



## Montana DRIVE Workshops - FAQs

### Frequently Asked Questions

- **Where are the workshops located?**

All workshops are located at the Montana DRIVE facility in Lewistown, MT. Because Montana DRIVE depends on a large fleet of vehicles on a specially-designed closed track, the program is not available anywhere else.

- **When are the summer workshops?**

The Montana DRIVE workshops are scheduled Monday through Friday from early June to mid-August, with a few Saturdays scheduled. Check the workshop calendar for availability and register early since workshops fill quickly. To be notified when registration opens, subscribe to Montana DRIVE E-News.

- **What are the hours?**

The one-day workshop is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Check-in at the facility at 7:45 a.m. The workshop starts promptly at 8:00 a.m.

- **Do I need to bring a lunch?**

Yes. Drivers need to bring their own lunch. There is a half hour lunch break, but it's not enough time to get into town and back. A refrigerator, water and microwave oven are available at the facility.

- **How much time is spent driving?**

The workshop day consists of two hours in the classroom and five or more hours in vehicles on the track.

- **Do you provide the vehicles?**

Yes. The Montana DRIVE fleet has a variety of vehicles, including sedans, school buses, an ambulance, and a pickup truck.

- **What kind of training do you offer?**

Montana DRIVE Workshops put drivers behind the wheel to develop skills to respond safely to critical driving risks. Participants include new and experienced bus drivers, truck drivers, firefighters, EMTs, fleet drivers and anyone who drives cars, vans and pick-up trucks. Teen Workshops are offered in July. The in-vehicle exercises are based on the kind of situations that cause the most types of crashes in Montana. These include off-road recovery, cornering, controlled emergency braking, evasive steering, skid control, and an exercise in a specially equipped Skid-Monster vehicle that combines vision, targeting, braking/accelerating transition and vehicle balance. See the new Vehicle Exercises video on the Montana DRIVE webpage.

- **Do the instructors ride in the car?**

Instructors always ride with workshop participants to demonstrate maneuvers, guide instruction, observe driver actions, and to provide immediate feedback to enhance the intensive learning experience.

- **What is the student-teacher ratio?**

The one-day workshop is limited to 12 participants with four instructors. There is one driving coach for every three participants. The teen workshops have one extra teacher for more individualized instruction.

- What is required to attend a Montana DRIVE workshop?**  
All drivers must have a valid driver's license (teens can take the workshop if they have their learner license), a PAID workshop reservation, and a desire to develop skills to respond safely to driving risks. Wear comfortable shoes (no open sandals or flip-flops), bring a lunch, and arrive on time ready to learn and have fun!
- May I reserve a spot now and pay later?**  
Yes, but you will be invoiced and full payment is required within 30 days to confirm your registration. Larger groups may register early to reserve dates and are also asked to pay within 30 days.
- Can I reserve workshop spots if I don't have our drivers' names?**  
Yes, but drivers' names must be provided at least two weeks prior to the workshop, so rosters can be prepared and the instructors know who is attending the workshop.
- What if my plans change and I can't come?**  
We must be notified as soon as possible if you need to cancel, reschedule or want to send a substitute. Contact us by e-mail ([MontanaDRIVE@mt.gov](mailto:MontanaDRIVE@mt.gov)) or telephone: 406.444.4432.  
*Workshop space is very limited and prompt notification of changes is appreciated.*
- Do you give refunds?**  
Yes, refunds are available as follows:  
-- 20 or more days advance notice: 90% refund  
-- 10-19 days advance notice: 50% refund  
-- Less than 10 days advance notice: No refund, however you can send a substitute with prior notification.
- Can my teen driver attend if he/she is 15 years old and has a learner license?**  
Yes. Teen one-day workshops are designed for teens who have at least six months driving experience. Our professional instructors guide teen drivers through off-road recovery, skid control and evasive maneuvers.
- Where can I stay in Lewistown?**  
If you must travel more than one hour to arrive in Lewistown, we recommend that you stay overnight. Arrange your own accommodations. For more information, visit the Montana Official Travel Website: <http://visitmt.com/>
- Are discounts offered to groups?**  
No. There are no group discounts offered to keep fees as low as possible for everyone. Montana DRIVE is a state government-run, nonprofit, user-supported program providing services to schools, state agencies, companies, and individuals for the benefit of public safety. An early registration discount is available to anyone registering for an adult workshop by March 5.
- Do insurance companies offer discounts for successfully completing Montana DRIVE training?**  
Check with your auto insurance agent. Montana state law (MCA 33-16-222) requires auto insurance carriers to apply a premium discount to all auto insurance policies where the insured driver is 55 years of age or older and has successfully completed a highway traffic safety program. The Montana DRIVE Program is recognized by the Montana Department of Transportation as a qualified highway traffic safety program.