



1st Annual Transport Hartford Multi-Modal Transit Summit

Why Vision Zero Makes good Sense

Teen Driving Safety and Graduated Driving Law

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Today's Topics

- AAA Driving School – A Brief History and Who We Are Today
- Why Vision Zero Makes Good Sense
- Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) – Teen Driving Safety Protections



DRIVING SCHOOL



1930s

- Pioneers high school driver education
- Develops driver education curriculum and teaching courses
- AAA-sponsored programs begin using dual-controlled training cars

1940s

- Publishes a new defensive driving book
- Begins training bus drivers on school routes
- Develops specialized driver training programs for veterans
- Establishes the [AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety](#)

1950s –
1960s

- Publishes first edition of ***How to Drive*** and new teaching text for college students
- Exhibits driver training equipment internationally
- Drafts The Highway Safety Act which includes driver education components
- Launches driver training videos

1970s –
1980s

- Develops ***Driver Improvement Program***, used worldwide by U.S. military
- Develops *Handicapped Drivers Mobility Guide* and pilots advanced driver training for disabled drivers

1990s -
Present

- Launches *Teaching Teens to Drive*, focused on parent engagement
- Launches *Licensed to Learn* to campaign for GDL laws in every state and D.C.
- Launches programs for senior drivers
- Celebrates 80+ years of national traffic safety programs



DRIVING SCHOOL

Driver Education & Training Curriculum



Research-based Curriculum	✓	✓
Updated Regularly to address current traffic environment	✓*	✓
Customizable to meet State requirements	✓	✓
Aligns with Novice Teen Driver Education and Training Administrative Standards (NTDETAS)	✓	N/A
Available in online format	✓	✓
Award Winning Content	✓	✓
Engaging, Interactive Content	✓	✓
Includes student training material	✓	✓
Qualifies for State-mandated benefits	✓	✓
Delivery Requires AAA Certification		✓



DRIVING SCHOOL

AAA Allied Group

Serving Hartford, Middlesex, New London, Tolland and Windham Counties



L-R: Jim MacPherson, Kim Grehn, Bill Cox, Fred Ferace

AAA driver training programs in the Hartford Region have been around for nearly 60 years. Today, our club's Driving School is closely tied to many communities throughout central and eastern Connecticut. Each year our outstanding team of licensed driving instructors delivers training to thousands of drivers of all ages and levels of experience.



DRIVING SCHOOL

Driver Education Programs for Teens

Full Teen Driver Education Program

- 30 hours classroom instruction, 8 hours behind-the-wheel training
- Includes mandatory 2 hour Parent-Teen Class

8 Hour Teen Safe Driver Course

- 8 hours classroom instruction
- Includes mandatory 2 hour Parent-Teen Class

8 Hour Adult Safe Driver Course for Older Teens

- 8 hours classroom instruction

Driving Lessons

- Behind-the-wheel instruction for new teen drivers

In-Car Parent Coaching Sessions

- Parents learn training strategies and instructional techniques for more effective at-home practice with their new teen driver

[Supplemental Online
Training Courses](#)

How to Drive Online

***StartSmart Online
Parent Session***



DRIVING SCHOOL

In the Community

AAA brings together local high schools, law enforcement and other community partners to raise safe driving awareness and teach teens the dangers and consequences of unsafe driving practices.





AAA PROMise

Aims to protect teens and other motorists from the dangers of impaired driving.

AAA PROMise Pledge

- ✓ I promise not to drink alcohol or take drugs.
- ✓ I promise not to drive impaired.
- ✓ I promise not to let my friends drive impaired.
- ✓ I promise my parents I will get home safely or call them for help.





Our team works tirelessly with fellow driver training experts and traffic safety partners across the nation to stay at the forefront of traffic safety and advancements in driver education and training. We aim to ensure teens receive quality, impactful driver education that prepares them for a lifetime of safe driving.

And Yet....

Car crashes continue to be the leading cause of death for teens.



What Is Vision Zero and What Makes It Different?

Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries among all road users, and to ensure safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.

Vision Zero

Traffic deaths are **PREVENTABLE**

Integrate **HUMAN FAILING** in approach

Prevent **FATAL AND SEVERE CRASHES**

SYSTEMS approach

Saving lives is **NOT EXPENSIVE**

Traditional Approach

Traffic deaths are **INEVITABLE**

PERFECT human behavior

Prevent **COLLISIONS**

INDIVIDUAL responsibility

Saving lives is **EXPENSIVE**



9 Components of a Strong Vision Zero Commitment





Aligning Efforts with Vision Zero

- **Contributed to strengthening Connecticut's GDL in 2008 and**
- **Remains active with the DMV Commissioner's Advisory Group on Teen Safe Driving and CT Teen Driving Safety Partnership**
- **Continues to share research and provide testimony on transportation safety matters, including GDL protections**



Teen Driver Protections – Are We There Yet?

Although all states have some form of 3-stage GDL, most state’s systems leave room for added or strengthened measures shown by research to save teen lives.

Teen Driver and Occupant Safety Components	AAA Recommendations	Connecticut GDL	Room to Strengthen?
Practice Driving Hours	At least 50 hours of certified practice, with 10 hours at night	40 hours	<p>YES</p> <p><i>Last updated 8/1/08</i></p>
Night Protections	No driving between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. for at least the first 6 months of licensure	<p>11 p.m. to 5 a.m.</p> <p><i>Provisions made for employment, school-sanctioned events, religious activities and medical necessity</i></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><i>Last updated 8/1/08</i></p>
Passenger Restrictions	No more than 1 non-family passenger under age 20 for at least the first 6 months of licensure	<p>Permit – Only parent, licensed driving instructor or qualified trainer (over age 20 with 4 years licensed, suspension-free driving)</p> <p>Intermediate License – First six months only parent, licensed driving instructor, or qualified trainer</p> <p>Intermediate License – Second 6 months family members are also permitted</p>	<p>Meets AAA Recommendation</p> <p><i>Last updated 8/1/08</i></p>



Teen Driver Protections – Are We There Yet?

Teen Driver Safety Components	AAA Recommendation	Connecticut GDL	Room to Strengthen?
Driver Education	Required for all persons under age 18	8 hour safe driver course required for all new drivers age 16 and older	YES
Seat Belt Laws	Standard seat belt enforcement for all vehicle occupants	Mandatory for all front seat passengers Mandatory for rear seat passengers up to age 18	YES
Teen Wireless Ban	Complete wireless device bans for all drivers under age 18	Complete wireless and mobile electronic device ban, including hands-free, up to age 18	Meets AAA Recommendation
Texting Bans	Complete texting while driving bans for all drivers	Complete ban on texting for all drivers	Meets AAA Recommendation



Conclusion

Vision Zero makes good sense, but it will take all of us to make the difference. Let's learn from one another, support one another, and save lives together.

Thank you.