

State of Vermont
Highway Division
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Date: March 14, 2025

To: Chair Matt Walker, Vermont House Transportation Committee

From: Amanda Holland, Active Transportation Unit, Highway Division

Cc: Michele Boomhower, Policy, Planning & Intermodal Development Division

Re: Addendum from VTrans testimony on February 19, 2025, to affirm if Vermont curriculum for new driver training educates on interactions with vulnerable road users.

This information is in response to a request by Representative Burke to clarify if the curriculum utilized by Vermont Drivers' Education programs prepares 'would be drivers' with an awareness of and how to respond to encounters with vulnerable roads users in and along the roadway.

Based on communications with applicable state agencies and reference to the current curriculum deployed in Vermont, it is the understanding of staff that the curriculum used for driver and traffic safety education does provide a baseline understanding of driver considerations and responsibilities pertaining to interactions with vulnerable road users.

Two state agencies share the responsibility to approve and monitor driver education programs. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) oversee private providers, and the Agency of Education (AOE) oversee instruction integrated into public schools. Both have established processes to review and monitor an instructor's curriculum, such as hours allocated to each type of instruction, to ensure compliance with state approved standards. In Vermont, driver and traffic safety education programs are to provide 30 hours of classroom instruction, 6 hours of in-vehicle observation, and 6 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

The primary curriculum utilized in Vermont, [AAA Driver Training – How to Drive](#), meets national standards. This curriculum provides instructors with content that can be adjusted for their use and ensures essential content can be covered in a minimum of 30 classroom hours (requirements by state range from 30 to 45 hours). For an awareness of the subject matters covered, see the table of contents for a 30-hour course accessible at - [AAA How to Drive - 30-Hour Classroom Program Content Recommendations](#).

For additional information on Vermont Drivers' Education Programs, please contact:

- Patrick McManamon, VT Department of Motor Vehicles
 - Tammy Pregent, VT Agency of Education
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