

# MATURE DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE GUIDELINES

## LESSON PLAN CONTENT

Each lesson plan submitted for Department approval shall provide sufficient detail and content to allow the Department to adequately review for course context, method of instruction, and compliance with the minimum amount of instruction time. Therefore, the following course guidelines should be followed:

- **Instruction Times:**

The lesson plan must provide 400 minutes of classroom instruction to obtain a completion certificate and 240 minutes of classroom instruction for certificate renewal. This time excludes course registration, any lunch or break periods, and issuance of completed course certificates. Non-classroom curriculum must comply with the provisions of Vehicle Code Section 1675 and cover the topics required in these guidelines.

- **Audio Visual Aids:**

Audio visual aids in the form of slides presentations or movies shall be used to visually demonstrate and supplement lecture material. All audio visual aids must be current and applicable to course purpose and lecture material. All presentations must be reasonably spaced throughout the entire course. Each lesson plan shall reflect where the instruction will be supplemented by audio visual aids, what type of visual aid is to be used, and approximate viewing times. No less than 40 minutes or more than 100 minutes of audio visual material shall be included in the 400 minute course, and no less than 30 minutes or more than 60 minutes for the 240 minute course.

- **Statistical Data:**

The course shall provide statistical data regarding the relationship between aging and driving performance. Data should be discussed in appropriate topic areas, and provide specific information on accidents, convictions and physical or physiological problems associated with the aging process. "Senior Driver Facts (Bullets)" have been provided for development of this information.

- **Participation:**

The course shall provide for participation by attendees. Participation may include, but is not limited to, questions and answers, pre and post-knowledge tests and group discussions. Each lesson plan shall reflect where group participation will be used to supplement lecture material, specific information on how the instructor will generate group participation and approximate amount of time allotted for the type of participation used. Samples of any written material intended to elicit group participation shall be submitted with each lesson plan.

- **Tests:**

If the course provides for tests to be used to supplement lecture material, the lesson plan shall indicate at what point the tests are to be given, the time allowed for completion of each test, the method of correction, and time allowed for correction. Samples of any tests and answers shall be submitted with each lesson plan.

- **Evaluations:**

Each course shall provide for an evaluation of the course contents by attendees. Completion of the evaluation shall not exceed 15 minutes. All course evaluations are to be maintained with the business records of the course provider. Samples of evaluation shall be submitted with each lesson plan.

- **Participant's workbook:**

If the course provides for a workbook to supplement instruction, the workbook shall be designed to complement course instruction, participant's general age group, and course purpose. Samples of workbooks intended for course use shall be submitted with each lesson plan.

- **Handout Material:**

If the course is to provide regular use of supplemental handout material, the material shall be relevant to the purpose of the course, timely, and reproduced in an adequate and readable manner. (Unique or noteworthy handout material may be used on an infrequent basis.) Samples of regularly used handout material shall be submitted with each lesson plan.

- Times frames for course Instruction:

Lesson plans shall include instruction on each mandatory topic and sub-topic area. Each course shall only provide instruction on one elective topic area; however, lesson plans shall provide instructional material on all three elective topic areas. All topic and sub-topic areas are to be thoroughly discussed in each lesson plan submitted for approval. Areas of discussion are provided in the attached core curriculum.

The following topic and sub-topic areas are shown with the recommended amount of time to be spent on instruction.

MANDATORY TOPIC AREA	RECOMMENDED TIME	
	400 Minute Course	240 Minute Course
<b>HEALTH AND DRIVING PERFORMANCE:</b> I. Visual Limitations Associated with the Aging Process. II. Hearing Limitations Associated with Aging. III. Physical Limitations Associated with Aging. IV. Physiologic Changes Associated with Aging. V. Departmental Requirements Regarding License Issuance and Refusal, and Reexamination of Licensed Driver.	90 Minutes	60 Minutes
<b>EFFECTS OF MEDICATION AND ALCOHOL:</b> VI. Medication and its Effects on Driving Performance. VII. Alcohol and its Effect on Driving Performance.	45 Minutes	30 Minutes
<b>RULES OF THE ROAD AND DEFENSIVE DRIVING COUNTERMEASURES:</b> VIII. Updated on the Rules of the Road. IX. Driving Demands in Specific Situations. X. Basic Defensive Driving Tactics.	145 Minutes	90 Minutes
<b>PLANNING A TRIP AHEAD AND HANDLING HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS:</b> XI. Planning Travel Time and Routes of Travel. XII. Hazardous Conditions.	90 Minutes	45 Minutes
ELECTIVE TOPIC AREAS	INSTRUCTION TIME	
XIII. Recreational Vehicle Safety	30 Minutes	15 Minutes
XIV. Deciding When to Stop Driving	30 Minutes	15 Minutes
XV. Local Weather and Traffic Conditions Affecting Driving Performance.	30 Minutes	15 Minutes

## **HEALTH AND DRIVING PERFORMANCE**

### **I. VISUAL LIMITATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AGING PROCESS**

#### **LIMITATIONS**

#### **EFFECTS ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE**

##### **Reduced Pupil Size ~ (reduced ocular transmission)**

- Inability to adjust to lower levels of illuminations
- Inability to see details and objects in areas of low illumination

##### **Accommodative Convergence**

- Inability to see clearly at all distances
- Inability to change accommodation, and focus on objects nearby

##### **Glare Threshold and Recovery**

- Inability to see in spite of bright light
- Inability to recover from a strong light source, sensitivity to glare

##### **Static Visual Acuity**

- Inability to clearly distinguish the details of a stationary object
- Inability to resolve detail in a stationary object

##### **Dynamic Visual Acuity**

- Inability to see fine detail in a moving object
- Inability to estimate speed and distance

##### **Central Movement in Depth**

- Inability to perceive a change in image size in the central visual field
- Inability to detect image size of an object approaching or moving away

##### **Peripheral Vision**

- Inability to see objects or movement outside the central vision fields
- Inability to detect movement or hazards to either side when looking straight ahead
- Color Perception – (yellowing of the lens)
- Inability to react or distinguish colors in the blue end of the color spectrum
- Inability to discriminate different colors

# DEGENERATIVE EYE CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH AGING

## CONDITIONS

## EFFECTS ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE

### **Glaucoma**

- Gradual loss of visual function beginning in periphery area, associated with increased ocular pressure
- Reduced ability to distinguish objects and details during darkness or in areas of low illumination
- Loss of peripheral or side vision, with increased tunnel vision
- Increased ocular scatter, reduces the ability to detect images clearly

### **Cataracts**

- Opacity or clouding of the crystalline lens
- Reduced contrast in the retinal image – with reduced ability to see low contrast objects
- Absorption and scattering of light in proportion to severity, reduces the ability to see objects clearly

### **Macular Degeneration**

- Loss of vision in the central (macular) vision area due to neurological damage
- Inability to see objects in the central portion of the visual field

## COMPENSATING FOR VISUAL LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS

- Have vision checked regularly.
- Avoid driving at night whenever possible.
- Avoid driving during adverse weather conditions.
- Avoid driving in areas of low illumination.
- Allow eyes to adjust to low illumination levels before staring out.
- Reduce vehicle speed after sundown.
- Keep vehicle windshield and headlights clean.
- Keep interior car lights turned off.
- Use high beams whenever possible and legal.
- Avoid looking directly at headlights, use quick glances to check approaching traffic.
- Look beyond lights or to the right of them.
- Keep panel lights at highest illumination levels.
- Wear sunglasses only during daylight hours.
- Use day/night rearview mirrors to reduce glare.
- Stay farther back from car ahead.
- When passing, allow for a greater distance ahead.
- Use known distances, parked cars, city blocks, telephone poles to judge distances.
- Move the eyes and head slightly to see movement to the sides.
- Install special mirrors if movement constricted.
- Avoid eyeglass frames with wide side pieces.
- Avoid smoking in the vehicle.
- Use medications for eye conditions at prescribed intervals.
- Allow time to adjust to newly prescribed lens before attempting to drive.
- Become accustomed to new lenses after surgery before attempting to drive.
- Discontinue driving when sight temporarily lost or affected due to surgery.
- Be familiar with the shapes of traffic signs.
- Remember the position and placement of traffic signals.
- Read warning signs that accompany flashing signals.

## II. HEARING LIMITATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH AGING

### LIMITATIONS

### SYMPTOMS AFFECTING DRIVING PERFORMANCE

#### Increased Auditory Threshold

- Loss of hearing
- Inability to use auditory cues to monitor traffic and emergency situations

### COMPENSATING FOR HEARING LIMITATIONS

- Have regular hearing tests.
- Use hearing aids to compensate for hearing loss.
- Install additional mirrors to monitor traffic situations.
- Use eye and head movement to monitor traffic situations.
- Reduce interior noise levels.

### III. PHYSICAL DISORDERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE AGING PROCESS

#### CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

- Organic heart disease
- Cardiac arrhythmias
- Hypertensive vascular disease
- Vascular disease affecting the extremities
- Vascular aneurysms
- Arteriosclerosis
  
- Cerebral Arteriosclerosis

#### SYMPTOMS AFFECTING DRIVING PERFORMANCE

- Reduced or blurred vision
- Dizziness or fainting
- Fatigue
- Apprehension
- Over excitability
- Slowed reaction
- Extreme nervousness
- Disorientation
- Extreme pain experienced during heart attack
- Numbness of the extremities
- Agitation
- Impatience
- Impaired Memory
- Disorientation
- Confusion

#### MUSCULOSKELETAL CONDITIONS

- Arthritis
- Osteoporosis

#### SYMPTOMS AFFECTING DRIVING PERFORMANCE

- Severe pain and weakness
- Limited range of head and neck movement
- Limited arm movement for steering
- Limited foot movement ~ leg and foot movement from brake to accelerator



## COMPENSATING FOR PHYSICAL DISORDERS

- Have regular medical checkups.
- Take medication in prescribed amounts and at specified intervals
- Keep medication readily available
- Avoid driving after surgery until medically cleared
- Avoid driving in stressful traffic situations
- Avoid prolonged hours of driving
- Do not drive when not feeling well
- Limit driving to familiar areas
- Install specialized vehicle equipment to aid mobility
- Have a passenger accompany to help navigate

#### IV. PHYSIOLOGIC CHANGES ASSOCIATED WITH AGING

##### CONDITION

##### SYMPTOMS AFFECTING DRIVING PERFORMANCE

Cognitive limitations

- Short-term memory loss

Reduced neural processing and transmission

- Inability to integrate and collect information simultaneously

Reduced motor transmission or reaction time

- Inability to ignore irrelevant information

#### COMPENSATING FOR PHYSIOLOGIC CHANGES

- Have regular medical checkups.
- Avoid driving in stressful traffic situations.
- Drive in familiar areas.
- Keep a farther distance from the car ahead.
- Concentrate on the whole traffic scene
- Do not drive when emotionally upset
- Avoid prolonged hours of driving

**V. DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING LICENSE ISSUANCE AND REFUSAL, AND REEXAMINATION OF LICENSED DRIVERS**

- Grounds Requiring Refusal of License 12805 VC
- Grounds Not Requiring Refusal 12806 VC
- Grounds Permitting Refusal 12809 VC
- Investigation by the Department 13800 VC
- Reexamination by Department 13801 VC

**ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL OF DRIVER LICENSES:**

- Conditions under which the department shall not issue or renew a driver license.
- Conditions under which the Department may issue or renew a driver license.
- Conditions under which the Department, at its discretion, may refuse to issue or renew a driver license.
- Conditions under which the Department may investigate driving qualifications.
- Department's authority to reexamine the driving qualifications, and consequences of failing to submit to and complete a reexamination.

## EFFECTS OF MEDICATION AND ALCOHOL

### **VI. MEDICATIONS WHICH IMPAIR DRIVING PERFORMANCE**

#### COMMONLY PRESCRIBED DRUGS

#### EFFECTS ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE

##### Analgesics (painkillers)

- Usually prescribed for arthritis and rheumatism

- Drowsiness
- Inability to concentrate

##### Antihistamines

- Usually prescribed for colds or allergies

- Inattention
- Drowsiness
- Confusion
- Blurred vision
- Dizziness

##### Antihypertensives

- Usually prescribed for high blood pressure

- Drowsiness
- Dizziness
- Blurred vision

##### Oral Hypoglycemics

- Usually prescribed for diabetes

- Drowsiness
- Inability to concentrate

##### Sedatives

- Prescribed for “nerves” or anxiety

- Blurred vision
- Drowsiness
- Loss of coordination
- Loss of judgment
- Loss of alertness

## COMMONLY PRESCRIBED DRUGS

### Stimulants

- Prescribed for weight control, depression, or fatigue

### Antibiotics

- Combating infections

### Cardiac Glycosides

- Prescribed for congestive heart failure

### Diuretics

- Prescribed for edema and heart failure

## EFFECTS ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE

- Overexcitability
- False sense of alertness
- Confusion
  
- Visual and auditory disturbance
- Dizziness

- Muscular weakness
- Blurred vision

- Dizziness
- Fainting
- Muscular weakness

## OVER-THE COUNTER DRUGS

Cough syrups, drops, sprays and pills

Tablets for headaches, hay fever, Colds, allergies

## EFFECTS ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE

- Drowsiness
  
- Dizziness
- Slowed reaction
- Irritability
- Faulty judgment
- Blurred vision
- Impaired depth perception

## MEDICINE-RELATED PROBLEMS AFFECTING DRIVING PERFORMANCE

### CHRONIC ILLNESS:

Requires continuing medication.

Medication remains in system continuously.

Body tolerance.

### MULTIPLE ILLNESSES:

- Several different medications may be required
- Combined medications may produce unpredictable and strong side effects

### REACTIONS:

- Intense or unexpected reaction.
- Unknown reactions to combined medications.
- Patent medications may multiply side effects and reactions to prescribed medications.

### COMPENSATING FOR THE EFFECTS OF MEDICATIONS:

- Consulting your physician:
  - ~ Ask about side effects of medication.
  - ~ Discuss each drug taken including patent medication.
  - ~ Discuss medication prescribed by other doctors.
- Do not take medication prescribed for someone else.
- When buying patent medication, discuss side effects with pharmacist.
- Do not drive if feeling side effects of medication.

## **VII. ALCOHOL AND ITS EFFECT ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE**

### FACTORS INFLUENCING THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ON THE BODY:

- Amount of alcohol consumed.
- Strength or proof of alcohol.
- Length of time over which alcohol is consumed.
- Amount and kind of food in the stomach.
- Weight of an individual.
- Physical and emotional condition.

### EFFECTS ON THE BODY

#### BRAIN

- Impairment of judgment and reasoning
- Impairment of central processing
- Loss of muscular movement and control

#### VISION

- Night visual acuity (dark adaptation)
- Glare recovery
- Muscular balance (blurred vision)
- Depth perception

### EFFECTS ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE

- Loss of inhibitions that provide restraint
- Extended period of time to recognize dangers and react
- Lack of coordination causing oversteering and failure to brake
- Inability to see in dimly lit areas
- Inability to adjust to bright lights causing temporary blindness
- Inability to coordinate objects
- Inability to judge distance and speed of oncoming vehicles, the space from vehicles ahead, and distance from signs

### PRONOUNCED SIDE EFFECTS ON THE AGING DRIVER:

- Slowed body functions, thought process and reflexes.
- Increased visual impairment.
- Likelihood of other drugs or medication being present and multiplication of side effects

### CONTROLLING THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL:

- Control intake.
- Drink water or soft drinks.
- Leave part of the drink in the glass.
- Set unwanted drinks down.
- Watch drinks being mixed.
- Space drinks.
- Eat food before or while drinking

CONTROLLING IMPAIRMENT:

- Blood alcohol concentrations.
- Time required to lower blood alcohol levels.

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT REDUCING THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL:

- Strenuous activity
- Tolerance
- Coffee and cold showers
- Type of drink consumed



LEVELS OF INTOXICATION AND REQUIREMENTS FOR TESTING:

- Maximum and minimum levels of intoxication.
- Time frames for presumptive levels.
- Use of drugs and intoxication.
- Implied Consent Law
  - ~ Driver requirements
  - ~ Advisement required
  - ~ Test options and restrictions

VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

DRIVING OFFENSES INVOLVING ALCOHOL AND DRUGS:

- Alcohol or Drugs: Driver 23152 VC
- Alcohol or Drugs Causing Injury: Driver 23153 VC
- Driving While Intoxicated; Presumption 23152 VC
- Defense to Drug Violations 23630 VC
- Implied Consent for Chemical Testing 13353, 23577, 23612 VC

# RULES OF THE ROAD AND DEFENSIVE DRIVING COUNTERMEASURES

## VIII. UPDATE ON THE RULES OF THE ROAD

### RIGHT-OF WAY ~ ESTABLISHING TRAFFIC PRIORITY:

Which Vehicle is Required to Yield in the Following Situations:

#### Intersections

- Controlled
- Uncontrolled

#### Yielding on Turns

- Left Turns
- Right Turns

#### Yielding in Special Situations

- Highway entrances
- Emergency vehicles
- Leaving a parking space
- Exiting a driveway or alley

#### When a Vehicle is Required to Yield to a Pedestrian

- Marked crosswalks
- Unmarked crosswalks

#### Making the Decision When to Give up the Right-of-Way

- Purpose of giving up the right-of way

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

### RIGHT-OF WAY VIOLATIONS:

- |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| • Yield Right-of-Way Signs          | 21356 VC |
| • Uncontrolled Intersections        | 21800 VC |
| • Left Turn ~ Right Turn            | 21801 VC |
| • Approaching Intersection Entrance | 21802 VC |
| • Yield Right-of-Way                | 21803 VC |
| • Entry onto Highway                | 21804 VC |
| • Authorized Emergency Vehicles     | 21806 VC |
| • Right-of-Way at Crosswalks        | 21950 VC |
| • Pedestrians Outside Crosswalks    | 21954 VC |

## BACKING UP SAFETY:

### Checking Behind the Vehicle Before Getting In For

- Children
- Small objects

### Visibility and Body Posture

- Body position while steering
- Head position while driving

### Speed Control

- Release of brake pedal
- Backing speed

### Steering

- Sharp turns
- Backing around a corner

### When Movement is Constricted

- Use mirrors and passenger to help navigate
- Whenever possible avoid backing
- Find parking spaces that do not require backing

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCE

### BACKING:

- Starting parked vehicles or backing 22106 VC

## INTERACTING AT INTERSECTIONS:

### Identifying an Intersection

- Controlled
- Uncontrolled

### Skills Required for Crossing and Turning

- Judging time to make a maneuver
- Judging speed and distance of other vehicles
- Choosing a traffic gap or space to enter or cross traffic

### Left Turns ~ Protected and Unprotected

- Scan for hazards ~ other vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles
- Vehicle position ~ before and after turn
- When view is blocked

### Right Turns ~ Protected and Unprotected

- Scan for hazards ~ other vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles
- Check for controlled lanes and signals
- Vehicle position ~ before and after turn
- When view is blocked
- Use of bike lane for turns

### U-Turns

- Scan for hazards ~ other vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles
- Check for prohibitive signs
- Vehicle position ~ before and after turn

### Proceeding Straight

- Scan for hazards ~ other vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles
- Covering the brake pedal

### Signaling for Turns and Stops

- Purpose of signaling
- Distance required
- Duration of signal

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

### INTERSECTIONS ~ PROCEEDING STRAIGHT, TURNING AND SIGNALING:

• Intersection defined	365	VC
• Turning upon a highway	22100	VC
• U-Turn at controlled intersections	22100.5	VC
• Regulation of controlled intersections	22101	VC
• U-Turn in a business district	22102	VC
• U-turn in a residential district	22103	VC
• Unobstructed view necessary for U-Turn	22105	VC
• Turning across bicycle lane	21717	VC
• Turning movements and required signals	22107	VC
• Duration of signal	22108	VC
• Signal when stopping	22109	VC
• Method of signaling	22110	VC

## RECOGNIZING TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS:

### Purpose of Traffic Controls

- Regulation
- Warning
- Information
- Guidance

### Meaning of Traffic Control Signals

- Traffic lights
- Arrows
- Flashing signals
- Lane signals

### Intersections Safety

- Scan for traffic controls and prohibitive signs
- Scan for potential hazard
- Entering controlled intersections on yellow light
- Controlled intersections
  - ~ Signal lights
  - ~ Flashing signal lights
  - ~ Circular arrows
  - ~ Right turn on red signals
  - ~ Designated lanes

## PAVEMENT AND CURB MARKINGS ~ PURPOSE AND MEANING:

### Yellow Center Line Marking

- Broken line
- Solid line next to broken lines
- Double solid lines on two-lane roadways
- Double solid lines on four-lane roadways

### White Line Marking

- Broken
- Solid
- Lines with arrows

### Curb Markings

- Purpose
- Color
- Placement

ADDITIONAL PAVEMENT MARKINGS ~ COLOR PURPOSE:

- Edge of pavement
- Obstructions
- Stop lines
- Crosswalks
- Railroad crossings
- School warnings

INTERSECTION OR CROSSINGS THAT REQUIRE SPECIAL STOPS:

- Railroad crossings
  - Controls
    - ~ Flashers
    - ~ Crossing gate
    - ~ Stop sign
- School buses
  - ~ At school crossings
  - ~ When lights are flashing

VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES:

• Official traffic control signals	21450	VC
• Circular green or green arrow	21451	VC
• Circular yellow or yellow arrow	21452	VC
• Circular red or red arrow	21453	VC
• Lane use control signals	21454	VC
• Signal at other places	21455	VC
• Flashing signals	21457	VC
• Curb markings	21458	VC
• Distinctive roadway markings	21459	VC
• Double lines	21460	VC
• Two-way left turn lanes	21460.5	VC
• Obedience of driver to official traffic control devices	21461	VC
• Obedience to traffic control signals	21462	VC

SPECIAL STOPS REQUIRED:

• Stop required	22450	VC
• Stops for train signals	22451	VC
• Railroad crossings	22452	VC
• School Bus	22454	VC

## UNDERSTANDING PICTORIAL MESSAGES AS INSTANT COMMUNICATION:

### Color and meaning:

- Regulation ~ Red, Black, or Red on White  
~ Stop, yield, or a prohibition
- Guide ~ Green  
~ Movement permitted or directional guidance
- Warning ~ Yellow  
~ General warning
- Construction ~ Orange  
~ Warning and guidance, information for construction and maintenance zone operation
- Service ~ Blue  
~ Motorists' services
- Recreational ~ Brown  
~ Public recreation and cultural interest guidance
- Shapes:
  - ~ Octagon ~ Stop
  - ~ Triangle ~ Yield
  - ~ Round ~ Railroad Crossing
  - ~ Vertical Rectangle ~ Regulatory
  - ~ Pentagon ~ School
  - ~ Pennant ~ No Passing
  - ~ Diamond ~ Warning
  - ~ Horizontal Rectangle ~ Information and Guide

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

### TRAFFIC SIGNS:

- |                   |       |    |
|-------------------|-------|----|
| • State Authority | 21350 | VC |
| • Local Authority | 21351 | VC |

### PASSING AND BEING PASSED:

- Demands of proper passing
  - ~ Good judgment
  - ~ Rapid decision making

### WHEN PASSING IS AUTHORIZED:

- Designated lane use and markings
  - ~ Freeways
  - ~ Two-lane roadways

### WHEN PASSING IS PROHIBITED:

- Designated lane use and markings
  - ~ Freeways
  - ~ Two-lane roadways

### SPECIAL SITUATIONS:

- Without sufficient clearance
- On a hill
- Intersections or railroad crossings
- School Bus
- Bridges or abutments

### DANGEROUS PASSING SITUATIONS:

- Long line of cars ahead
- Intention to stop or run
- Oncoming car too close
- Car ahead is at or near the speed limit
- Sight distance ahead is limited
- Maneuver cannot be completed before reaching a no-passing zone

### PASSING POTENTIAL:

- Identify passing situations
  - ~ Passing maneuver times
  - ~ Identifying a safe distance ahead
  - ~ Identify an end-of-pass gap to pull back into lane
  - ~ Establish a safe response for hazards
  - ~ Checking for road traction



## STEPS FOR SUCCESSFUL PASSING:

- Scan for Hazards
  - ~ Oncoming vehicles
  - ~ Vehicles approaching from rear
  - ~ Merging vehicles
- Check for blind spots
- Signal intent
- Warn the driver ahead
- Obtain a speed advantage
- Re-check conditions ahead
- Create return space
- Signal return
- Check for blind spots
- Create space for vehicle passed

## WHEN BEING PASSED

- Safety when being passed
  - ~ Yielding required
  - ~ Maintaining speed

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

### OVERTAKING AND PASSING:

- |  |       |    |
|--|-------|----|
| • Overtake and Pass to Left            | 21750 | VC |
| • Passing without Sufficient Clearance | 21751 | VC |
| • When Driving on the Left Prohibited  | 21752 | VC |
| • Yielding for Passing                 | 21753 | VC |
| • Passing on the Right                 | 21754 | VC |
| • Passing on the Right Safely          | 21755 | VC |
| • Passing on Grades                    | 21758 | VC |

## ESTABLISHED SPEED LIMITS:

- Purpose of basic speed laws
- Purpose of minimum speed laws
- Speed limits for designated areas
  - ~ Freeways
  - ~ Residential zones
  - ~ Business districts
  - ~ School zones
  - ~ Blind intersections
- Speed limits for designated vehicles
- Speed and stopping distance
  - ~ Perception time and distance
  - ~ Reaction time and distance
  - ~ Braking distance
  - ~ Stopping distance

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

### SPEED LAWS:

- |   |       |    |
|---|-------|----|
| • Maximum Speed Limit                   | 22349 | VC |
| • Basic Speed Law                       | 22350 | VC |
| • Prima Facie Speed Limits              | 22352 | VC |
| • Minimum Speed Law                     | 22400 | VC |
| • Maximum Speed for Designated Vehicles | 22406 | VC |

PROPER LANE USE:

Designated Lanes of Travel

- Divided highways
- Laned roadways
- Three-lane highways

Position of Vehicle in Lane of Travel

- Marked lanes
- Narrow roadways
- Mountain roadways
- Other vehicle approaching
- Exceptions to driving on the right side of the roadway

Required Lane Use and Use of Turnouts:

- Slow-moving vehicles
- Special vehicles

VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

LANE USE:

- |   |       |    |
|---|-------|----|
| • Right Side of Roadway                 | 21650 | VC |
| • Divided Highway                       | 21651 | VC |
| • Slow-moving Vehicles                  | 21654 | VC |
| • Designated Lanes for Certain Vehicles | 21655 | VC |
| • Turning Out of Slow-Moving Vehicles   | 21656 | VC |
| • Laned Roadways                        | 21658 | VC |
| • Three-Lane Highways                   | 21659 | VC |
| • Approaching Vehicles                  | 21660 | VC |
| • Narrow Roadways                       | 21661 | VC |
| • Mountain driving                      | 21662 | VC |

## VEHICLE EQUIPMENT FOR SAFETY:

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:

#### Lighting

- Hours of use
- Visibility requirements
- Maintenance and precautionary measures
- Purpose
  - ~ High Beams ~ Low beams
  - ~ Taillights
  - ~ Brake lights
  - ~ Back-up lights
  - ~ Turn signals
  - ~ Emergency Flashers

#### Brakes

- Required systems
- Maintenance and precautionary measures
- Purpose
  - ~ Vehicular control
  - ~ Stopping requirements

#### Windshield and Mirrors

- Requirements to aid visibility
- Prohibited devices or equipment
- Maintenance
- Purpose
  - ~ Visibility
  - ~ Screening

#### Horn

- Use
- Audible distance
- Prohibitive amplification
- Maintenance
- Purpose
  - ~ Warning device

#### Tires

- Required condition, inflation and tread
- Maintenance
- Purpose
  - ~ Vehicle control
  - ~ Traction

#### Safety Belts

- Use
- Maintenance
- Purpose
  - ~ Reduced injury and fatalities

## Child Restraints

- Type and use for age development
- Purpose
  - ~ Reduced injury and fatalities

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

### VEHICLE EQUIPMENT:

#### LIGHTING EQUIPMENT ~ GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- Lighting During Darkness 24250 VC
- Lighting Distance Requirements 24251 VC
- Lighting Equipment Requirements 24252 VC

#### HEADLAMPS AND AUXILIARY LAMPS:

- Headlamps on Motor Vehicles 24400 VC
- Auxiliary driving and Passing Lamps 24402 VC
- Foglamps 24403 VC
- Multiple Beams 24406 VC
- Upper and Lower Beams 24407 VC
- Use of Multiple Beams 24409 VC
- Single Beams 24410 VC

#### REAR LIGHTING EQUIPMENT:

- Tail Lamps 24600 VC
- Stop Lamps 24603 VC
- Backup Lamps 24606 VC

#### SIGNAL LAMPS AND DEVICES:

- Turn Signal System Required 24950 VC
- Turn Signal System 24951 VC
- Visibility Requirements of Signals 24952 VC
- Turn Signal Lamps 24953 VC

#### OPERATION OF BRAKES:

- Required Brake System 26450 VC
- Parking Brake System 26451 VC
- Condition of Brakes 26453 VC
- Control and Stopping Requirements 26454 VC

#### WINDSHIELDS AND MIRRORS:

- Windshields 26700 VC
- Windshield Wipers 26706 VC
- Condition and se of Windshield Wipers 26707 VC
- Materials Obstructing or Reducing Driver's View 26708 VC
- Sun Screening Devices: Requirement 26708.2VC
- Mirrors 26709 VC
- Defective Windshields and Rear Windows 26710 VC

HORNS, SIRENS, AND AMPLIFICATION DEVICES:

- Horns or Warning Devices 27000 VC
- Use of Horn 27001 VC

TIRES:

- Tread Depth of Pneumatic Tires 27465 VC

SAFETY BELTS:

- Mandatory Seat Belt Law 27315 VC
- Child Passenger Seat Restraints: Requirements 27360 VC
- Child Passenger Restraint System;  
Safety Belts; Requirements; Fines 27360.5 VC

## PROCEDURES WHEN INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT:

- Stopping requirements
  - ~ Victims at scene
  - ~ Property damage ~ unable to locate owner
- Aid to the injured
  - ~ Sending for help
  - ~ When to move an injured person
- Preventing further damage
  - ~ Reducing chances of fire
  - ~ Warning oncoming vehicles
- Reporting requirements
  - ~ When a report must be filed
  - ~ Use of reports
- Exchanging information
  - ~ Identifying information
  - ~ Noting damage and injury
- Additional Steps
  - ~ Obtain names and address of other witnesses
  - ~ Give accurate facts to police
  - ~ Seek medical attention
  - ~ File necessary supplemental reports

## VEHICLE CODE REFERENCE

### ACCIDENTS AND ACCIDENT REPORTS:

- |   |       |    |
|---|-------|----|
| • Duty to Stop at Scene of Accident         | 20001 | VC |
| • Duty Where Property Damaged               | 20002 | VC |
| • Duty to report Accidents                  | 20008 | VC |
| • Reports Confidential                      | 20012 | VC |
| • Report as Evidence                        | 20013 | VC |
| • Use of Reports                            | 20014 | VC |
| • Counter Report: No Determination of Fault | 20015 | VC |

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- When a report is required
  - ~ Property damage amounts
  - ~ Injury
  - ~ Time frames for reporting
- Required amounts of coverage
  - ~ Minimum amounts of insurance coverage
  - ~ Additional forms of coverage
- Suspension for failure to provide proof of coverage
  - ~ Period of suspension

VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LAWS:

ACCIDENT REPORTS:

- |  |       |    |
|--|-------|----|
| • Report Required                      | 16000 | VC |
| • Mandatory Suspension of License      | 16004 | VC |
| • Use of reports                       | 16005 | VC |
| • Evidence of Financial Responsibility | 16020 | VC |
| • Requirements of Policy or Bond       | 16056 | VC |
| • Suspension of the Driving Privilege  | 16070 | VC |
| • Period of Suspension                 | 16072 | VC |



VEHICLE CODE:

- Laws You Should Know
  - ~ Children Left in Vehicle
  - ~ Animal Abandonment

VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

Prohibition Against Unattended Child in Vehicle	15620	VC
Abandonment or Dumping of Animals	1666.5	VC

## **IX. DRIVING DEMANDS IN SPECIFIC SITUATIONS**

### PLANNING A ROUTE IN ADVANCE:

- Be familiar with alternative exits
- Guide signs ~ placement of guide signs which indicate distance and route direction
- Plan time of travel to avoid unfamiliar or congested traffic situations

### ENTERING THE FREEWAY:

- Acceleration lanes: Extra lane permitting a vehicle to reach freeway speeds
  - ~ Be familiar with entrance warning signs
  - ~ Observe ramp speed limit
  - ~ Check speed of freeway traffic
  - ~ Watch vehicle ahead for sudden stops
  - ~ Locate a gap in traffic
  - ~ Adjust speed for merging onto freeway through lanes
  - ~ Signal until entering through-traffic lane

### COMMON MISTAKES ENTERING FROM ACCELERATION LANE:

- Sudden slowing or stopping
- Merging at too slow a speed

### ENTERING DIRECTLY ONTO THE FREEWAY ~ NO ACCELERATION LANE:

- Yield or merge signs before entering
- Wait for a longer gap before entering
- Acceleration speed to blend into traffic

### SPECIAL SITUATIONS:

- Timed entrance lights
- Double merge lanes
- Diamond lanes

### LEAVING THE FREEWAY:

- Scan ahead for signs indicating desired exit lane
- What to do when an exit is missed

### EXIT LANES:

- Deceleration lanes, allow drivers to reduce speed without endangering traffic to the rear.
- Multiple deceleration lanes
  - ~ Yielding to other drivers
- Adjusting speed
  - ~ Posted limit
  - ~ Curved ramps

### CHOOSING LANES OF TRAVEL:

- Two-lane freeways
  - ~ Use of right-hand lanes
  - ~ Use of left-hand lanes
- Three lanes or more
  - ~ Use of right-hand lanes
  - ~ Use of center lane
  - ~ Use of left-hand lanes
- Lane use when approaching interchanges
  - ~ Avoiding merging conflicts

### SPEED LIMITS:

- Posted speed limits
  - ~ Maximum speed
  - ~ Speed for conditions
  - ~ Minimum speed
  - ~ Lane use for slower vehicles
- Dangers of driving too slow
  - ~ Blocking the flow of traffic
  - ~ Forced lane changes

### MAKING A SAFE LANE CHANGE:

- Checking for ample space
  - ~ Vehicle ahead
  - ~ Vehicle to rear
  - ~ Vehicles to sides
- Look for hazards
  - ~ Use of mirrors
  - ~ Checking for blind spots
- Signaling in advance
- Change lanes one at a time
- Speed when changing lanes
  - ~ Avoid slowing or stopping

### TIME MARGINS FOR FREEWAY CONDITIONS:

- Establishing a space cushion

### HELPING OTHER DRIVERS ENTER OR EXIT:

- Merging signs, warning other vehicle are entering the freeway
- Adjusting speed to open a gap
- Moving into adjacent lanes

### FREEWAY EMERGENCIES:

- Blocked roadways
  - ~ Steering around
- Stopping
  - ~ Warning drivers to the rear
  - ~ Brake light
  - ~ Hazard Lights

### BREAKDOWNS:

- Pulling to the shoulder
  - ~ Signaling
  - ~ Shoulder use and vehicle position
- Warning approaching traffic
  - ~ Hazard lights
  - ~ Flares or warning devices

### RE-ENTERING THE FREEWAY:

- Signaling
- Accelerating on shoulder
- Entering in an adequate gap
  - ~ Speed
  - ~ Checking for hazards

### SPECIAL FREEWAY PROBLEMS:

- Velocity-unconsciously going too fast
  - ~ Check speedometer
  - ~ Allow time to readjust to slower speeds
- Highway Hypnosis
  - ~ Avoid drowsiness

### TOLL BOOTHS-WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN APPROACHING:

- Reduced speed limits
- Distance ahead
- Designated lanes for special vehicles

## DEMANDS OF DRIVING ON AN OPEN HIGHWAY

### AREAS OF POTENTIAL HAZARDS:

- Areas of potential hazards
- Unmarked farm and field driveways
- Livestock crossing areas
- Rough road conditions
- Unmarked shoulders
- Roadside stands or gas stations

### OTHER USES OF THE ROADWAY:

- Trucks
  - ~ Speed
  - ~ Passing
- Slow-moving vehicles
  - ~ Speed
  - ~ Clearance
- Animals
  - ~ Unexpected
  - ~ Passing

### ENVIRONMENT:

- Curves
  - ~ Speed and braking
  - ~ Hazards
- Hills
  - ~ Shifting gears
  - ~ Visibility and speed
  - ~ Brake failure or overheating
- Mountain driving
  - ~ Vehicle condition
  - ~ Speed
  - ~ Allowing for other vehicles to pass
  - ~ Passing slower vehicles
- Special problems in high altitudes
  - ~ Overheating
  - ~ Vapor lock

### MEETING OR APPROACHING OTHER VEHICLES ON OPEN ROADWAYS:

- Meeting lines of cars
- Meeting at hilltops
- Meeting at night
- Meeting slow-moving vehicles

### ROAD CONDITIONS:

- Rough roads
- Traction
- Width of road
- Field of view
- Line of sight

## DEMANDS OF CITY DRIVING

### REDUCING SPEED:

- Allows for more time to see details and identify their meaning.
- Allows for more time to analyze information and predict what might happen.
- Allows for more reaction time to decide what to do.
- Allows for additional time to execute decisions or avoid dangerous situations.

### LOOKING AHEAD OF TRAFFIC:

- Look ahead for traffic hazards
- Leave enough distance to maneuver
- Signal lights:
  - ~ Look ahead for signal changes
  - ~ Anticipate signal changes
  - ~ Check for stale green lights

### COVERING THE BRAKE NOT RIDING IT:

- Slow for reduced stopping distance
- Situations in which the brake pedal should be covered
  - ~ Next to parked cars
  - ~ Brake lights of other cars
  - ~ Approaching signal lights

### CITY PASSING:

- Passing over center line of travel
- Passing in or near an intersection

### CHOOSING OF LANE:

- Choose a lane appropriate to use
- Choose a less traveled or congested lane unless planning to turn

### VEHICLE POSITION:

- Keep up with traffic speed and within legal limits
- Avoid another driver's blind spots
- Avoid letting another driver driving in your blind spot
- Avoid side-by-side driving
- Avoid driving in bunches

### CHOOSING A SAFE ROUTE:

- Time of day and traffic density
- Through streets vs. side streets
- One-way street vs. two-way streets

SPECIAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH CITY TRAFFIC:

- Parked cars hiding cross traffic
- Detour in lane of travel
- Left turn center lane use
- Turning at corners
- Driving on one-way streets
  - ~ Identifying
  - ~ Entering
  - ~ Speed
  - ~ Lane choice
  - ~ Exiting
  - ~ Dealing with wrong-way drivers
- When and where to expect pedestrians and bicyclists

## **X. BASIC DEFENSIVE DRIVING TACTICS**

### AVOIDING A COLLISION WITH THE CAR AHEAD:

- Importance of vehicle lane placement
- 2-second system
  - ~ How to establish 2-second gap
- When to increase following distance to 3 seconds or more
  - ~ When being tailgated
  - ~ When vision is blocked or visibility poor
  - ~ When speed is increased
  - ~ When adverse roadway or weather conditions exist
- 4-second system
  - ~ How to establish a 4-second gap
  - ~ When to establish a 4-second gap
- Momentary distractions-pick a safe time to look away
  - ~ Check the situation ahead
  - ~ Take short looks
  - ~ Have a passenger help with navigation
- Look ahead for trouble
  - ~ Look over and around the car ahead
  - ~ Check ahead for speed on hilltops and curves
  - ~ Watch brake lights in adjacent lanes
  - ~ Start braking early
- Locations to watch for trouble
  - ~ Traffic controlled intersections
  - ~ Approaching crosswalks
  - ~ Lanes next to parked cars
  - ~ Parking lot entrances
  - ~ Interchanges where cars enter and leave
  - ~ Slippery or ice-covered streets

### AVOIDING BEING REAR-ENDED BY ANOTHER VEHICLE:

- Increase following distance from vehicles ahead
- Signal early for turns, stops, and lane changes
- Brake smoothly and gradually
- Keep pace with traffic when possible
- Check mirrors for following distance of other vehicles
- Before changing lanes, check direction of travel
- After stopping, keep brake pedal depressed
- Keep rear lights clean and working

### HOW TO CHOOSE AN ALTERNATIVE PATH OF TRAVEL AS AN ESCAPE ROUTE:

- Importance of adequate visual leads
  - ~ Choosing a safe path of travel ahead
  - ~ Possible speed or position adjustments



- Positioning the vehicle laterally
  - ~ Select speeds to position vehicle between cluster of vehicles
  - ~ Select a lane position within traffic clusters to allow greater maneuverability
- Avoiding multiple hazards
  - ~ Identify hazards early
  - ~ Predict potential hazards
  - ~ Adjust speed and position to avoid potential hazards
  - ~ Anticipate and plan possible escape routes
- Approaching vehicle drifts into lane of travel
  - ~ Slow down
  - ~ Pull to the right
  - ~ Sound horn and flash lights
- On a curve
  - ~ Slow before entering
  - ~ Stay toward the right of the lane

PROTECTING YOURSELF WHEN A COLLISION CANNOT BE AVOIDED:

- Being hit from the rear
  - ~ When to apply the brakes
  - ~ Use of head restrains
- Being hit from the side
  - ~ Preparing to steer
  - ~ Bracing against the steering wheel
- Being hit from the front
  - ~ Protecting your face when wearing a shoulder strap
  - ~ Protection when not wearing a shoulder strap

## **PLANNING A TRIP AHEAD AND HANDLING HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS**

### **XI. PLANNING TRAVEL TIME AND ROUTE OF TRAVEL**

#### **EFFECTS OF FATIGUE ON DRIVING PERFORMANCE:**

- Slowed reaction time
- Irritability, anger and rash decisions
- Loss of attention and concentration
- Dream states ~ blurred sense of time and distance

#### **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS IN PLANNING A LONG TRIP:**

- Physical health and limitations
- Medical conditions requiring special dietary needs
- Adequate amount of medication available
- Keep track of times for medication
- Be familiar with side effects of medication

#### **WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR TIME OF YEAR AND AREA:**

- Be familiar with adverse weather conditions, and how to safety maneuver in those conditions
- Have additional equipment available for adverse conditions
- Consider postponing trip if adverse weather conditions are anticipated

#### **TYPE OF VEHICLE AND CONDITION:**

- Have the vehicle serviced before the trip
- Become familiar with a vehicle before you use it
- Have safety equipment checked before the trip
- Plan on taking emergency spare parts if traveling in unpopulated areas or in adverse weather

#### **LONG TRIPS IN UNFAMILIAR AREAS:**

- Obtain up-to-date maps to plan the route
- Be familiar with alternative routes in case primary routes are closed or inaccessible
- Try to avoid using a route with potentially hazardous terrain
- Attempt to become familiar with condition and maintenance of the roadways on your route
- Select routes that may be longer, but present fewer hazards and unfamiliar traffic congestion
- Check anticipated weather conditions and plan to have appropriate safety equipment with you
- Attempt to become familiar with intrastate traffic laws and restrictions

#### **GENERAL FACTORS FOR AVOIDING FATIGUE ON LONG TRIPS:**

- Set realistic goals for daily mileage
- Determine the time of day you want to travel to avoid congested traffic conditions
- Avoid driving from dusk to dawn
- Do not take stimulants to stay awake
- Make room reservations in advance to avoid rushing
- Get a good night's sleep before starting out
- Eat lightly but regularly
- Take periodic rest stops
- Share the driving whenever possible

## PLANNING FOR DAILY TRIPS

### GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR DAILY DRIVING:

- Make sure your vehicle is equipped with appropriate driving aids for physical limitations
- Take medication as directed and at specified intervals
- Avoid driving from dusk to dawn
- Do not drive if not feeling well
- Avoid “road rage”
  - ~ Don’t let others control your emotions
  - ~ Don’t act out frustrations through your vehicle
  - ~ Anticipate rude or angry drivers
  - ~ “Road rage” up 50% since 1990
  - ~ Men and women experience it equally
- Cell Phones
  - ~ Know how to work your phone
  - ~ Have the phone within easy reach
  - ~ End the call if experiencing hazardous conditions
  - ~ Hands-free operation required, effective 7/1/2008

### ROAD CONDITIONS:

- Choose a familiar route, freeway vs. city street
- Avoid poorly maintained or unmarked roadways
- Avoid congested areas

### TRAFFIC CONDITIONS:

- Commute hours vs. non-commute
  - ~ Choose the time of day to avoid congested and unfamiliar conditions

### WEATHER CONDITIONS:

- Do not drive in unfamiliar or adverse weather conditions

### VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:

- Have your vehicle periodically serviced
- Periodically check safety equipment

## **XII. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS**

### **DRIVING IN THE FOG:**

Obtaining maximum visibility and reducing glare

- ~ Appropriate use of headlamps
- ~ Use of fog lights and mounting
- ~ Windshield wipers and defrosters

### **SPEED:**

- Reduce speed, but keep moving when entering a fog bank
- Watch for slow-moving vehicles ahead
- Look in the rearview mirror for vehicles approaching from the rear

### **WHEN YOUR VEHICLE STALLS:**

- Move off roadway as quickly as possible
- Move away from vehicle
- Restricted use of flashers or flares

### **GENERAL TIPS:**

- Listen for traffic you cannot see
- Avoid crossing roadways
- Avoid passing a line of cars
- Consider postponing driving until conditions clear
- Keep headlights and taillights clean

### **DRIVING ON SLIPPERY SURFACES:**

- Obtaining maximum visibility
  - ~ Drive with headlights on
  - ~ Use windshield washers to remove film

### **SPEED:**

- Keep below dry road speed
- Decrease speed when entering a curve

### **STAYING ON THE ROADWAY:**

- Stay on paved portion of the roadway
- Drive in the tracks of the car ahead
- Allow more of a space cushion
- Avoid sudden movements

### **GOING THROUGH DEEP WATER:**

- Do not overload the rear
- Shift to a lower gear

### HYDROPLANING:

- Regaining vehicle control
  - ~ Take foot off gas
  - ~ Do not brake

### DRIVING IN SNOW AND ICE:

- Obtaining maximum visibility
  - ~ Appropriate use of headlamps
  - ~ Windshield wipers and defrosters

### SPEED:

- Keep speed below dry-road speed
- Keep steady speed
- Reduce speed on curves and shady areas
- Maintain wipers and defrosters

### GENERAL TIP TO AVOID SKIDS:

- Watch for areas where ice collects
- Avoid turning or swerving suddenly
- Avoid applying brakes too suddenly or too hard
- Do not drive on road edge or shoulder
- Do not change to a lower gear at too fast a speed
- When to use chains

### HOW TO STOP SKIDDING:

- Avoid braking suddenly ~ pump brakes lightly but fast
- Steer in the direction on which the rear end is skidding
- Avoid oversteering
- Keep the clutch engaged
- Avoid lifting your foot from the accelerator suddenly

### STARTING WHEN TRACTION IS POOR:

- Start in a higher gear
- Accelerate gradually

### HOW TO ROCK OUT:

- Start slowly in low gear
- Shift rapidly to reverse
- Back until wheels start to spin
- Shift back to low gear
- Repeat movement in rapid succession

### MECHANICAL FAILURE:

- Accelerator stuck
- Blowout
- Brake failure
- Headlight failure
- Power steering failure

### **XIII. RECREATIONAL VEHICLE SAFETY**

#### SAFETY EQUIPMENT CHECKS:

- Brakes
- Lighting
- Power source
- Storage of flammable liquids or gas
- Hitch assembly
- Special equipment for towing

#### LOADING:

- Weight distribution
- Securing

#### CLEARANCE HEIGHTS:

- Be familiar with height of the vehicle
- Do not use the top of the vehicle for extra storage

#### ALLOWING FOR EXTRA TIME AND DISTANCE:

- Stopping
- Passing
- Braking
- Pulling into traffic

#### DRIVER COURTESY:

- When turnouts should be used

#### SPECIAL:

- Loss of control
  - ~ Wind
  - ~ Turning
  - ~ Backing
  - ~ Road conditions
  - ~ Swaying

#### **XIV. DECIDING WHEN TO STOP DRIVING**

##### SELF-EVALUATION THE WARNING SIGNS OF POTENTIAL DANGER:

- Growing number of near-miss accidents
- Involvement in minor accidents
- Obvious difficulty in seeing pedestrians, other vehicles and objects
- Obvious difficulty in coordinating hand and foot movements

##### GETTING READY FOR RENEWAL:

- Study driver's handbook
- Consult physician if a medical problem exists
- Have vision checked

##### SCREENING A DRIVER'S LICENSE APPLICANT:

- General physical appearance
- Alertness
- Successful written, vision, and possible drive tests
- Compensation for any apparent disease or disability affecting the ability to operate a motor vehicle safely

##### VISION TEST FAILURES:

- Drive test may be required to determine competency
- Vision statement from doctor may be required
- Restrictions imposed on license
- Referral for reexamination

##### MEDICAL CONDITION DISCLOSED:

- Drive test may be required to determine competency
- Medical reports may be required
- Restrictions imposed on license
- Referral for reexamination

##### ALTERNATIVES TO DRIVING:

- Buses
- Taxi
- Friends
- Maintaining the vehicle, but having someone else drive
- Alternative means of transportation and service provided by special programs

##### ALTERNATIVE FORM OF IDENTIFICATION:

- Identification cards
  - ~ Types
  - ~ Purpose
  - ~ Use
  - ~ Costs

EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED PERSONS:

- Definition of disabled persons
- Parking placards
  - ~ Purpose
  - ~ Issuance
  - ~ Use

VEHICLE CODE REFERENCES

AGE LIMIT FOR RENEWING OR OBTAINING A DRIVER'S LICENSE:

Renewal of license	12814	VC
License extension	12814.5	VC
Identification Cards	13000	VC
Expiration of Identification Cards	13002	VC
Disabled Person's Exemption	22511.5	VC
Parking for disabled persons and disabled Veterans	22511.7	VC



## **XV. LOCAL WEATHER AND TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AFFECTING DRIVING PERFORMANCE**

### **TRAFFIC CONDITIONS:**

- Congested areas of traffic
  - ~ Alternative routes of travel
  - ~ Alternative times of travel
  - ~ Adjusting to changing traffic conditions from area to area
  - ~ Alternative means of travel

### **HAZARDOUS ROADWAYS:**

- Local areas of concern
  - ~ Poorly lit roadways
  - ~ Poorly maintained roadways
  - ~ Poorly marked roadways
  - ~ High risk areas and accident potential

### **ROADWAY MARKINGS:**

- Local city ordinances
- Purpose and meaning of local signs and signals

### **WEATHER CONDITIONS:**

- Anticipating conditions
  - ~ Local weather conditions affecting travel
  - ~ Weather conditions in adjacent areas
  - ~ Preparing a vehicle for adverse conditions

### **LOCAL TRAFFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS:**

- The drinking driver
- Pedestrian safety