Montana DRIVE Teen Workshops

*Experience matters.* Advanced driver training can help young drivers develop skills to handle critical and emergency driving situations which cause the most types of crashes in Montana.

Our professional instructors guide teen drivers through off-road recovery, skid control, speed control, and evasive maneuvers. Teens only drive the sedans, pickup truck and Skid Monster using a specially designed teen curriculum.

One extra instructor is on hand to provide more individualized instruction. Teen drivers will receive a detailed evaluation of ten specific driving skills with recommendations for continued driving practice.

Since 2009, State Farm Insurance has awarded an annual grant to the OPI for scholarships that reduce the cost of the teen workshop. Teens are asked to complete a State Farm Scholarship application form and write a short essay to qualify for the scholarship. The 2022 grant has provided funding to provide $150 scholarships to the first 36 teens who apply.

Register here!

Montana DRIVE One-Day Teen Workshops will be held July 18, 19, and 20. We will fill these days first and if needed, will open July 21 and 22 for additional workshops. Young drivers who fill out the Teen Workshop Application will receive a $150 scholarship that reduces the $300 fee to $150.

**HOW TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP:** Teens are asked to complete the Teen Workshop application form and *thoughtfully* answer two questions to qualify for the scholarship. There is no application deadline and scholarships will be awarded to all who follow these guidelines. One-sentence answers to the essay questions will disqualify an applicant from receiving the scholarship.

Not interested in the scholarship? Just register and pay the $300 fee within 30 days of invoicing. Invoices that are not paid on time will result in loss of the reserved workshop.

**WHO CAN ATTEND A TEEN WORKSHOP?** Young drivers with *at least one year of driving experience* will get the most out of this workshop. Teens must be at least 15 years old with a valid driver license to attend the Teen Workshop. *This advanced driving workshop is not a replacement for driver education.* Young adults up to age 21 are welcome to attend and apply for the scholarship.

**Scholarship Essay Questions:**

1. Tell us in your own words why you are applying for a State Farm Scholarship and what you want to learn from your Montana DRIVE workshop. What skills would help you become more confident behind the wheel?
2. What do you think are the most dangerous driving issues facing teen drivers today?
HOW TO REGISTER: To register, the teen driver should choose two possible dates they can attend (check availability on the website the day you register). Then, complete and submit the Montana DRIVE Teen Workshop Application using the online form. When payment is received, a workshop confirmation will be emailed to you. Please read the payment/cancellation/refund policy below.

Space is very limited, so please register early to get the workshop day you want.

ABOUT PAYMENT: Teen Workshops cost $300 but are reduced to $150 when the State Farm scholarship application is completed by the teen driver. Payment is due within 30 days from the invoice date. Invoices dated after June 1 are due upon receipt. Checks should be made out to OPI-Montana DRIVE. If you wish to pay by credit card, please check that box on the application form. You will receive an invoice via email with a link to the credit card transaction site. A $1.00 fee will apply.

Only fully paid workshops are confirmed. We reserve the right to release the workshop to another applicant if the invoice is overdue.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: Please help us eliminate “no shows.” We train only 12 drivers per workshop day and want to keep them filled. Notify our office as soon as possible if you need to reschedule the workshop date or cancel a workshop. With at least 10 days advance notice of a cancellation, we will give full refunds. NO-SHOWS will NOT be refunded. If you pay by check and request a refund, we will need a W9 form so the OPI can create a vendor account for you. If you pay by credit card, we will issue a credit card refund.

Why should teens take this workshop?

- Teen drivers benefit from Montana DRIVE advanced driver education because they can learn how to respond safely to typical driving risks.
- They can gain valuable driving experience and learn how to avoid a crash, for instance, how to stay in their lane when a wheel drops off the edge of the road.
- They will learn how vision and targeting can prevent or quickly manage a skid.
- Professional traffic education instructors with years of experience working with teens provide hours of behind-the-wheel, one-on-one instruction, confidence-building exercises, and positive encouragement.

What do teens say about the Montana DRIVE Workshop?

“I want to thank you for the scholarship to attend the DRIVE conference. Without said scholarship I wouldn’t have gotten to take part in this amazing opportunity. I learned safe methods to handle emergency situations. In the workshop I was put into life-like scenarios like black ice, hydroplaning, off road recovery, and steering suddenly around an object in the road. I’m now a safer and more experienced driver, thanks to you.”

“It was an awesome experience. I learned many things and got to experience what an emergency situation was like.”

“Thank you for teaching excellent courses I was able to participate in. I enjoyed the teen course and learned loads. Your patience and kindness to each student was amazing and made the day so much better for all of us.”

Encourage your friends, cousins, and siblings to take this workshop with you!