



K A N S A S

JOAN WAGNON, SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
DIVISION OF VEHICLES

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

June 14, 2006

Dear Schools offering Driver Education;

It has come to the attention of the Division of Vehicles that there may be some confusion as to what modifications and accommodations can be made in a Driver Education course for special needs students.

Accommodations that a school district wishing to offer a Driver Education certificate may include:

- Adaptive devices to the vehicle. i.e.- extended pedals, steering knob, hand controls
- An interpreter
- Individual or extra help in reading the text and test materials.
- Assistance reading tests and answering questions.
- Allowing extra time for students to master the competencies.

Assistance with reading and understanding the curriculum and assessments is the accommodation that may be made in the classroom phase of Driver Education. The curriculum and/or assessments may not be altered for the purpose of making it easier to pass.

In order for a school district to offer Driver Education with a certificate of completion that waives further testing at an exam station, our agreement with the department of education is as follows:

1. Schools will use instructors that are endorsed for Driver Education instruction.

Special Education teachers or Para's who are not Driver Education endorsed should not be responsible for curriculum instruction and testing of the student. Their help should be limited to reading materials and definition understanding. Reimbursement to schools is based on this requirement. Regulation # 91-5-1a and 91-5-3 and 91-5-13

2. Schools will use the approved curriculum and assessments for all students.
3. Schools will be audited yearly for compliance of State Statutes and Regulations.

4. The Department of Education is responsible for approving and monitoring a schools' curriculum and assessments that show competence no less than what is required by a local motor vehicle exam station.

Our goal is to work with the Department of Education to offer a quality Driver Education program. Due to the immense liability and ramifications of giving any student a driver license, it is imperative that schools don't take this issue lightly. Driver Education is NOT a mandatory course.

We have been assured by the Department of Education that curriculum and assessments will be administered in a way that is no less demanding than what is expected at a local license bureau. The Division of Vehicles does not offer an exam that is purposely altered to make it easier for a person to pass the test. The end result of a student completing an approved Driver Education course is a driver's license issued without further testing, again, this responsibility should not be taken lightly.

In short, the Division does not use a modified test for special needs students. They must know and understand all the rules and be able to display the same competencies as any other driver in order to be permitted to drive.

I hope this clears up any confusion on what is expected of schools wishing to use the Division of Vehicles' certificate of completion in Driver Education.

Sincerely,



Alan Anderson, Chief
Driver License Examining Bureau

Cc: Joan Peterson, Kansas Department of Education
Carmen Alldritt, Director of Vehicles