



New Drivers with Disabilities

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Objectives

- The participant will understand the potential benefits of obtaining a driver's license and driving independently for neurodivergent adolescents.
- The participant will understand the process that is necessary for a new driver to obtain their temporary driving permit, complete lessons and to pass their DMV skills test.

Can neurodivergent people drive safely?

Yes, they can and do.

According to research conducted at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), two-thirds of 15- to 18-year-old autistic adolescents without intellectual disability are currently driving or planning to drive, and 1 in 3 autistic individuals without intellectual disability get licensed by age 21.

Positive effects of driving

Driving is associated with:

- Improved autonomy
- Improved quality of life
- Improved psychological well-being
- Improved long-term physical and mental health



Is it more dangerous for neurodivergent people to drive?

- Newly licensed autistic adolescent drivers have similar to lower estimated rates of adverse driving outcomes; the extent to which these can be attributed to different driving patterns.
- Autistic drivers were less likely to crash because of unsafe speeds but more likely to crash because of failure to yield the right of way and while making left or U-turns.

What is stopping your child from being a driver?

1. Practice!!
 2. Practice!!
 3. Practice!!
- Driving instructors who provide behind-the-wheel training to autistic adolescents noted that autistic individuals require far more instructional time and individualized support to acquire safe driving skills.



With an instruction permit, Wisconsin teens must:

- Drive at least 50 hours with a qualified adult, with at least 10 of those hours at night, before applying for their first driver license.
- More practice is better. The more time you drive together, the safer your teen will be when driving alone.

Parental involvement has been shown to:

- Reduce teen crash rates
- Reduce instances of driving under the influence
- Reduce distracted driving
- Increase seatbelt usage

You play a critical role in helping your teen learn to be a safe driver. The Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) can help.

- DMV partnered with the Safe Roads Alliance to support you and your teen as your teen learns to drive safely.
- When available, DMV gives one printed copy of the [Wisconsin Parent's Supervised Driving Guide](#) to the parent or legal guardian of each teen driver issued an Instruction Permit.
 - This offers step-by-step lessons for parents and guardians during the supervised-driving phase.
 - The guidebook works in conjunction with Wisconsin's driver education



We are here to help

We are a licensed driving school that provides comprehensive driving rehabilitation services.

Specialized Driving Training Services we offer:

- Evaluation of driving abilities after a medical event or with a chronic condition affecting driving
- Training in use of adaptive equipment
- Instructing new drivers with physical, mental or intellectual disabilities
- Refreshing driving skills
- Developing confidence in driving
- Preparing for a DMV road test



State of WI Requirements

- New drivers under 18 years old must complete the classroom education and 9 – 1:1 lessons
- Drivers older than 18 have no requirement for classroom education or lessons
- Many schools offer online classroom education for driving
- All students must have their temporary permit before we can take them on the road.

Funding Sources

- Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- County Programs
 - IRIS
 - CLTS

Adaptive Equipment

- Hand controls
- Left side accelerator
- Spinner knob
- Turn signal extender
- Pedal extenders
- Adaptive mirrors
- In car camera



Pre-Driving Process

- Ensure that your child is mature enough to handle the responsibility of driving. This can be done by giving them responsibilities around the house and by their taking care of themselves.
- Sign up for a Driving Education Class (online through a local driving school)
- Take and pass the road signs and written test at the DMV. (You can ask for accommodations.)
- Call Adaptive Driving to set up an evaluation.

Contact us

Adaptive Driving LLC.

7947 S. 61st Street

Franklin, WI 53132

(414) 721-8636

Email: adaptivedrivingllc@gmail.com

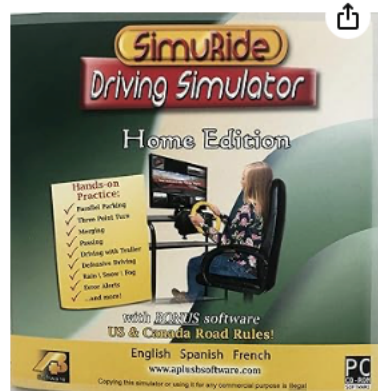
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References

- Version of Record: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0890856721000071>
[Manuscript_7873415db0e32e55b997861264c477e2](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0890856721000071)
- [Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Volume 60, Issue 7, July 2021, Pages 913-923](#)
- <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/dmv/teen-driver/prnt-spnsr/psdp.aspx>



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WI DOT Contacts for Driving Test Accommodations

Name	Title	Contact
Taqwanya Smith **Start with Taqwanya and email ADA Accommodation Request**	Senior Title VI and ADA Coordinator Office of Business Opportunity and Equity Compliance Wisconsin Department of Transportation	taqwanya.smith@dot.wi.gov Phone: (608) 266-8129
Terry Ursula	Waukesha DMV Supervisor	Ursula.Terry@dot.wi.gov 262-548-5849
Julie Green	Waukesha DMV-Team Lead	Julie.Green@dot.wi.gov 262-548-5849
Michael Aragon	Waukesha DMV-Team Lead	Michael.Aragon@dot.wi.gov 262-548-5849

Form to request DMV Accommodations

- FORM to send to Taqwanya Smith at DOT
 - <https://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/formdocs/dt2516.docx>
- Potential Accommodations
 - Person to read all questions orally
 - Written test vs. Computer
 - Quiet space
 - Person to define/explain question vocabulary
 - Tools to visually explain question (ex.model cars, buses, roads)