

TITLE 13: DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Division 1, Chapter 1

Article 4.7 – Schools for Traffic Violators

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

The Department of Motor Vehicles (department) proposes to amend Sections 345.31 and 345.32 in Article 4.7, Chapter 1, Division 1, Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, related traffic violator school courses.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing regarding this proposed regulatory action is not scheduled. However, a public hearing will be held if any interested person or his or her duly authorized representative requests a public hearing to be held relevant to the proposed action by submitting a written request to the contact person identified in this notice no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the close of the written comment period.

DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS

Any interested party or his or her duly authorized representative may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulations to the contact person identified in this notice. All written comments must be received at the department no later than **May 27, 2025**, the final day of the written comment period, for them to be considered by the department before it adopts the proposed regulation.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

The department proposes to adopt/amend/repeal these regulations under the authority granted by Vehicle Code section 1651, to implement, interpret, or make specific Vehicle Code sections 11202 and 11219.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Vehicle Code sections 11200, 11202.5, and 11206 authorize the department to license and regulate traffic violator schools, owners, instructors, and operators, establish rules related to lesson plans and lesson plan approval, and course

content curriculum. Vehicle Code section 1652 authorizes the department to prescribe forms deemed necessary for purposes of implementing the Vehicle Code.

Section 345.30 establishes curriculum content that requires, among other things, that a classroom course provide a minimum of 340 minutes of instruction and 60 minutes for a post-knowledge test, and home study and internet courses to have a word count that meets or exceeds 42,500.

Some schools have translated lesson plans to languages other than English to make courses available to customers who would learn better in a different language. Currently, schools submit their lesson plans to a California court to verify the translated lesson plans. Once the translation is verified, a Certificate of Translation is provided to the school and the school submits the certificate to the department prior to offering the course in the language. The fees for a lesson plan to be verified by a court are charged by the word. Since the courses are based on a minimum word count of 42,500, schools are paying from \$5,000 to \$10,000 to have their course translated.

The department has determined it would reduce the financial burden to schools by establishing a self-certification process by following translator guidelines that are currently used by the department when it has its own documents translated. The proposed self-certification translation requirements will allow the school to submit a translated course with documentation showing the person who provided the translation has either a minimum of five years of professional translation work experience, a four-year college degree in the targeted language, or a translator certificate issued by the American Translators Association or equivalent. The department has created a form the school will submit with the translated course that identifies the qualifications of the translator. Once the department verifies the information contained in the form, including verification of an approved English version of the course, the

department will provide an approved form to the traffic violator school owner and they can begin offering courses in the translated language.

BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED REGULATION

This action will benefit traffic violator schools by allowing them to self-certify a translated course. Currently, schools are required to work with the California courts to have a Certificate of Translation issued. This process has proven to be extremely costly for schools. The change to a self-certification process will reduce the financial burden associated with having a course translated.

CONSISTENCY AND COMPATIBILITY WITH STATE REGULATIONS

The department has conducted a review of other regulations and has determined this action is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

COMPARABLE FEDERAL STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

The department has also conducted a search and has determined that there are no comparable federal statutes or regulations related to traffic violator schools operating in California.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following document(s) is/are incorporated by reference:

- Traffic Violator School Foreign Language Approval Request, form OL 775 (Rev. 3/2025)

This form is not published in the California Code of Regulations because it would be impractical and cumbersome to do so; however, the document is readily available to interested parties by contacting the department representative identified below.

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT DETERMINATIONS

The department has made the following initial determinations concerning the proposed regulatory action:

- *Cost or Savings to Any State Agency:* None.
- *Other Non-Discretionary Cost or Savings to Local Agencies:* None.

- *Costs or Savings in Federal Funding to the State:* None.
- *Effects on Housing Costs:* None.
- *Cost to any local agency or school district requiring reimbursement pursuant to Gov. Code section 17500 et seq.:* None.
- *Cost Impact on Representative Private Persons or Businesses:* This proposed action will not have a cost impact on representative private persons or businesses. This action may benefit traffic violator schools by eliminating the need for schools to provide expensive certifications of translations.
- *Small Business Impact:* This action may impact small businesses by changing the way a traffic violator schools submits translated courses to the department.
- *Local Agency/School District Mandate:* The proposed regulatory action will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts, or a mandate that requires reimbursement pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of the Government Code.
- *Significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states:* The department has made an initial determination that there will not be any significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. This action establishes a process for having traffic violator school courses translated to languages other than English. The department anticipates this action will benefit traffic violator schools and course participants.

RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

The department has made the following determinations when assessing the economic impact associated with this proposed regulation:

The department has made the initial determination that this action will not impact, 1) the creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California, 2) the creation or elimination of existing businesses within the State of California, 3) the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California, or 4) worker safety or the state's environment.

This action will have no benefit to the health of California residents, worker safety or the state's environment. This action will benefit traffic violators schools within California who will have a less costly process to having their courses translated into other languages. When schools can offer their courses in multiple languages, residents of California will benefit by having more access to traffic violator school being offered in their language.

PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

A pre-notice workshop, pursuant to Government Code section 11346.45, is not required because the issues addressed in the proposal are not so complex or large in number that they cannot easily be reviewed during the comment period.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The department must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the department or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the department would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, or would be effective as and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provisions of law.

CONTACT PERSON

Any inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Randi Calkins, Regulations Specialist
Department of Motor Vehicles
Legal Affairs Division
PO Box 932382, MS C-244
Sacramento, CA 94232-3820

Any inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action requiring more immediate response may use:

Telephone: (916) 657-6469
Facsimile: (916) 657-6243
E-Mail: LADRegulations@dmv.ca.gov

In the event the contact person is unavailable, inquiries should be directed to the following back-up person:

Peggy Gibson, Attorney IV
Department of Motor Vehicles
Telephone: (916) 657-6469

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

The department has prepared an Initial Statement of Reasons for the proposed regulatory action and has available all the information upon which the proposal is based. The contact person identified in this notice shall make available to the public upon request the Express Terms of the proposed regulatory action using underline or italics to indicate additions to, and strikeout to indicate deletions from the California Code of Regulations.

The contact person identified in this notice shall also make available to the public, upon request, the Final Statement of Reasons and the location of public records, including reports, documentation and other materials related to the proposed action. In addition, the above-cited materials (the Notice of

Proposed Regulatory Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and Express Terms) may be accessed at <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/about-the-california-department-of-motor-vehicles/california-dmv-rulemaking-actions/>.

AVAILABILITY OF MODIFIED TEXT

Following the written comment period, and the hearing if one is held, the department may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If modifications are made which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, the fully modified text, with changes clearly indicated, shall be made available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date on which the department adopts the resulting regulations. Requests for copies of any modified regulations should be addressed to the department contact person identified in this notice. The department will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are first made available to the public.