Union Station Driver Education

202 East Street, Suite C, Farmerville, LA 71241

318-372-5487 unionstation@centurytel.net



Please notify if student has exposure or symptoms of Covid – 318-372-5487

School Information & Policies: 30 Hour Class + 8 Hours Driving Practice

The purpose of Union Station’s driver education program is to provide sufficient instruction and practice to allow novice drivers to attain the knowledge and skills to successfully and safely drive in the highway transportation system. This instruction will be provided in an orderly and engaging classroom setting, taught by a professional, certified teacher. Classroom times total 30 hours of instruction and are as follows: Monday-Thursday, June 6-9, 8:30-12:00 and 12:30-4:30. Students are released for meals, with parents responsible for safe transportation to/from meals. Students are allowed to remain and eat in the classroom during meal breaks. Absolutely no food will be allowed in the classroom except at designated meal times. Bottled water is allowed at all times, but no other drinks may be brought into the classroom except at break/meal time.

After you **successfully complete** the classroom portion of the course and are paid in full, then we will set up your driving hours. (It usually takes about 3 weeks to get started driving from the time the student completes class or is paid in full, whichever is later.) Driving instruction will total 8 hours and will be scheduled to allow for the convenience of student drivers as much as possible, while generally being scheduled in 2-hour sessions. If a student is a complete beginner, we can schedule shorter sessions if requested. If driving must be rescheduled, please text my cell phone (318-372-5487) to notify me, and I will contact you to reschedule. If less than 6 business hours notice is given that a student will not be able to drive, except in case of true emergency, a $20 fee will apply and must be paid before the student will be rescheduled. **A Temporary Instruction Permit issued by the LA Office of Motor Vehicles must be on file before students can begin any portion of instruction.** Driving instruction will commence and end at the Union Station classroom location.

Louisiana law provides for a graduated licensing program. Students who are a minimum of 14 years and 9 months are eligible for the classroom portion of driver education, and students must be at least 15 years of age for the behind the wheel portion of the class. Following driver education, both classroom and driving instruction, students can apply for a learner’s permit, which requires passing a vision and written test with at least 80% accuracy. A learner’s permit authorizes driving with a licensed adult at least 21 years old or a sibling at least 18 years old. To receive an intermediate license, the student must:

* keep the learner’s permit for at least 180 days,
* attain a minimum age of 16,
* complete at least 50 hours with a parent or guardian (or adult 21 or older) with a minimum of 15 hours of night driving,
* pass the road skills driving test with at least 80% accuracy.

The intermediate license has a curfew and is maintained until at least age 17. At age 17, and after completion of the 2 stages above, students can apply for a full license. These requirements are detailed in the driver’s guide on pages 6-10.

Due to the nature of the course and the amount of information to be covered, students must be present for the entirety of each day of class. If a student has an emergency and cannot attend, please call, text, or e-mail with reason for the absence. The student will be allowed to enter the next scheduled class at no additional charge. Students are expected to be punctual, as class will begin on time. Students may not be “checked out” early.

Students must be respectful and courteous and must participate in all activities. 1st offense – verbal warning, 2nd offense – parent conference, 3rd offense – removal from course with no refund given. \*If a student’s conduct is especially egregious or a student is found cheating, the student will be immediately removed from the course without following the above steps and with no refund given. The parent will receive a written report of the incident which caused expulsion.

Students may have opportunities to use smart phones or laptops/tablets to access the internet. Parent/guardian understands the student will be using unfiltered internet access. If the student accesses inappropriate content online, he or she will receive consequences as stated in above paragraph. Students will also have the opportunity to use texting for classroom participation. Students are not required to have cell phones for class. Cell phones will ONLY be used for specific class activities. If students are caught using cell phones for personal reasons, to play games, or to access social media during class time, they will be given a warning. The 2nd unauthorized access will result in confiscation of the device, with release only to parent/guardian. The student will not be allowed to use a cell phone in class again following confiscation. Students are NEVER allowed to take pictures or videos of other students in class. Cell phones must be put away unless being used for a specific class activity. They can be accessed during breaks. Cell phones are not allowed at all during testing. If a student is seen accessing a cell phone at all during testing, even just to “check the time,” the student will be assumed to be cheating and will be dismissed.

On the last day of class, the final exam is administered, with a minimum passing score of 80% required to pass the class. The course fee allows for 4 written attempts. If the student does not pass within 4 tries, a $5 fee per test is charged. The course will be graded according to the following scale:

Participation (includes attendance and appropriate behavior) 20%

Quizzes 20%

Final exam 40%

Driving 20%

\*In order to be issued a driver education completion certificate, a student must score at least an 80 on the written exam and a 70 behind the wheel.

The instructor should be notified of students who have documented disabilities, IEP’s, or IAP/504 plans before class begins if accommodations are requested. Appropriate alternative testing will be available.

The cost of the class is $400, and there is no guarantee a student will be issued a learner’s permit or driver’s license following the course. The fee includes the driver’s guide ($10), which will include areas for guided notes. The driver’s guide is also available for purchase through the department of motor vehicles for $10. In case of school closure, a full refund will be issued within 30 days upon written (including e-mail) request. Parents and students will be asked to complete a short course evaluation at the completion of the classroom portion.

*Students/parents are free to use any third party tester, but they may use Union Station as a Third Party Tester for the road skills test when the student is at least 16 years old, has had a permit for at least 180 days, and has completed the minimum driving hours (50/15) OR the student is at least 17 years old. The cost of the road skills test is $40 and is not included in the cost of driver education. The student may “rent” a drivers ed for $20 to use during the road skills test if requested. Students under 18 must present with permit, original birth certificate, school attendance letter, custodial parent/legal guardian with ID, and any custody documents along with testing fee. Students are encouraged to make appointments at least 2 weeks in advance. Currently appointments are also required at many DMV offices, expresslane.org*

Upon completion and passing the course, all students will receive an original Certificate of Successful Completion with a copy for parent/guardian records. The cost for a replacement Certificate is $10.

Grievances not resolved by Union Station may be forwarded to the LA Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services, Office of Motor Vehicles, Attn: Training and Certification Unit, PO Box 64886, Baton Rouge, LA 70896-4886.

I have read and agree to the conditions in this document. I agree that I will provide/participate in the 50 hours of driving practice. I agree to comply with all rules and directions provided by the instructor.

Parent/Guardian Date

Student Date

Please keep first two pages for your records and submit this back page to Union Station.

*Revised 6/22*