

Shaker High Driver Education
445 Watervliet-Shaker Rd
Latham, New York 12110

Driver Education Program – Spring 2012

Dear Student & Parent/Guardian:

The spring session of Driver Education will begin on February 1, 2012 with a **mandatory 4:00 – 5:00 orientation** in the auditorium. The orientation is mandatory for all students; however, parents are encouraged to attend. The program guidelines, classroom/drive locations, textbook assignments and other program specifics will be reviewed. This is also an excellent opportunity to clarify any questions you might have regarding the program.

Classroom sessions will begin February 4th, 2012 and continue through June 9th, 2012 per the attached schedule. Each student will be assigned one of three driver education classroom schedules and an additional driving time. One class meets every Tuesday from 2:30-4:00 p.m., and the other two classes meet on Saturday from 9:00-10:30 a.m. and from 10:30-12:00 p.m. Students will also be assigned an in-car driving time based on your assigned classroom session and space availability. Driving sessions will occur on a weekday afternoon or Saturday morning. Please indicate your schedule preference on your registration form, however, be advised that classes are filled on a first come, first serve basis by grade level beginning with seniors. Registration begins January 17th and runs through January 24th, 2012. Following registration a tentative schedule will be posted outside the main office and the hall offices. After this period, registrations will still be accepted on a space-available, first come, first serve basis. I will do my best to work with you regarding conflicts, but it is not always possible to give all students their first choice. To be eligible for the spring session, students must be 16 years of age and possess a valid driver's permit or license prior to **January 29, 2012**. The fee for this program will be \$375.00. **Make all checks or money orders payable to North Colonie Central School District**. Include this payment with the registration form and the behavior /attendance policy form and return to the main office at the high school. The fee is only refundable up to the start of classes. (It is important to determine the number of students participating in time to make staffing decisions.) Please note that returned checks may cause a student to be placed on a waiting list.

The **minimum time requirement must be met in order to comply with Motor Vehicle regulations**. Attendance is extremely important and all students must read and sign the attendance and behavior policy page. If you know you will have to miss more than two classes for **any** reason, wait and take the course during another session. Classes are offered in the fall, spring, and summer terms. It is extremely difficult to attain the necessary hours to complete the program should a student miss more than two classes. The program coordinator must approve all make-up sessions beyond the first two and these will only be approved in extreme circumstances; for example, emergency hospitalization.

The goal of our program is to equip your son/daughter with the fundamental knowledge, correct operational habits, essential skills and the proper attitude for survival on our highways. After successful completion of our program, your son/daughter will be issued an **MV-285 Certificate of Completion**. This certificate will allow them to convert their junior license to a class D license when they are 17 years of age. This conversion allows students to drive after nine PM. It may also reduce the cost of your insurance premium depending on the policies of your insurance company.

As part of this program, the student receives 24 hours of classroom instruction, 18 hours of in-car observation, and six hours of actual behind-the-wheel instruction. Students must pass both portions of instruction, driving and classroom, to receive the Certificate of Completion. The goal of behind-the-wheel

instruction is to teach safe driving techniques. However, in the six hours we will be working with your son or daughter behind the wheel, we cannot hope to satisfactorily prepare him/her for the New York State Road Test or make him/her an accomplished driver. Those skills are attained through practice and experience on the road. It is essential, therefore, that we have your assistance in providing as much practice time as possible for your son/daughter to drive the family car. We strongly suggest that all students obtain adequate out-of-school practice in addition to the driving and observation time provided in the Driver Education Program.

For additional information, please feel free to contact me at 785-5511(ext. 3313) or by e-mail at DArnone@NColonie.org. I look forward to meeting you at our Orientation program.

Best Regards:

David M. Arnone
Driver Education Coordinator

Shaker Driver Education Program
Spring 2012
February 1, 2012– June 9, 2012

Attendance:

Students are required to complete 24 hours of in-classroom instruction and 24 hours of in-car instruction, therefore, perfect attendance is required. Should an emergency arise, please contact Mr. Arnone or your classroom instructor; and we will arrange for you to make-up the class. However, accommodations can only be made for emergencies and no more than two class make-ups can be arranged for any student. **Should a student miss more than two classes which must be made up, a certificate will not be issued and refunds will not be available.**

Key Dates: (classroom schedule on the back of this sheet)

Mandatory Orientation – 2/1 – 4:00-5:00 in the Auditorium

No class due to vacation on 2/18, 2/21, 4/7, 4/10, 5/5(SAT), 6/2(SAT)

The Saturday class will meet on Thursday 5/3 and on Thursday 5/31

Final exams are scheduled on 6/9 for Saturday classes and 6/5 for the Tuesday class

Snow day make up driving sessions will be scheduled on 6/16 if needed

Additional snow day make up sessions will be scheduled if needed.

Textbooks:

You are receiving a textbook with an index card with all your class information, including your textbook number. You are responsible for your textbook and you must turn in the same book you are assigned. Be careful that you do not pick up the wrong text or loan your text to anyone. A fee of \$45.00 will be charged for lost textbooks and must be collected before a certificate of course completion can be issued.

Five-Hour Certificates:

A five-hour certificate will be issued after all of the required topics have been covered. This generally requires four to five class sessions.

Lost Certificates:

Please keep all certificates issued in a safe place. Driver Education certificates must be signed and the certificate numbers are registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles. As a result, acquiring a duplicate certificate requires preparation of another certificate and reregistering with NYS DMV. This is a lengthy process and may involve an additional fee.

***Shaker Driver Education Program
Classroom Schedule for Spring 2012
February 1, 2012 – June 9, 2012***

<u>Saturday 9:00 & 10:30</u>	(Classroom)	<u>Tuesday 2:30</u>
February 1	Orientation	February 1
February 4		February 7
February 11		February 14
February 25		February 28
March 3	Quiz 1	March 6
March 10		March 13
March 17		March 20
March 24	Test 1	March 27
March 31		April 3
April 14		April 17
April 21	Test 2	April 24
April 28		May 1
May 3 (Thursday)		May 8
May 12	Quiz 2	May 15
May 19		May 22
May 26		May 29
May 31 (Thursday)	Final Exam	June 5
June 9		
June 16 – Driving Only		
June 16	Snow Day Make-Up	June 19