

Glenbrook North High School

**Driver Education
Parent Night**

Driver Education Staff

- Bob Pieper (Instructional Supervisor)
- Jill Vickery (Lead Teacher)
- John Fournier
- Justin Georgacakis
- Paul Gibbs
- Kirby Tripple
- Sean Brandt

Can't wait to drive

[Video Link](#)

GBN Driver Education

- Course is one Semester
- Two Phase Program
 - Classroom (GBN Graduation requirement)
 - Lab (Behind the Wheel)
- Students will receive TWO grades for Driver Education (Class & Lab)

Classroom Phase



Class Attendance

- State of Illinois requires a minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction.
- Class meets for 45 minutes every other day.
- 2nd part of class either driving BTW or SRT.

Classroom Credit & Grading

- Counts as .25 credit
- Can be taken Pass/Fail
- Semester Grade (Classroom work + Final Project)
- Grade is based primarily on projects, class discussions, and worksheets.

Classroom Instruction

- Cover a wide range of topics including:
 - Traffic Laws & Regulations
 - Vehicle Control & Traffic Situations
 - Safe Driving Habits
 - Drunk/Distracted Driving
 - Car Buying & Insurance
 - Basic Vehicle Maintenance

Lab Phase



Actually



Driver Education Lab

- 6 total hours of driving with instructor.
- Drive once every 4 school days.
- 2 students drive during 20 minute each lesson.
 - (Please do not call out students on their drive day)
- Must make up any missed lessons/Stand By.
- Start grading after 3rd lesson.
- 3 Unexcused misses, may result in being dropped from lab.
- Lab may be taken Pass/Fail.

Lab Lessons

- Progressive approach – start with car control before working on judgment & decision making.
- 1st & 2nd lesson in neighborhood, move to light traffic.
- Build into complex traffic situations – Drive around area (Northbrook, Glenview, Wheeling, Deerfield).
- Drive on expressway towards end of semester.

Driver Education Permit Info

- Just as a reminder your child needs to hold their permit for a minimum of 9 months and be 16 years old before they qualify to apply for their drivers license.
- Additionally, must practice a minimum of 50 hours, including 10 hours at night, supervised by a parent or adult age 21 or older with a valid driver's license.

Points of Emphasis

- 2 Hands on steering wheel (9 & 3 or 8 & 4).
- Hand over Hand turning.
- Right foot braking/Cover the brake.
- Signal EVERYTHING.
- Eye Movement/Scanning/Mirrors.
- Blind spot on lane changes.
- Following distance (2 seconds/4 for bad weather & expressway)

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Cooperative Driving Exam

- Students with at least a “B” in class AND lab MAY take their driving test at GBN for their last lesson.
- Students cannot miss a lesson (school sponsored activities/field trips do not count).
- Test will be given at teachers’ discretion.
- Student may be given a “spot check” test by Secretary of State’s office (randomly chosen by birthdate).

Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Program

- Law took effect January 1, 2008.
- Teen driving fatalities in Illinois have dropped 50% since law enacted.
- Driving privileges increase as teen driver gets older and gains experience.
- Starts with Permit Phase (age 15) and concludes Full Licensing Phase (ages 18-20).
- Zero Tolerance for Underage Drinking
- [Cyberdrive Illinois GDL Link](#)

GDL – Permit Phase

- Student must be 15 years old.
- Parent/Guardian must give consent to obtain permit.
- Must be currently enrolled in approved driver education course and pass written & visual exam.
- Permit valid for 2 years and must be held for 9 months before applying for license.
- Permit holder is typically covered by parents' insurance coverage. May want to check with your agent to be sure.

Parents' Role

- Drive with your student. The more experience they get, the better they are.
- Start slow – Parking Lot/ Neighborhood.
- Drive in their world (GBN, Northbrook Court, The Glen, friends house, etc.).
- Student must get a minimum of 50 hours of driving with parent (or adult age 21 or older). 10 hours must be at night. The time driving at school does not count.

Tips for Driving with you student

- **Be patient and keep your cool**

- You need to expect that teaching your teen driver will be difficult. Because teenagers can be particularly touchy, it is essential to be patient and keep your cool no matter how frustrating things become.
- Yelling or overreacting to their poor driving skills will not help. If anything, it erodes your teen's confidence and will make the learning process extra cumbersome. It is also distracting and can lead to accidents.

Tips for Driving continued

- **Start small and take things slowly**
 - Begin with the fundamentals. Have your teen first master basic car controls on quiet roads, such as an empty parking lot.
 - When in the parking lot, teach them how to start and stop the car, accelerate, and turn right, left, or make a U-turn. Practice next in quiet neighborhoods with not many cars. As your teenager becomes more skilled, move on to roads with traffic.

Tips for Driving continued

- **Plan your route**

- There is a saying that goes, “If you fail to plan, you plan to fail.” This especially rings true when teaching teenagers how to drive.
- Some roads just are not suitable for student drivers, and some drivers will not be forgiving toward novice drivers.

Tips for Driving continued

- **Provide clear instructions**

- Teaching a teen to drive can be stressful for both parties, so make sure to not add to the tension by offering ambiguous instructions.
- Say “brake” instead of “slow down,” “watch out,” or “be careful.”
- Say “correct” instead of “right” when acknowledging that your teenager did the right maneuver or provided the right answer to a question. “Right” can easily be misunderstood as “turn right.”

Tips for Driving continued

- **Practice a lot**

- Perhaps the single best way to ensure your teenager stays safe while driving is by giving them as much supervised driving practice as you can. After all, practice makes perfect.
- During these practice sessions, make an effort to stay focused. Even if something goes awry, such as running a yellow light or forgetting to use the turn signal, remain calm and give feedback in a constructive and respectful tone at the appropriate time.

Tips for Driving continued

- **Lead by Example**

- Your obligation as a parent is to help your teen become a safe driver. Although your child hasn't spent much time behind the wheel yet, they have observed your driving habits throughout the years and have likely picked up on a few things. Somethings to keep in mind when setting an example for your child:
 - *Always drive the speed limit*
 - *Always maintain a safe distance between you and the car in front*
 - *Always wear your seat belt*
 - *Obey all traffic laws*
 - *Refrain from using your cell phone*

Illinois Secretary of State Resources

- [Cyberdrive Illinois](#)
- [Illinois Graduated Driver Licensing System Brochure](#)
- [Illinois GDL Parent Teen Driving Guide](#)
- [50 Hour Practice Driving Log](#)
- [GBN PE, Health, and Driver Education Website](#)