



Illinois High School & College Driver Education Association, Inc. Established 1952 - www.ihscdea.org

2019-2020 Executive Board

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To: IHCDEA Membership
From: Brent Johnston | President IHCDEA
Re: Directives and Information for DE Instructors
Date: 17 March 2020

Dear Association Members,

The purpose of this memo is to provide all of you with the latest knowledge that the Executive Committee has been provided by ISBE and ISOS officials. I apologize for the late notice of this memo, but policies and directives have been changing daily and even hourly throughout the day.

I'm sure that all of you would agree that our nation has never seen a medical crisis such as that we have seen these past days and weeks. I and others in the Association have received numerous inquiries from members regarding a variety of DE related concerns that I would like to respond to in this memo. All of you should be making plans for the worse-case scenario that is based on ISBE policies and especially the directives of your local school district administrators. Anything stated in this memo is subject to change and is not intended to supersede any agency or expectations of your own school district. In conference with ISBE and ISOS, as of the date of this memo, the following requirements are in effect...

- All classroom and BTW DE hours must be made up in a face-to-face instructional format with an ISBE licensed / endorsed DE instructor
- E-Learning or online distance learning **will not be allowed** for classroom or BTW, and at this time cannot be used in lieu of the 30/6 clock hours mandated by state statute to fulfill the DE requirement
- No NEW classroom or BTW classes may start until the Governor's school cancellation order is lifted
- Makeup of all classroom and BTW classes is mandatory for all DE students under the age of 18 to be eligible to receive an Illinois driver's license regardless of decisions that are made for other courses
- Association members should follow all directives of state officials, agencies and local school administrators with the understanding that the Association leaders can always be contacted for advice or to resolve issues
- BTW driving lessons cannot be taught during this quarantine / closure time slot for either PHSDE or in a contracting out situation with a CDTs
- There is the possibility that students and staff will not return to school for the rest of the school year...everyone needs to be prepared on how to handle this if it happens
- DE staffs should be prepared in advance to have a makeup plan in place once the quarantine / school cancellation order is lifted...plans need to be ready that will allow students to finish their classroom and BTW hours even during non-traditional school hours including the summer
- Discussion should take place with the administration and your Union reps NOW as to how DE teachers will be remunerated to teach these mandated instructional hours...this is a local Union issue
- **Please note that the IHCDEA State Conference in Effingham has been cancelled**

To put it simply, nobody really knows where ISBE / school policies are heading for both the short and long term. If any Association member contacts any of you, please simply tell them that these decisions are still evolving and are very fluid. A policy today may change tomorrow or next week which is why we cannot recommend anything beyond what your local school policy allows you to do. As we receive updates, we will share those with our membership. Good luck to all and be safe!

Best Regards,

Brent Johnston
President