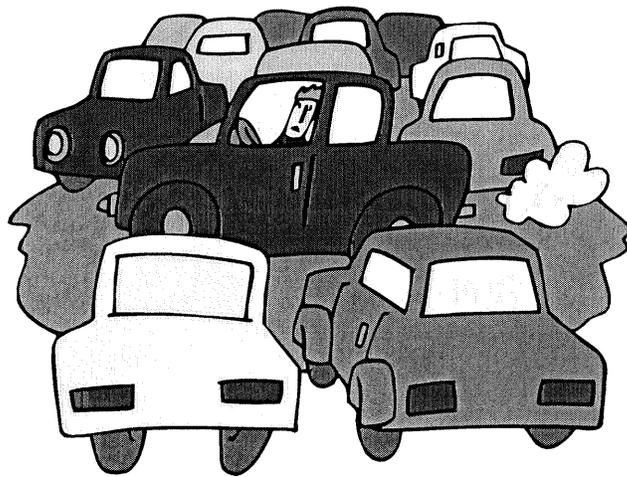


# Rules and Regulations regarding the Implementation of Defensive Driving Schools



Presented by the Tennessee Department of Safety

Tennessee Municipal Judges Conference  
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**55-10-301. Penalty for violations of chapters 8 and 9 and parts 1-5 of this chapter. —**

(a) Any person violating any of the provisions of chapters 8 and 9 of this title and parts 1-5 of this chapter where a penalty is not specifically prescribed commits a Class C misdemeanor.

(b) (1) Any person violating any of the provisions of chapters 8 and 9 of this title and parts 1-5 of this chapter may be required, at the discretion of the court, to attend a driver education course approved by the department of safety in addition to or in lieu of any portion of other penalty imposed; provided, that the course is approved by the department, it may be operated and conducted by a:

(A) County, municipality or other entity of local government;

(B) Nonprofit organization as defined by the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3); or

(C) Private entity, provided the entity meets all of the requirements of § 40-35-302(g) for private entities providing misdemeanor probation supervision services.

(2) A reasonable fee between fifty dollars (\$50.00) and one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175) may be assessed for the driver education or driver improvement course; provided, that no one shall be refused admittance for inability to pay. This fee shall apply only to driver improvement courses that may be required pursuant to this section, and shall not apply to any program offered pursuant to the provisions of title 49, chapter 1, or to any other driving instruction school.

(3) By operating a driver education or improvement course pursuant to the provisions of this subsection (b), the entity operating or conducting the course consents to the inspection of all records concerning the course by the department of safety; provided, that inspection made pursuant to this subdivision (b)(3) shall not preclude inspection of any records pursuant to any other provision of law.

(4) Each court clerk shall provide a list of approved entities in the county to any person ordered to attend a driver education or improvement course.

(5) Upon certification to the court clerk that a court ordered driver education or improvement course has been completed, the court clerk shall report the completion to the department of safety. The report shall be accomplished on the abstract of record of the court referenced in § 55-10-306.

(c) Subsection (b) shall not apply to any person who holds a Class A, B, or C license and is charged with any violation, except a parking violation, in any type of motor vehicle.

(d) Subsection (b) shall not apply to any person who holds any class of driver license and who is charged with any violation, except a parking violation, while operating a commercial motor vehicle.

[Acts 1931, ch. 82, § 16; 1937, ch. 245, § 6; C. Supp. 1950, § 2700.17 (Williams, § 2696); Acts 1955, ch. 329, § 103; 1971, ch. 234, § 1; 1975, ch. 162, § 1; T.C.A. (orig. ed.), § 59-1023; Acts 1981, ch. 91, §§ 1, 2; 1989, ch. 591, § 113; 1990, ch. 869, § 1; 1995, ch. 178, § 1; 2001, ch. 186, § 1; 2005, ch. 235, § 1; 2008, ch. 1181, § 1; 2009, ch. 321, § 1.]



**RULES  
OF  
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY  
HIGHWAY PATROL**

**CHAPTER 1340-03-07  
DRIVER EDUCATION COURSES**

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**1340-03-07-.01 PURPOSE.**

- (1) To establish a system for the application, approval, regulation and standardization of Driver Education Courses by the Tennessee Department of Safety.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009 and 55-10-301. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 13, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

**1340-03-07-.02 DEFINITIONS.**

- (1) "Commissioner" shall mean the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Safety.
- (2) "Department" shall mean the Tennessee Department of Safety.
- (3) "Driver Education Course" shall mean a classroom or on-line curriculum of driver safety training of not less than four (4) hours which has been determined by the Department to meet or exceed the standards of the AAA, National Safety Council or such other nationally recognized curriculum approved by the Department and which is designed to educate persons committing minor traffic violations and to deter future violations.
- (4) "Driver Education Course Instructor" shall mean an individual who is approved by the Department for the purpose of conducting a Driver Education Course.
- (5) "Driver Education Course Provider" shall mean an entity approved by the Department to operate and conduct a Driver Education Course and shall include:
  - (a) County, municipality or other entity of local government;
  - (b) Nonprofit organization as defined by the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3);  
or
  - (c) Private entity, provided the entity meets or exceeds all the requirements of T.C.A. § 40-35-302(g) for private entities providing misdemeanor probation supervision services.
- (6) "Governmental employee" shall mean employees and officials of the state of Tennessee and its political subdivisions who are employed as law enforcement employees or officials; probation and parole employees or officials; judicial employees or officials, or correctional employees or officials, including employees and officials of jails and workhouses.
- (7) "Immediate family" shall mean and include the employee's spouse/partner, mother, father, siblings, adult children or maternal and paternal grandparents.

(Rule 1340-03-07-.02, continued)

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 55-10-301 and 40-35-302(g). **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 13, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

**1340-03-07-.03 DRIVER EDUCATION COURSE PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS.**

- (1) An entity which proposes to offer a Driver Education Course must submit an application supplied by the Department, along with a nonrefundable certified check or money order in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the application fee, to the Department's Safety Education Unit of the Highway Patrol.
- (2) Upon initial approval, the applicant will be provided a Certificate by the Department. The Certificate shall be conspicuously displayed in the primary place of business of the approved applicant.
- (3) Submit an annual renewal fee in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00).
- (4) Provide a minimum of four (4) hours of classroom or on-line driver safety training which has been determined by the Department to meet or exceed the standards of the AAA, National Safety Council or such other nationally recognized curriculum approved by the Department and which is designed to educate persons committing minor traffic violations and to deter future violations.
- (5) May assess a reasonable fee between fifty dollars (\$50.00) or one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175.00) for the Driver Education Course, provided that no person shall be refused admittance for inability to pay. This fee shall apply only to Driver Education Courses that may be required pursuant to T.C.A. § 55-10-301 and shall not apply to any program offered pursuant to the provisions of T.C.A. Title 49, Chapter 1, or to any other driving instruction school.
- (6) Issue a certificate of completion to each student who has successfully completed the Driver Education Course. Such certificate shall have thereon the student's full name, driver license number, date of birth, course name, hours completed and the Driver Education Course Provider's name and address.
- (7) No governmental employee or the employee's immediate family shall have a direct or indirect personal interest in a private entity that provides a Driver Education Course and shall not receive anything of value in an individual capacity from the private entity.
- (8) Comply with or exceed the minimum standards set forth herein.
- (9) Only use Instructors who meet the qualifications set forth herein.
- (10) Maintain the following records for a period of three (3) years and ensure that such records are available for inspection by the Department during business hours:
  - (a) A roster of each class, listing the course name, location, Instructor's full name, student names, driver license numbers and date of birth.
  - (b) A receipt for each student stating the student's full name, driver license number and amount paid.
  - (c) A list of students who have successfully completed the Driver Education Course, with each student's full name, driver license number, date of birth, course name and class location.

(Rule 1340-03-07-.03, continued)

- (d) Course material, which shall include the most recent material to teach crash prevention, and safe and defensive driving.
- (e) Any other records that may be required by the Department.
- (11) Ensure compliance with all Department rules and regulations.
- (12) Immediately notify the Department by mail, facsimile or electronic transmission of any change(s) in information on the application or any change in ownership or Instructors.
- (13) Be open for periodic (with or without notice) on-site inspection by the Department.
- (14) Shall not hire any person as an Instructor or otherwise who is an employee of the Department.
- (15) Comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 55-10-301 and 40-35-302(g). **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 13, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

#### 1340-03-07-.04 DRIVER EDUCATION COURSE INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS.

- (1) Must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age, high school graduate or passed the GED, have and maintain a valid driver license that has not been revoked, suspended or cancelled for any reason in the three (3) years preceding the date of hire, no conviction for a felony or any crime involving violence, dishonesty, deceit, fraud, or indecency and not an employee of the Department.
- (2) Shall have attended and successfully completed a Driver Education Course Instructor's School operated by AAA, National Safety Council or such other certified school approved by the Department. The Driver Education Course Provider shall send a copy of the Instructor's certificate of completion to the Department's Safety Education Unit. The Instructor shall maintain current certification.
- (3) No governmental employee or the employee's immediate family shall have a direct or indirect personal interest in a private entity that provides a Driver Education Course and shall not receive anything of value in an individual capacity from the private entity.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 55-10-301 and 40-35-302(g). **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 13, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

#### 1340-03-07-.05 DENIAL, REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION.

- (1) The Department may deny, revoke or suspend a Driver Education Course Provider or Instructor for any violation of the law, rules or regulations relating to the operation of a Driver Education Course.
- (2) The Department may deny, revoke or suspend the Driver Education Course Provider or Instructor for actions including, but not limited to, the following:
  - (a) Conviction of a Provider or Instructor for a felony or any crime involving violence, dishonesty, deceit, fraud or indecency.
  - (b) Knowingly presenting false or misleading information to the Department.

(Rule 1340-03-07-.05, continued)

- (c) Failure or refusal to permit the Department to inspect, audit or investigate the Driver Education Course Provider's premises, the Driver Education Course instruction records, financial records, etc.
- (d) Failure to submit the application with supporting documentation and/or the required fees within the prescribed time limit.
- (e) Failure to maintain Department approved standards in instruction, equipment or facilities.
- (f) The presence of alcoholic beverages or narcotic drugs on the premises.
- (g) The presence of any type of weapon on the premises, except a weapon carried by a commissioned law enforcement officer or an individual with an authorized and valid carry permit.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 55-10-301 and 40-35-302(g). **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 13, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

#### 1340-03-07-.06 HEARINGS.

- (1) Any Provider or Instructor of a Defensive Driving Course who has been denied, revoked or suspended shall have the right to request a hearing in writing within thirty (30) days of the date of written notification of such action.
- (2) The hearing shall be before the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee and held in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act (T.C.A. § 4-5-101 et seq.).

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 55-10-301 and 4-5-101 et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed May 13, 2010; effective October 29, 2010.

## DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY APPROVED TRAFFIC SCHOOLS (As of 4/4/2011)

A+ Defensive Driving School	Knoxville	Classroom/On-line	(865) 335-5286	www.drivingschooltn.com
AAA East Tennessee	Knoxville	Classroom	(865) 862-9250	www.aaat.com
A & O Driving School (Rhea County Courthouse)	Evensville	Classroom	(423) 280-8686	
Access Granted Traffic School	Chattanooga	Classroom	(615) 852-5777	
American Safety Management Systems	Seimer	Classroom	(731) 645-7557	
Belle Meade Police Department	Nashville	Classroom	(615)297-0241	
Blount County Probation & Driving School	Maryville	Classroom	(865) 273-5990	
Bluff City Police Department	Bluff City	Classroom	(423) 538-7144	www.bluffcitytn.org
Boyd-DeArmond, Inc.	Gallatin	Classroom/On-line	(615) 319-0539	www.boyd-dearmond.com
City of Brentwood	Brentwood	Classroom	(615) 371-0160	
City of Bristol	Bristol	Classroom	(423) 989-5600	
Campbell County General Sessions	Jacksboro	Classroom	(423) 562-2624	
Carroll County Highway Safety	Huntington	Classroom	(731)986-8947	
Carter County General Sessions	Elizabethton	Classroom/On-line	(423) 543-7263	
Clarksville Police Department	Clarksville	Classroom	(931) 648-0656	www.clarksvillepd.org
City of Collegedale	Collegedale	Classroom	(423) 396-3135	
Concepts in Safety	Knoxville	Classroom	(865) 256-9977	
Consultants Safety Systems	Arlington	Classroom	(901) 382-4658	
Cookeville Police Department	Cookeville	Classroom	(931) 520-5266	www.cookevillepolice.com
Correctional Counseling Institute	Johnson City	Classroom	(423) 483-8403	www.Fthra.org
Crockett Driving School	Maury City	Classroom	(731) 696-4444	
Crossville Police Department	Crossville	Classroom	(931) 484-7231	
Defensive Driving Courses, Inc.	Knoxville	Classroom/On-line	(865) 577-2523	www.tennesseedriving.com
Drive 4 Life Academy, Inc.	Knoxville	Classroom	(865) 470-4122	www.drive4lifeacademy.com
Drivers Safety School	Crossville	Classroom	(931) 261-7758	
Dyer County Defensive Driving School	Dyersburg	Classroom	(731) 288-7852	
Elizabethton Police Department	Elizabethton	Classroom	(423) 542-4141	
FastForward Driving School	Murfreesboro	Classroom	(615) 589-3279	
First Defense	Somerville	Classroom	(901) 465-0001	
GoToTrafficSchool.com		On-line	www.GoToTrafficSchool.com	
Humboldt Police Department	Humboldt	Classroom	(731) 784-1322	
IDRIVESAFELY		On-line	www.idrivesafely.com/Tennessee	
Impact Seminars, Inc.	Franklin	Classroom	(615) 373-3588	www.impactseminars.com
Johnson City Police Department	Johnson City	Classroom	(423) 434-6160	
Jonesborough Department of Public Safety	Jonesborough	Classroom	(423) 753-1053	
City of Kingsport	Kingsport	Classroom	(423) 229-9300	
City of Kingston Defensive Driving Course	Kingston	Classroom	(865) 376-2081	
Knoxville Driving School	Knoxville	Classroom	(865) 661-4007	
Knoxville Police Department	Knoxville	Classroom	(865) 215-7349	
Lawrenceburg Police Department	Lawrenceburg	Classroom	(931) 762-2276	

Lebanon Defensive Driving Clinic	Lebanon	Classroom	(615) 449-1948
Lebanon Police Department	Lebanon	Classroom	(615) 444-2323 <a href="http://www.lebanontn.org">www.lebanontn.org</a>
Life Foundation, Inc.	Kingsport	Classroom	(423) 578-2505
Macon County Circuit Driver Improvement	Lafayette	Classroom	(615) 666-2354
City of Martin Driver Improvement	Lafayette	Classroom	(731) 587-5355
McMinnville Police Department	McMinnville	Classroom	(931) 235-5949
Metro Nashville General Session Traffic School	Nashville	Classroom/On-line	(615) 862-8345 <a href="http://www.gscourt.nashville.gov">www.gscourt.nashville.gov</a>
Middle TN Driver Improvement Council	Franklin	Classroom	(615) 368-2055
Middle Tennessee Driving Academy	Murfreesboro	Classroom	(615) 494-5194 <a href="http://www.tndriversschool.com">www.tndriversschool.com</a>
Mid-South Defensive Driving	Fayetteville	Classroom	(931) 433-0350
City of Millersville	Goodlettsville	Classroom	(615) 859-2758
Mountain Empire Corrections	Erwin	Classroom	(423) 743-8855
Oneida Police Department	Oneida	Classroom	(423) 569-8300
City of Portland	Portland	Classroom	(615) 325-6776
Puryear Police Department	Puryear	Classroom	(731) 247-5362
Ridgetop Police Department	Ridgetop	Classroom	(615) 851-0203
Safe Drivers of Tennessee	Buchanan	Classroom	(731) 644-3300
Saf-T-First	Jackson	Classroom	(731) 267-3594
Savannah Police Department	Savannah	Classroom	(731) 925-4989
Sumner County General Sessions	Gallatin, Hendersonville	Classroom	(615) 452-4310
Superior Safety School	Memphis	Classroom	(901) 303-2678
TechForce Consultants	Dickson	Classroom	(615) 533-4496 <a href="http://www.techforceconsultants.com">www.techforceconsultants.com</a>
Tennessee Correctional Services	Memphis	Classroom	(901) 526-6111 <a href="http://www.correctionalservices.net">www.correctionalservices.net</a>
Tennessee Driver Improvement Program, Inc.	Jefferson City	Classroom	(865) 475-9834
Tennessee Regional Safety Council	Nashville	Classroom	(615) 329-3271 <a href="http://www.safetycounciltn.org">www.safetycounciltn.org</a>
Tennessee Safety & Health Council, Inc.	Chattanooga	Classroom	(423) 553-1945 <a href="http://www.tnsafetycouncil.org">www.tnsafetycouncil.org</a>
TN Judicial Court Support, Inc.	Linden, Camden, Selmer	Classroom	(731) 221-0024
Town of Huntingdon	Huntingdon	Classroom	(731) 986-5310
Town of Tracy City	Tracy City	Classroom	(931) 592-6213 ext. 100
City Trezevant	Trezevant	Classroom	(731) 669-4831
Unicoi County (Appalachian Driver Improvement)	Johnson City	Classroom	
Unicoi County Circuit Court	Maynardville	Classroom	(865) 992-5493
University of Memphis	Memphis	Classroom	(901) 678-6000 <a href="http://www.umce.memphis.edu">www.umce.memphis.edu</a>
Watertown Police Department	Watertown	Classroom	(615) 237-3225
West Tennessee Risk Reduction	Jackson	Classroom	(731) 658-4853
White House Police Department	White House	Classroom	(615) 672-4903 <a href="http://www.cityofwhitehouse.com">www.cityofwhitehouse.com</a>
Workforce Essentials	Clarksville	Classroom	(931) 551-9110 <a href="http://www.workforceessentials.com">www.workforceessentials.com</a>