossing a street with a guide dog or carrying a white cane, you must come to a complete stop. If the traffic light is green, you must yield to pedestrians. Watch for pedestrians when driving next to parked or stopped vehicles and check for pedestrians before backing up. Slow down near playgrounds and in residential areas. Children can run out from between parked vehicles, be ready to stop quickly. Children are present when lights are flashing in a school zone; you must obey a slower speed limit. Stop and yield as signaled at school crossings where there is a traffic patrol.

Pedestrians should remember—if there are sidewalks, you must use them. If there are no sidewalks, walk or jog on the left shoulder as far away as possible from the edge of the roadway. Where neither a sidewalk nor a shoulder is available, walk as near as possible to the outside edge of the roadway. Always walk or jog facing traffic on the left side of the shoulder or roadway.

### **SLOW DOWN, BE AWARE, AND ALERT**

Drivers are vital in keeping pedestrians and bicyclists safe on our roads. Pedestrians and bicyclists are much more vulnerable than people in vehicles.

Drive like you would want people to drive around you and your family. Slow down when you see pedestrians or bicyclists or when visibility is reduced, such as in bad weather or when it's dark. Understand that higher speeds lead to greater injuries to pedestrians and bicyclists. Recognize that you are driving through our community, and your choices can significantly impact other people's lives.

When you are driving:

- Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times. Safety is a shared responsibility.
- Take extra care when turning, and look twice for pedestrians.
- Many pedestrian-motor vehicle crashes happen when vehicles are turning.
- Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime, early morning, or bad weather.
- Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
- Always follow all traffic laws, including speed limits.
- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop before the crosswalk to allow other vehicles to see the crossing pedestrians so they stop, too.
- Be extra cautious when backing up; pedestrians can move into your path.
- Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk; there may be people crossing that you can't see.
- Never assume the right of way.
- Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

## **IMPORTANT PEDESTRIAN STATS**

The Highway Safety Office reported that in 2023, there were a total of 40 pedestrian fatalities.

Over ten years (2013-2023), the months with the most pedestrian deaths were:

- October (59)
- December (45)
- January (43)
- July (42)
- November (42)

Over ten years (2013-2023), the hours with the most pedestrian deaths were:

- 9 p.m. (53)
- 6 p.m. (42)
- 7 p.m. (39)
- 10 p.m. (37)
- 6 a.m. (25)

The leading pedestrian contributing factors in deaths in 2023 were:

- Entering the roadway or crossing the road
- Improper crossing of roadway or intersection (jaywalking)

The leading driver contributing factors in pedestrian deaths in 2023 were:

- Failing to yield right-of-way
- Failed to keep in the proper lane

## **H. PEDESTRIAN VEHICLES**

A pedestrian-vehicle is designed and manufactured for the use of the disabled. It must be less than 48 inches wide, have an engine displacement of less than 300 cubic centimeters and less than 12 brake horsepower, and not be capable of exceeding 30 mph.

## **I. POLICE/TRAFFIC STOPS**

If the police pull you over, move to the right side of the road (even when traveling in the HOV lane) and make sure you are in a safe spot to stop:

- Put your vehicle in park and turn off your engine.
- Stay in the vehicle unless asked to get out.
- Roll down your window so that you and the officer can talk.
- Remain calm and keep your safety belt fastened. Ask your passenger(s) to do the same.

- Keep your hands on the steering wheel.

The officer may ask for documentation—keep one hand on the wheel and reach slowly for the documents. Answer the officer's questions and never try to run from the law; many fatal crashes result from police chases.

## J. SLOW MOVING VEHICLES



Watch for slow-moving vehicles, especially in rural areas. A fluorescent or reflective orange and red triangle displayed on the rear means the vehicle is moving less than 25 mph. Use caution when you see them, and be sure it is safe before you pass.

### FARM MACHINERY



Watch for farm equipment moving across the road or driving on state highways in rural areas. Pass with care. Remember, the driver cannot hear your vehicle.

### GOLF CART

Local municipalities may pass ordinances to allow golf carts to be operated on designated public roads. Golf cart operators must check local ordinances before operating a golf cart on a public highway.

Golf cart operators are responsible for safely operating a golf cart and shall comply with the same rules as a bicycle.

Golf cart operators are prohibited from consuming alcohol while operating a golf cart.

### ANIMAL-DRAWN VEHICLES AND HORSEBACK RIDERS



You may share the road with horse-drawn vehicles or horseback riders.

They have the same right to the road as a motor vehicle. They must follow the same rules you do. Pass with care. Do not use your horn or "rev" the engine. This may scare the horse and cause a crash. Watch out for left turns into fields and driveways. Warning signs may be posted in areas where you are likely to find horse-drawn vehicles and horseback riders. Be alert.

## K. STREET LEGAL ALL-TERRAIN

It is possible to register an all-terrain type 1 vehicle (ATV), a utility vehicle (UTV), or a full-size all-terrain (FSV) vehicle as a street-legal all-terrain vehicle when certain conditions are met.

### ATV—TYPE 1

Any motor vehicle 52 inches or less in width, having an unladen dry weight of 1,500 pounds or less, traveling on three (3) or more low-pressure tires, having a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and designed for, or capable of traveling over unimproved terrain.

### ATV—TYPE 2

Any motor vehicle 80 inches or less in width, traveling on four (4) or more low-pressure tires, having a steering wheel, non-straddle seating, a rollover protection system, and designed for or capable of travel over unimproved terrain, and is an electric-powered vehicle; or a vehicle powered

by an internal combustion engine and has an unladen dry weight of 3,500 pounds or less. “All-terrain type II vehicle” does not include golf carts; any vehicle designed to carry a person with a disability; any vehicle not specifically designed for recreational use, or farm tractors as defined under Section [41-1a-102](#).

## **UTV—UTILITY-TYPE VEHICLE**

Any recreational vehicle designed for and capable of traveling over unimproved terrain. Traveling on four (4) or more tires and having a width that, when measured at the widest point of the vehicle, is not less than 30 inches and does not exceed 70 inches. An unladen dry weight of 2,200 pounds or less. Having a seat height of 25 to 40 inches when measured at the forward edge of the seat bottom. Having side-by-side seating with a steering wheel for control.

## **FSV—FULL-SIZE ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE**

Any recreation vehicle designed for and capable of traveling over unimproved terrain. Traveling on four (4) or more tires and having a width that, when measured at the widest point of the vehicle, is not less than 55 inches and does not exceed 92 inches. Having an unladen dry weight of 6,500 pounds or less, a maximum seat height of 50 inches when measured at the forward edge of the seat bottom, and a steering wheel for control.

## **REGISTRATION**

A street-legal all-terrain type 1, utility-type, and full-size vehicle must comply with county motor vehicle emissions inspections and maintenance programs.

## **LICENSING**

The street-legal ATV/UTV and FSV shall comply with the same requirements as a motorcycle in terms of following traffic rules, registering, titling, odometer statement, vehicle identification, license plates, and registration fees.

**Note:** If you have a Class D or CDL, you are licensed to drive a street-legal ATV/UTV or FSV.

## **HIGHWAY USE**

All-terrain type I, a UTV or an FSV that meets the requirements may be operated as a street-legal ATV/UTV or a FSV on a street or highway that is a highway with one lane in each direction.

The street-legal ATV/UTV or FSV operating on a highway may not exceed the lesser of the posted speed limit or 50 miles per hour. If operating on a highway with a posted speed higher than 50 miles per hour, the operator shall operate the street-legal ATV/UTV or an FSV on the extreme right-hand side of the roadway and shall equip the street-legal ATV/UTV with a reflector or reflective tape.

A street-legal ATV/UTV or FSV shall be equipped with one or more headlamps, one or more tail lamps, either a tail lamp or a separate lamp to illuminate the rear license plate with a white light, one or more red reflectors on the rear, one or more stop lamps on the rear, amber or red electric turn signals on each side front and rear, a braking system other than a parking brake, a horn or other warning device, a muffler and emission control system which complies with Utah requirements, rearview mirrors on the left side of the driver, a windshield (unless the operator wears eye protection while operating the vehicle), a speedometer illuminated for nighttime operation and tires no larger than the tires the ATV manufacturer made available for the ATV and have at least 2/32 inches or greater tire tread.

Anyone younger than 21 years of age is required to wear a DOT-approved helmet.

For information regarding the usage of or to register for the youth training courses, contact the Department of Natural Resources State Parks and Recreation at 801.538.7220 or <https://recreation.utah.gov/off-highway-vehicles/>.

## L. TRAINS AND RAILROAD CROSSINGS

As the number of drivers increase, more and more people die at railroad crossings. In a car-train collision, the odds that those in the car will live are not very good. Learn what to do at railroad crossings so that you do not have a collision:

- Use extreme caution at all railroad crossings, and always slow down.
- Never pass a car that is going your direction at a railroad crossing.
- Do not park closer than 50 feet from a railroad crossing unless signs indicate that you may or it is allowed by local law.
- When you stop at a railroad crossing, you must be between 15 and 50 feet from the nearest rail.
- Trains sound their horns as they approach a crossing; therefore, turning down the car radio is a good safety measure.

Every railroad crossing should be taken seriously:

- Do not assume that a train is not coming at night just because you do not see any lights.
- Slow down or stop and look before crossing the tracks.
- If lights are flashing, you must come to a complete stop. You may not proceed while the lights are flashing.
- After coming to a complete stop, if you suspect the flashing lights are not working properly, you may drive through the railroad crossing only if you have a clear line of sight of at least one mile down the tracks in both directions, there is no evidence of an approaching train, and you can cross the tracks safely.
- You may not drive through, around, or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad crossing while they are down or being opened or closed.

Public railroad crossings have been marked with warning devices for your safety by highway departments and railroad companies. Learn what the warning devices are and watch for them. With these warning devices and caution on your part, railroad-crossing crashes may never happen.

### ADVANCE WARNING SIGNS



Advance warning signs are posted before you reach the crossing and tell you to slow down, look, listen, and be prepared to stop at the crossing ahead.

### PAVEMENT MARKINGS



A stop line, an "X" and the letters "RR" may be painted on the pavement in front of railroad crossings. These markings warn you to be aware of the crossing ahead and to pay partic-

ular attention to the possible approach of a train.

## RAILROAD CROSSBUCK SIGNS



Crossbuck signs are found at all public crossings. If there is more than one set of tracks, a sign below the crossbuck indicates the number of tracks. Be prepared to stop at the tracks if a train is coming. **You must yield to train traffic.**

## FLASHING LIGHTS



Flashing lights and bells are used with crossbuck signs at many railroad crossings. Always STOP when lights begin to flash, or bells begin to ring, which means a train is coming. If there is more than one set of tracks, ensure all tracks are clear before crossing.

## GATES



Gates are used with flashing light signals at some railroad crossings. Stop when the lights flash and before the gates begin to lower across your traffic lane. Remain stopped until the gates are raised and the lights stop flashing. **DO NOT DRIVE AROUND THE GATES.**

## MOTORCYCLES AND BICYCLES

Riders should approach a railroad crossing with caution. Do not swerve to get a better angle for crossing.

## SCHOOL BUSES

Drivers are required to stop at all railroad crossings. The driver must check both directions and listen to approaching trains, proceed only when safe, and never shift gears on the crossing.

## TRUCKS CARRYING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Drivers are required to stop at all railroad crossings. Drivers should make a safe, gradual stop to minimize the possibility of causing a crash. Do not shift gears when crossing the tracks. When possible, reroute from railroad crossings or use a crossing that utilizes flashing red lights and/or gates.

## GENERAL RAILROAD SAFETY INFORMATION

Expect a train on any track at any time. Freight trains do not travel on a predictable schedule. Schedules for passenger trains change.

Train tracks are private property, no matter which railroad owns them. Trains have the right-of-way 100% of the time—over ambulances, fire engines, cars, the police, and pedestrians.

If there are rails on the railroad ties, assume that the track is in use, even if there are weeds or the track looks rusty.

A typical locomotive weighs approximately 400,000 pounds or 200 tons. When 100 railcars are added to the locomotive, the train can weigh approximately 6,000 tons. The weight ratio of an automobile to a train is proportional to a soda can and an automobile.

A train may extend three (3) feet or more outside the steel rail, making the safety zone for pedestrians well beyond the rails.

Trains cannot stop quickly. It is a simple law of physics: the considerable weight and size of the train and the speed of the train dictate how quickly it can stop under ideal conditions. Once the

train is set into emergency braking, a 100-car freight train traveling at 55 mph will need more than a mile to stop—that's approximately 18 football fields.

There are roughly 200,000 miles of railroad tracks in the United States. Trains can move in either direction at any time. Trains are sometimes pushed by locomotives instead of being pulled. This is especially true in commuter and light rail passenger service.

Modern trains are quieter than ever, with no telltale “clackety-clack.” Also, the train approaching will always be closer and moving faster than you think.

Cross tracks only at designated pedestrian or roadway crossings. Observe and obey all warning signs and signals.

Never walk down a train track; it's illegal and dangerous. By the time the locomotive engineer can see a trespasser or a vehicle on the tracks, it is too late. The train cannot stop quickly enough to avoid a collision.

If your vehicle stalls on a crossing, immediately get everyone out of the car and off the tracks. Notify local authorities immediately. If a train is coming, stay clear of the tracks and run toward the approaching train at an angle away from the train. Moving toward the approaching train, will make you less likely to be hit by flying debris. If no train is in sight, post lookouts and try to start or move the vehicle.

## **TRAX LIGHT RAIL AND STREETCARS**

Utah Transit Authority operates a light rail system throughout the Salt Lake Valley. The system has over 45 miles of track and 67 actively used grade crossings.

Overhead electrical lines power light rail cars. Each car is 88 feet long and weighs approximately 88,000 pounds. Trains size can vary from one to four (4) cars in length. It is important to know that light rail vehicles accelerate quickly and reach speeds up to 65 mph within 21 seconds. Never try to beat a light rail train through a railroad crossing.

Light rail grade crossings must be treated in the same manner as all train crossings. Motorists must wait until the gates have entirely raised and the red lights have stopped flashing before entering the crossing. It is also important to ensure there is enough room to completely clear the tracks before entering the crossing. Never stop on the tracks.

There are many areas where light rail trains operate through the same intersections and streets as automobiles. When driving in these areas, extra attention must be paid to traffic signals and posted signs.

At some locations in the system, an overhead sign will flash the logo of a train. This means a train is approaching the area; you should pay extra attention to obey traffic signals at these intersections. The flashing train logo is **not** an indication to stop but merely an additional warning device.

# SECTION 15: Vehicle Equipment

The following list will serve as a handy guide to Utah's equipment regulations (an \* indicates equipment required for all motor vehicles.)

**ADVANCED DRIVER ASSISTANCE SYSTEMS (ADAS) SAFETY FEATURES**—Many newer vehicles on the road today have driver assistance safety features designed to save lives and prevent injuries. If used properly. Some driver-assist safety features sense and monitor conditions, identify present and potential dangers, and may help you avoid a possible crash. These safety features may provide alerts, such as sounds or vibrations, or may take control of the vehicle, such as adjusting the braking or steering. Safety features include but are not limited to blind spot warning, backup camera, forward collision warning, automatic emergency braking, lane keeping assistance, and active parking assist.

When taking your driving skills test, you cannot use certain safety features, such as parking assist and cruise control.

Safety features are meant to assist you in driving; they are not there to drive the vehicle. You must remain engaged and focused on the driving task at all times. You are responsible for being aware of everything around you by performing head checks and using mirrors and cameras to observe traffic and other roadway users. You are responsible for the safe operation of your vehicle at all times. Do not rely on safety features alone. It is important to follow the tips below when driving vehicles equipped with safety features:

- It is your responsibility always to stay focused when driving.
- Read your vehicle owner's manual to learn how your vehicle's safety features operate.
- Know the limitations of your vehicle's safety features.
- Safety features may not work correctly in rain, snow, ice, fog, hills, and curves.
- Always keep vehicle sensors clean and damage-free.
- Always keep software technology current (if applicable) and follow your vehicle manufacturer's recommendations.

ADAS safety features provide many benefits and have great potential to assist drivers in reducing crashes, injuries, and fatalities when appropriately used.

For additional information, visit:

<https://mycardoeswhat.org/>  
[www.trafficsafetyeducationfoundation.org](http://www.trafficsafetyeducationfoundation.org)  
[www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)

**\*BRAKES**—All motor vehicles must have brakes that meet federal standards on all wheels. An exception to the law is any truck or truck tractor with three (3) or more axles, which must have brakes on all wheels except the front wheels.

**Note:** If your vehicle is equipped with ABS brakes, it is unnecessary to pump them when braking in a slippery situation; apply constant and firm pressure, and your vehicle will make a smooth, safe stop.

Consult the Utah Highway Patrol or the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration for brake requirements on trailers.

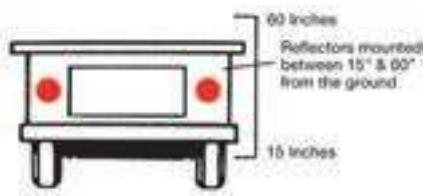
**CLEARANCE LIGHTS**—Buses, RVs, and trailers 80 inches or more in width must have two (2) amber lights on the front and one on each side. Two (2) red lights are required on the rear and one on each side at the rear. Lights must be visible from 500 feet at night.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER**—Although fire extinguishers are not required for all vehicles, it is recommended that all drivers carry at least one. Stopping a fire in its early stages can avoid expensive property loss and prevent an extremely hazardous condition. Fire extinguishers; however, are not effective unless appropriately handled.

**\*FLAGS AND LIGHTS FOR EXTENDING LOADS**—Each vehicle that carries a load extending four (4) feet or more beyond the bed or body of the vehicle must display two (2) flags or lights located on the rear of the load.

The flags may be used only during the daytime and must be at least 12 inches square. Lights are for use during nighttime and must be visible for at least 500 feet. Some loads may also require red reflectors in addition to the lights.

**FLARES, REFLECTORS, ELECTRIC LIGHTS, AND FLAGS**—Trucks, truck tractors, and buses must have three (3) flares, portable red emergency reflectors, or red electric lights, and two (2) red flags with standards.



Emergency flares, reflectors, and lights must be capable of being seen and distinguished at a distance of not less than 600 feet. Flares must be capable of burning for 12 hours. Fuses must meet the New York Bureau of Explosives Standards and burn for at least 15 minutes. Vehicles transporting explosive or flammable materials may not use flares or fuses.

**\*HEADLIGHTS**—All vehicles, except motorcycles, must have at least two (2) operational headlights (one on each side), that are white in color and can shine 350 feet on high and 100 feet on low beams. All vehicles must have a high-beam indicator light.

**\*HORN**—All motor vehicles must have one functioning horn which must be heard under normal conditions from a distance of no less than 200 feet.

**\*LICENSE PLATE LIGHT**—All vehicles will have one white light mounted on the rear of the vehicle so that the license number may be read at a distance of at least 50 feet. This light may be part of the tail lamp assembly.

**MUD FLAPS OR GUARDS**—Any vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,500 pounds or more, any vehicle with altered suspension or tire size, or any trailer with an unladen weight of 750 pounds or more shall be equipped with wheel covers, mudguards, flaps, or splash aprons behind the rearmost wheels. The flaps or guards must be at least as wide as the tires and made of metal or flexible material, which will prevent most road materials from being thrown into the windshield of any following vehicle. The ground clearance must not be more than 50% of the wheel's diameter on the rearmost axle, nor more than one-fifth the distance from the center of the diameter of the rearmost axle to the flaps (see illustration above.)

**\*PARKING BRAKE**—All vehicles, except motorcycles, must have one functional parking brake.

**\*PARKING LIGHTS**—One or more white or amber-colored lights are to be mounted on the front of each vehicle.

**POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES**—Owners of vehicles equipped by the manufacturer with pollution control devices are required to keep and maintain the equipment as effective as the original equipment.

**Note:** This law does not apply to propane vehicles if the emissions meet all existing standards.

**RED OR BLUE LIGHTS VISIBLE FROM THE FRONT**—Red or blue lights visible from the front of a vehicle may not be used except by emergency, school, snow removal, or other authorized vehicles.

**\*REFLECTORS**—Vehicles must have one amber reflector on each side of the vehicle located at or near the front and one red reflector on each side at or near the rear. The reflectors must be visible from 500 feet at night and placed not less than 15 inches or more than 60 inches above the ground. If the highest part of the permanent structure is less than 15 inches, the reflectors must be mounted as high as possible.

Vehicles with an overall length of 30 feet or more must have one amber reflector on each side of the vehicle located at or near the center of each side. The visibility and height requirements are the same.

**SAFETY CHAINS OR CABLES**—All towed vehicles and regular hitches or couplings must have one chain or cable strong enough to prevent the vehicles from separating.

**SIDE MARK LIGHTS**—Buses, recreational vehicles, and trailers 80 inches or more in width must have two (2) side markers on each side (amber in front and red at the rear.) The lights must be visible at night from 500 feet to the side.

**SIRENS, WHISTLES, AND BELLS**—Only authorized emergency vehicles may be equipped with sirens, whistles, or bells.

**\*TAIL AND STOP LIGHTS**—Vehicles must have two (2) red tail/stop lights mounted on the rear. The lights must be visible from 500 feet to the rear in regular sunlight. One tail/stop light is permissible on motorcycles and certain vehicles manufactured before 1956.

**\*TURN SIGNALS**—Two (2) red, yellow, or amber lights must be mounted on the rear of the vehicle, and two (2) white, yellow, or amber lights must be mounted on the front of each vehicle. These lights must be visible from 100 feet in normal sunlight. Turn signals are not required on vehicles manufactured before 1953, if the vehicle is less than 80 inches wide.

**\*WINDSHIELD**—A windshield is required on all vehicles except motorcycles. Your windshield must be clean of dirt, frost, or anything else that might obstruct your vision while driving (such as something hanging from the rearview mirror.)

**\*WINDSHIELD WIPER**—All vehicles with windshields must have at least one wiper to clean rain, snow, or other moisture from the windshield. If your vehicle was originally equipped with two (2) windshield wipers, both must function properly. A wiper system with two (2) or more speeds is required on all vehicles manufactured after 1967.

# SECTION 16: Towing

On occasion, you may be called upon to tow another vehicle. In this situation, there are only three (3) rules to remember:

1. The drawbar or other connections between any tow vehicles may not exceed 15 feet in length from one vehicle to the other.
2. When a connection consists of a chain, rope, or cable, a red flag or other signal shall be attached to the connecting device. The flag shall be no smaller than 12 inches square (one-foot square.)



3. No person shall operate a train of vehicles when any trailer or other vehicle being towed whips or swerves dangerously or unreasonably from side to side.

## PLACEMENT OF WARNING DEVICES

Your vehicle may break down on the road at some point. It is important to know when and how to place the flares, flags, lights, etc.. Warning devices must be displayed whenever your vehicle is at least 80 inches wide or 30 feet long and is disabled or stopped along the road for more than 10 minutes. The warning devices are not required if you are:

- Legally parked in an urban district.
- Lawfully picking up or letting off passengers.
- Stopped to avoid conflict with other traffic.
- Complying with directions from a police officer or an official traffic control device.

Two (2) simple steps for placing warning devices in emergencies are:

1. Immediately place a flare, lighted fuse, electric lantern, or emergency reflector to the side of the vehicle (in the direction of the nearest oncoming traffic.)
2. Next, place flares, electric lights, or reflectors 100 feet to the front and rear of the vehicle. Also, place a warning device on the traffic side of, and not less than 10 feet from, the rear of your vehicle.

**REMEMBER, FLARES AND FUSES MAY NOT BE CARRIED IN VEHICLES TRANSPORTING EXPLOSIVES, FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS OR COMPRESSED GAS.**

Listed below are a few additional points you need to know about the placement of warning devices:

- On a one-way street, the rear flag should be placed 200 feet to the rear.
- Warning devices need not be displayed if sufficient light reveals persons or vehicles from 1,000 feet.
- If your vehicle breaks down within 500 feet of a curve, hilltop, or something else that obstructs a clear view, the warning device in that direction shall be placed far enough to give ample warning to approaching motorists. The warning device; however, may not

be placed more than 500 feet away from the vehicle nor closer than 100 feet to the vehicle.

**Note:** All warning devices must be placed in the center of the lane in which your vehicle is stopped. If your vehicle is entirely off the road, place the devices on the shoulder of the road as close as possible to the road surface.

## **SAFE USE OF FLARES AND FUSES**

Warning devices such as flares and fuses are meant as safety aids. Do not let them become a safety liability. Careful and safe use of these devices involves:

- Keep the lighted end well away from your face and eyes. Fuses, especially, can cause nasty burns.
- Do not attach any flare or fuse to your vehicle. Not only is this a hazardous action, but it is also illegal.
- Keeping the burning flares or fuses away from fuel leakages and spills.

## **TIRE FIRES**

Tire fires can be a serious problem for drivers. The best way to avoid this problem is to prevent it in the first place. The following are a few things you can do to decrease the chance of having a tire fire:

- Check tires and brakes frequently for unusual heat. If any tires are soft or flat, change them.
- Never drive for an extended period of time on a soft or flat tire or with a brake that is dragging. These situations can result in heat buildup and cause a tire fire.
- Never ignore a hot tire. Either stay with the vehicle until the tire is cool or change it.
- Remember to always release your parking brake before moving the vehicle.
- Remain alert for potential problems from dragging or overheating brakes, leaking oil seals that may splash oil on a hot tire, or dual tires that are partially deflated. When this condition exists, your odds for a fire are very high.

If a tire fire does occur, these actions will help:

- An ample water supply is probably the best remedy for a tire fire. If possible, get to a fire station for assistance.
- Fire extinguishers are usually not very practical for this type of fire. Shoveling dirt on the tire can sometimes retard the fire enough for you to get the tire off.
- If you cannot get the tire off, try driving until the tire burns off the rim or until you reach a good water source. This alternative is certainly better than just waiting. If you just sit and wait, your vehicle will probably burn up.

As a last resort, drop your trailer. By doing that, you will at least save one of the units.

## **GENERAL FIRE INFORMATION**

Not all fires will be tire fires, and you need to be prepared for them when they occur. Some general hints include:

- Do not waste the contents of your fire extinguisher. The contents are limited, so carefully aim to make every burst count.
- Fight fires with the wind at your back. If you are using an extinguisher, your efforts will be more effective and you will avoid having poisonous or caustic gases blown into your face.
- Be familiar with different types of fires. For example, fighting a gasoline or oil fire with water will only spread the fire.

# APPENDIX A: Optional Information

## A. ORGAN DONATION

You have the power to save lives by becoming an organ and tissue donor.



People who become organ and tissue donors see it as a way to make a difference. They say it feels good to know they can help others. As of 2022, more than 100,000 patients in the U.S. are waiting for life-saving organ transplants. That's more people than most football or baseball stadiums can seat, and the list continues to grow.

When applying for or renewing your driver license or state ID, you can register your wish to be an organ, eye or tissue donor. You will then be registered on the Yes Utah Donor Registry.

If you do **not** wish to be an organ, eye, or tissue donor, nothing further needs to be done.

One organ donor can potentially save the lives of eight (8) people. Someone who donates tissues can help over 75 people. An open casket funeral is still possible, and there is NO charge to the donor's family for the recovery of organs and tissues.

It is also important to tell your family and significant others that you wish to be a donor so they can serve as your advocate and speak on your behalf at your time of death. In addition, it is helpful to cover all your bases by carrying a donor card in your wallet and telling your physician, faith leader, and attorney of your intent.

You may have more questions about organ and tissue donation. To get the facts, contact:

- DonorConnect 866.937.8824 or [yesutah.org](http://yesutah.org).
- Donate Life America at 1.800.355.7427 or [donatelife.net](http://donatelife.net).
- US Department of Health and Human Services at [organdonor.gov](http://organdonor.gov).

## B. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The following opportunities have been made available for Utah residents to voluntarily contribute to one or more organizations. The voluntary contributions are not part of the driver license, driving privilege card, identification card, or vehicle registration fees.

### FRIENDS FOR SIGHT

Utah residents may make a voluntary contribution of \$2.00 for vision screening when applying for a vehicle registration, a driver license, a driving privilege card, an identification card, or a renewal of any of the four (4). The contribution will be forwarded to Friends For Sight.

For more information, please visit [friendsforsight.org](http://friendsforsight.org).

### ORGAN DONATION

Utah residents may contribute \$2.00 to the Organ Donation Contribution Fund when applying for a vehicle registration, a driver license, a driving privilege card, or an identification card, or renewal

of any of the four (4). The funds will be administered by the Department of Health and dispersed to organizations that promote and support organ donation, assist in maintaining and operating a statewide organ donation registry, and provide donor awareness education. For more information, please visit [yesutah.org](http://yesutah.org).

#### **MOBILITY ASSISTANCE**

Utah residents may make a voluntary contribution of \$1.00 to the “Out and About” Homebound Transportation Assistance Fund when applying for a driver license or identification card, or a renewal of either. The funds will be administered by the Department of Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, and will be used for public transportation assistance for seniors or people with disabilities. For more information, please visit [dspd.utah.gov](http://dspd.utah.gov).

### **C. EMERGENCY CONTACT DATABASE**

A Utah license certificate holder or identification card holder may provide the division with information for two (2) individuals who may be contacted by law enforcement in the event of a motor vehicle crash or other emergency situation if the certificate holder is unable to communicate with the contact person(s).

The license holder may provide this information to the division by completing a form at any Utah Driver License Office or at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov).

## APPENDIX B: Identity Fraud and Detection

The issue of preventing identity fraud has always been a critical concern for the division. Nationally and locally, the cases of identity fraud reported to the Federal Trade Commission ID Theft Database show an alarming trend. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that as many as 9 million Americans have their identities stolen each year.

Utah law states a person is guilty of identity fraud when that person knowingly or intentionally “obtains personal identifying information of another person and uses, or attempts to use, that information with fraudulent intent, including obtaining, or attempting to obtain credit, goods, services, any other thing of value, or medical information.”

Identity fraud is a felony.



The Driver License Division has an ongoing program to train its employees to identify fraudulent documents. Technological advances are being utilized to identify fraudulent documents and safeguard the documents issued by the division. The Driver License Division cooperates fully with all local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in identifying and prosecuting cases of identity fraud.

Keep your personal identification documents, such as birth certificates, social security cards, and marriage certificates, in a secure location to protect yourself. Carry with you only the information and bank cards that you need. Guard your mail and trash from theft. Don't give out personal information over the phone, mail, or internet unless you have initiated the contact or are sure you know with whom you are dealing. Before giving out any personal information, ask how that information will be used and secured. Annually review your credit report and closely examine all your financial statements. Stay informed.

The Federal Trade Commission has a great deal of information available in print and on the internet, visit [consumer.ftc.gov](http://consumer.ftc.gov).

# APPENDIX C: Vehicle Registration



In Utah, the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) handles vehicle, vessel, and aircraft registration, while driver license and identification cards are handled through the Driver License Division (DLD).

## WHAT VEHICLES MUST BE REGISTERED

Cars, watercraft, trucks, off-highway vehicles, trailers, snowmobiles, campers, aircraft, motorcycles, low-speed electric vehicles, and street-legal ATVs.

Trailers weighing less than 750 pounds when empty and not used for commercial purposes are not required to be registered. However, any trailer may be registered for the resident's convenience.

## WHO MUST REGISTER THEIR VEHICLES

Utah residents must register any of the above vehicles for use.

Non-residents using their watercraft in Utah for more than 60 days per year must register in Utah.

Non-residents using their off-highway vehicle or snowmobile in Utah pay an annual user fee to the Division of Parks and Recreation. Upon payment of the fee, a user receives a decal for display on the off-highway vehicle or snowmobile. Decals are available from Parks and Recreation or their authorized agents.

Exceptions: Non-resident students who pay non-resident tuition, certain military personnel, temporary workers, and individuals temporarily in Utah engaged in public or charitable service may be exempt from registering vehicles in Utah.

## WHEN REGISTERING VEHICLES IN UTAH

Contact the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) at 801.297.7780 or their website at [dmv.utah.gov](http://dmv.utah.gov) for more information on vehicle registration and emissions.

# APPENDIX D: Your Car and Clean Air

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has prepared this fact sheet to answer some of the most common questions about reducing emissions from private vehicles. This is a significant concern, as cars are a primary source of air pollution in the United States. Vehicle emissions contribute to health and environmental problems like urban smog, air toxics, and global warming. Yet individual driving habits make a big difference in car pollution.



Three (3) easy things you can do to help keep emissions as low as possible are to avoid unnecessary driving, maintain your car properly, and drive your car wisely.

By combining these strategies, you can reduce the amount your car pollutes. There are additional benefits: your vehicle will last longer, and you will save money.

## HELPFUL HABITS TO REDUCE POLLUTION

Even a perfectly maintained car will pollute more than necessary if driven carelessly. Your car's emissions will be lower if you apply common sense to your driving and follow the basic rules of the road. Driving situations likely to increase pollution include:

**IDLING**—you will save gas by turning the engine off and restarting it again if you expect to idle for more than 30 seconds. You will also prevent pollution by avoiding long idles. Try parking your car and going into restaurants, banks, and the like instead of idling in drive-up lanes.

**STOP AND GO DRIVING**—driving in traffic is not always avoidable. But whenever possible, plan trips outside rush hour and peak traffic periods. Try to “smooth” your driving by accelerating and decelerating gradually, anticipating stops and starts for traffic lights, changing traffic speeds, etc.

**AIR CONDITIONING**—using a vehicle air conditioner increases the load on the engine. This can increase emissions and decrease fuel economy. Try opening the window or the fresh air vent to cool the inside of your vehicle—also, park in the shade to prevent your vehicle from heating up in the sun. Besides keeping the interior temperature of your car more comfortable, you will lessen the pollution and waste that occurs when gasoline evaporates from the engine and gas tank.

**HIGH ENGINE LOADS**—your car burns more gas and emits more pollution when the engine is operating under high load, especially when working hard. Extra load is created by running the air conditioner, quick accelerations, high-speed driving, climbing grades, revving the engine, and carrying extra weight.

**COLD TEMPERATURES**—emission control systems take longer to warm up and fully operational in cold weather. However, idling will not help. Modern vehicles need little warm-up; they're most efficient when being driven. Idling for long periods in cold weather can cause excessive engine wear.

**REFUELING**—spilled gasoline pollutes the air when it evaporates. Watch what you do at the gas station to prevent spills and overfills. It's best to avoid “topping off,” especially in hot weather. Apply the same precautions against sloppy handling when refueling outdoor power equipment such as lawnmowers and outboard motors.

For more information, visit the United States Environmental Protection Agency at [epa.gov](http://epa.gov) or locally at Utah Department of Environmental Quality at [deq.utah.gov](http://deq.utah.gov).

## **AVOID UNNECESSARY DRIVING**

The most effective way to reduce vehicle emissions is to use it less. Vehicle travel in this country is doubling every 20 years. Several options are available to help you reduce the amount you drive. These include:

- Consolidating trips.
- Telecommuting.
- Carpooling.
- Using public transit.
- Choosing clean transportation alternatives such as biking or walking.

You will get the most out of your time behind the wheel by planning errands. For example:

- Call ahead to confirm that the product you need is in stock before you drive to the store.
- Plan to do several tasks when you go somewhere.
- Drive to a central location and park.
- Walk between nearby destinations.
- Ridesharing can be an ideal way to reduce your contribution to pollution.
- Every time you share a ride and eliminate a trip, you help the environment.
- Try pairing up for trips to work or social events; even an occasional carpool or ride on public transportation will make a difference.

Biking or walking to your destination creates no pollution at all. And you'll increase your fitness level at the same time.

## **MAINTAIN YOUR VEHICLE PROPERLY**

You will reduce your vehicle's emissions and enhance performance if you follow the manufacturer's recommended maintenance guidelines. Taking proper care of your vehicle, will extend its life, increase its resale value, and optimize its "gas mileage" or fuel economy. The owner's manual with your car contains a wealth of information.

Every car has some items that need to be checked regularly and others that need to be replaced periodically. These include the air filter, vacuum and coolant hoses, oil, oil filter, fluids, belts, etc.

It's also important to keep the tires inflated to the recommended pressure. This will minimize tire wear and help your car get the best possible fuel economy.

Be sure to have your car serviced by a skilled technician who understands modern emission control systems. The simple adjustments that once occurred during tune-ups will no longer correct the problem. Finally, be aware that pollution will increase dramatically if you tamper with your car's emission control system or use leaded gasoline in a vehicle designed for unleaded gasoline. These activities are illegal—for individual vehicle owners, fleet operators, and auto technicians. Fortunately, such fuel-switching practices are becoming increasingly rare as leaded gasoline be-

comes harder to find. It is now illegal to manufacture or sell new vehicles requiring leaded gasoline. Sale of motor vehicle gasoline containing lead or lead additives was prohibited in the United States beginning January 1, 1996. Many drivers ask about use of "premium" or "super" grade gasoline's. These fuels contain additives to increase octane. Octane is a measure of how much a fuel can be compressed in an engine before it spontaneously combusts. It is not a measure of fuel power or quality.

# SAMPLE TEST QUESTIONS FOR THE WRITTEN KNOWLEDGE TEST

## SECTION 3

1. If you are 19 years of age or older and never had a driver license, you do not have to take a driver education course. True or False
2. If you are 17 years of age or younger you need to hold a learner permit for 6 months. True or False

## SECTION 4

1. If you are applying for a regular driver license to drive a "regular" car, which class of license are you applying for?
  - a. Class A
  - b. Class B
  - c. Class C
  - d. Class D
2. If you want to drive a motorcycle you have to an M endorsement on your license. True or False

## SECTION 6

1. When taking the driving skills test at the Driver License Division I have to bring my own car. True or False
2. Third-party testers are available to administer?
  - a. Written knowledge tests
  - b. Driving skills tests
  - c. Both written knowledge and driving skills tests

## SECTION 7

1. Everyone in your vehicle must have a fastened seat belt or child seat. True or False
2. Children 12 and under should ride buckled up in the front passenger seat. True or False

## SECTION 8

1. In a construction zone when two lanes merge together both lanes of traffic should be used until the merge point. This method is called the:
  - a. Banana method
  - b. Zipper method
  - c. Exchange method
2. The turn signals are optional when changing lanes or turning. True or False

## SECTION 9

1. When driving on the freeway a vehicle traveling in the left lane must move safely to the right when approached behind to prevent impeding traffic. True or False
2. What color line markings on the roadway indicate vehicles are traveling in one direction?
  - a. White
  - b. Yellow
  - c. Black
3. What color line markings on the roadway indicate vehicles are traveling in two (2) directions?
  - a. White
  - b. Yellow
  - c. Black

## SECTION 10

1. If you are under 21 and driving with any measurable amount of alcohol in your body, your driving privileges will be denied for?
  - a. 90 days
  - b. 6 months
  - c. 1 year
2. If you are under 21 and convicted of a first DUI, you are automatically restricted to driving a vehicle with an ignition interlock device for?
  - a. 1 year
  - b. 2 years
  - c. 3 years

## ANSWERS:

- Section 3—1. True 2. True  
Section 4—1. D 2. True  
Section 6—1. True 2. C  
Section 7—1. True 2. False  
Section 8—1. B 2. False  
Section 9—1. True 2. A 3. B  
Section 10—1. B 2. C

# DRIVER LICENSE FIELD OFFICES

Visit at our website for office hours and to schedule an appointment at [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov).

<b>BEAVER</b> 105 E Center St. (part time office)	<b>FAIRPARK</b> 1095 W Motor Ave. (full time office)	<b>NEPHI</b> 1143 E Highway 132 (part time office)	<b>SOUTH VALLEY</b> 14555 S Minuteman Dr. Draper (full time office)
<b>BLANDING</b> 151 East 500 North (part time office)	<b>FARMINGTON</b> 631 N Lagoon Dr. (full time office)	<b>OGDEN</b> 615 East 5300 South South Ogden (full time office)	<b>SPRINGVILLE</b> 2277 West 700 South (full time office)
<b>BRIGHAM CITY</b> 445 West 1200 South (full time office)	<b>FILLMORE</b> 55 West 100 North (part time office)	<b>OREM</b> 759 North 1370 West (full time office)	<b>TOOELE</b> 1929 N Aaron Dr., Suite G (full time office)
<b>CEDAR CITY</b> 181 E DL Sargent Dr. (full time office)	<b>HEBER</b> 69 North 600 West (full time office)	<b>PANGUITCH</b> 55 S Main St., Basement (part time office)	<b>VERNAL</b> 230 South 1000 East (part time office)
<b>DELTA</b> 39 South 300 East (part time office)	<b>KANAB</b> 468 East 300 South (part time office)	<b>PRICE</b> 940 S Carbon Ave. (full time office)	<b>WEST VALLEY</b> <b>TAYLORSVILLE</b> 4315 S 2700 W, Suite 1600 (full time office)
<b>DIXIE</b> <b>HURRICANE</b> 102 South 5300 West (full time office)	<b>LOGAN</b> 110 East 700 South (full time office)	<b>RICHFIELD</b> 1160 S Highway 118 (full time office)	
<b>EPHRAIM</b> 10 West 100 South (part time office)	<b>MOAB</b> 1165 S HWY 191, Suite 8 (part time office)	<b>ROOSEVELT</b> 30 West 425 South (part time office)	

THIS HANDBOOK IS AVAILABLE AT [dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov)

**Department of Public Safety**

**Driver License Division**

PO Box 144501

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4501

801.965.4437; 888.353.4224

[dld.utah.gov](http://dld.utah.gov)

Schedule an appointment to avoid longer wait times



**Spencer J. Cox, Governor**

State of Utah

**Jess L. Anderson, Commissioner**

Department of Public Safety

**Chris Caras, Director**

Driver License Division



