



Memorandum

To: High School Administrators
From: Education Services
Date: April 30, 2020
Subject: Driver Training

Please share the following information with your Driver Training Instructors and your parent communities.

The Ministry of Education, in consultation with SGI, has provided the following options to determine the most suitable solution for Driver's Education:

In-Class Instruction

Courses put on pause due to school closures may be potentially resumed through online courses or resumed in the fall. Our school division is working with our instructors to look at this option and find the most suitable solution. More information will be forthcoming to families.

In-Car Instruction

There is no current plan to allow in-car instruction to safely proceed for students and driver instructors. More information will be shared when it becomes available and as guided by the Saskatchewan Health Authority and the Ministry of Education.

Student Access to a Learner's License

SGI is changing the way novice drivers acquire a learner's license. A 15-year-old student can now get a learner's license as soon as they are enrolled in a current or future High School Driver Education Program. Previously, a 15-year-old would have to wait until they were actively taking their High School Driver Education Program to be eligible for a learner's license. Due to course scheduling and the demand for driver training, there were times when students could not get into a class until well into their 15th year, meaning they could not attain their driver's license until well into their 16th year. Now, students only need to be enrolled in the program to be eligible for a learner's license. Once enrolled, they may immediately visit an SGI testing office to write the learner's test and validate a learner's license at their own cost (\$25).

Students will still have to complete the full driver education course (30 hours in-class and six hours in-car) before becoming eligible to take their road test once they turn 16. This change simply allows 15-year-old drivers a chance to begin accumulating supervised driving experience without delay. Should the 15-year-old learner become unenrolled in the class, then their learner's license is cancelled. Students must:

- Be enrolled in a current or future driver training course through their school,
- have turned 15 years of age,
- have *Section A* of the "Signature Form/Guarantor Form for First Time Drivers" signed by the student's parents,
- have *Section B* of the "Signature Form/Guarantor Form for First Time Drivers" signed by the principal, vice-principal, or instructor,
- write and pass their learner's license exam at an SGI driver examination office at a cost of \$25.

** During the interruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, SGI has adjusted their process for learner's licensing. **

Due to concerns about sharing paper to attain the school principal's or instructor's signature, a student may do the following in order to attain their learner's license:

- Have turned 15 years of age,
- have *Section A* of the "Signature Form/Guarantor Form for First Time Drivers" signed by the student's parents,

If the student is unable to obtain the required signature from the principal, vice-principal, or instructor as a result of school closures, the student can sign and declare in *Section B* of the form:

- "I currently am a student at <school name> and am enrolled or intend to be enrolled in high school driver education.",
- write and pass their learner's license exam at an SGI driver examination office at a cost of \$25.

The following link is to the "Signature Form/Guarantor Form for First Time Drivers", provided by SGI.

[Signature Form for First Time Drivers](#)