

STREET LAW OPEN-DRIVE 20MIN MODULE FRAMEWORK

Day 1 – Introduction to Driver's Ed, IDL & Legal Responsibilities

Goal: Understand Washington's Intermediate Driver License (IDL) process, legal responsibilities, and the value of a solid driving foundation.

Module 1.1 – Welcome to Driver's Ed & Course Overview

- What to expect in this course
- Why driver's ed matters (not just for the test)
- Crash risk for new drivers in WA
- Quiz: 3-question intro check
- **Real-Life Check:** Why do you want to drive? What kind of driver do you want to become?

Module 1.2 – Washington's IDL System & Permit Process

- Permit → IDL → Full license
- Supervised driving hours, age-based rules, curfews
- Scenario: Can a 16-year-old drive alone?
- RCW 46.20.055 – Instruction Permit
- RCW 46.20.075 – Intermediate License
- Quiz: 5-question IDL rules check
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask your parent or friend what the driving rules were when they got licensed.

Module 1.3 – Legal Responsibilities as a New Driver

- Traffic tickets, suspensions, driving records
- Infractions vs. misdemeanors vs. felonies
- RCW 46.63.020 – Traffic Infractions
- RCW 46.61.500 – Reckless Driving
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone to tell you about a time they got pulled over. What did they learn from it?

Module 1.4 – High-Risk Behaviors That Lead to Legal Trouble

- Speeding, DUI, distracted driving
- What the law says vs. what drivers actually do
- RCW 46.61.502 – DUI
- RCW 46.61.5249 – Negligent Driving
- Quiz: Legal scenario-based check
- **Real-Life Check:** Look up WA's DUI penalties. Are they more serious than you expected?

Module 1.5 – Understanding RCWs & the WA Driver Guide

- What is an RCW and how to use it
- Using the WA Driver Guide as a legal tool
- RCW 46.04.200 – Legal Definitions
- RCW 46.20.285 – License Suspension Grounds
- **Real-Life Check:** Choose 3 RCWs you want to understand better by the end of this course.

Module 1.6 – Day 1 Wrap-Up & Reflection

- Final checkpoint quiz
- Course takeaway review

- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone what advice they'd give their younger self before they started driving.

Day 2 – Vehicle Controls, Safety Tech & Readiness

Goal: Prepare students to confidently operate controls, recognize warning systems, and maintain vehicle safety.

Module 2.1 – Dashboard & Basic Controls

- Gear selector, turn signals, wipers, lights, hazard switch
- Instrument cluster basics: speedometer, fuel, RPM
- **Real-Life Check:** Can you identify every dashboard control in your family's car without help?

Module 2.2 – Dashboard Warning Lights & Indicators

- Check engine, oil pressure, brake, ABS, tire pressure
- RCW 46.37.522 – Safety Equipment Standards
- Quiz: 5-symbol recognition
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a parent what dashboard light they take most seriously — and which one they've ignored.

Module 2.3 – Pre-Trip Vehicle Inspection

- Tires, mirrors, lights, fluids, brakes
- RCW 46.37.010 – Required Vehicle Equipment
- **Real-Life Check:** Do a quick walkaround. Would your car pass inspection right now?

Module 2.4 – Brakes, Headlights & WA Legal Requirements


- Warning signs of brake wear

- Headlight rules for time of day, weather, and tunnels
- RCW 46.37.351 – Brakes Required
- RCW 46.37.040 – Headlights Required
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone how they know when their brakes need to be fixed.

Module 2.5 – ADAS: Safety Tech That Helps (But Doesn't Replace You)

- Blind spot monitors, adaptive cruise control, lane assist
- Overreliance on technology vs. real driving skills
- RCW 46.61.400 – Safe Speed Regardless of Conditions
- **Real-Life Check:** Does your car have ADAS? What does it help with — and what doesn't it replace?

Module 2.6 – Day 2 Wrap-Up & Reflection

- Final quiz: Dashboard, warning lights, and safety systems
-  **Real-Life Check:** What's the most useful or most frustrating tech in your car, according to a driver you know?

Day 3 – Signs, Signals & Roadway Markings

Goal: Build confidence in reading and responding to all signs, lights, and road markings.

Module 3.1 – Road Signs: Shapes, Colors & Categories

- Regulatory, warning, guide, service, construction
- RCW 46.61.050 – Obedience to Traffic Control Devices
- **Real-Life Check:** Walk your neighborhood and count how many different sign shapes you see.

Module 3.2 – Common Sign Violations & Crash Risk

- Stop, yield, speed limit, wrong way

- RCW 46.61.190 – Stop/Yield Compliance
- RCW 46.61.400 – Speed Limits
- Quiz: Sign violation quiz
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver about a time they misunderstood a sign — what happened?

Module 3.3 – Traffic Signals: Lights, Arrows & Right-on-Red

- Solid, flashing, arrows — what they all mean
- RCW 46.61.055 – Traffic Signal Obedience
- **Real-Life Check:** Does every green light mean go? Watch how other drivers treat flashing yellows or reds.

Module 3.4 – Right-of-Way at Intersections

- 4-way stops, left turns, uncontrolled intersections
- RCW 46.61.180 – Left Turns Must Yield
- RCW 46.61.202 – Uncontrolled Intersections
- **Real-Life Check:** Next time you're at a 4-way stop, observe: who goes first? Did everyone follow the rules?

Module 3.5 – Pavement Markings & Lane Types

- Double yellow, dashed lines, HOV, turn-only lanes
- RCW 46.61.427 – No Passing Zones
- **Real-Life Check:** On your next drive, look down. What do the lane markings tell you — and are drivers following them?

Module 3.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: Signs, signals, markings recap
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a parent or friend what road marking or sign they misunderstood when they first started driving.

Day 4 – Speed Control & Stopping Distance

Goal: Understand how speed affects control, stopping distance, and crash severity — and how to adjust for conditions.

Module 4.1 – WA Speed Limits & Basic Speed Law

- Residential, highway, school zone defaults
- RCW 46.61.400 – Speed must be safe for conditions
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone what the school zone speed limit is — were they right?

Module 4.2 – How Speed Affects Stopping Distance

- Perception, reaction, and braking time
- Doubling speed = 4x the stopping distance
- **Real-Life Check:** Time how long it takes to stop from 25 vs. 45 mph — how much farther is it?

Module 4.3 – Why Speeding Doesn't Save Time

- Risk vs. reward: You gain seconds, but increase crash risk
- Most tickets come from being in a hurry
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask your parent how much time they saved by speeding — was it worth it?

Module 4.4 – Adjusting Speed for Weather & Traffic

- Fog, rain, hills, curves, traffic — adjust, don't rely on the sign
- RCW 46.61.445 – Slow down on curves and grades
- **Real-Life Check:** On your next ride, ask yourself: What's the "safe" speed right now, not just the posted one?

Module 4.5 – School Zones, Construction & Risk Areas

- RCW 46.61.440 – School zones
- RCW 46.61.527 – Work zones & speed violations
- **Real-Life Check:** Drive through a construction zone and observe: are other drivers slowing down?

Module 4.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: 6–8 questions (speed, braking, laws)
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver when they had to slam on the brakes. What caused it? Could it have been prevented?

Day 5 – Space Management & Risk Perception (SEE Model)

Goal: Teach students how to prevent collisions by scanning, evaluating hazards, and maintaining safe space cushions.

Module 5.1 – What Is the SEE Model?

- Search, Evaluate, Execute = proactive driving
- Spotting hazards before they become problems
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone to describe a close call. Could it have been avoided by seeing it sooner?

Module 5.2 – Searching: How to Scan

- Mirrors, blind spots, 12–15 seconds ahead
- Check every 2–3 seconds
- **Real-Life Check:** While riding, practice scanning. How much more do you notice when you do it intentionally?

Module 5.3 – Evaluating Hazards & Risk

- Intersections, parked cars, tailgaters, pedestrians
- RCW 46.61.180 – Left-turn vehicles must yield
- **Real-Life Check:** Identify 3 possible risks around you on any short drive.

Module 5.4 – Executing Safe Driving Decisions

- When to slow, change lanes, yield
- Calm, early action beats panic
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver what small action helped them avoid a crash.

Module 5.5 – Following Distance & Lane Position

- 3-second rule, adjust in rain or at night
- RCW 46.61.145 – Following too closely
- **Real-Life Check:** On your next ride, count your following distance. Are other drivers too close?

Module 5.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- SEE model review quiz
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask your parent how they avoid tailgaters or blind spots. What works best for them?

Day 6 – Sharing the Road: Pedestrians, Bikes, Trucks & Emergency Vehicles

Goal: Help students anticipate and safely respond to all types of road users — especially the most vulnerable.

Module 6.1 – Pedestrian Laws & Crosswalks

- RCW 46.61.235 – Yielding to pedestrians in all crosswalks
- Unmarked crosswalks = legal crossings
- **Real-Life Check:** Observe drivers at a crosswalk — do they always stop for pedestrians?

Module 6.2 – Cyclists & Motorcyclists

- Safe passing (3 ft. minimum for bikes)
- Lane positioning and fast approach of motorcycles
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone if they've ever been surprised by a motorcycle. Why?

Module 6.3 – School Buses: When to Stop

- RCW 46.61.370 – Stop on two-lane roads, not four-lane divided
- Huge penalties for violations
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask: When do you NOT have to stop for a school bus?

Module 6.4 – Trucks & Large Vehicle Hazards

- Wide turns, longer stops, large blind zones
- RCW 46.61.110 – Overtaking on the left of large vehicles
- **Real-Life Check:** Watch a semi make a turn. Why is squeezing beside it dangerous?

Module 6.5 – Emergency Vehicles & Move Over Law

- RCW 46.61.212 – Move over or slow down for stopped vehicles with lights
- Fines, risk to responders
- **Real-Life Check:** On your next drive, see how many cars actually move over for roadside vehicles.

Module 6.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz on vulnerable road users, sharing space

- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver what kind of road user they're most cautious around — pedestrians, bikes, or trucks?

Day 7 – Urban & Rural Driving Risks

Goal: Prepare students to recognize and respond to different road environments — from busy city streets to rural backroads.

Module 7.1 – Urban vs. Rural: Key Differences

- Traffic, visibility, road width, emergency response times
- WA crash data: most fatal crashes happen on rural roads
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask your parent or friend where they feel more alert: city or country roads — and why?

Module 7.2 – Speed Adjustments for Environment

- RCW 46.61.400 – Basic speed law: safe for *conditions*, not just signs
- Posted limits may be too fast for fog, gravel, wildlife
- **Real-Life Check:** On your next ride, would you feel safe going the speed limit on every road? Why or why not?

Module 7.3 – Urban Driving Hazards

- Pedestrians, delivery trucks, bikes, limited sightlines
- Unexpected door openings, jaywalking, construction
- **Real-Life Check:** Count how many visual distractions are on a typical city street. Would you notice them all while driving?

Module 7.4 – Rural Driving Hazards

- Curves, narrow shoulders, wildlife, hidden driveways
- Poor lighting and long emergency response times

- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone if they've ever hit or nearly hit a deer or animal on a rural road. What did they do next?

Module 7.5 – Passing on Two-Lane Roads

- RCW 46.61.427 – No passing zones
- Legal requirements: clear view, safe speed, no curves
- **Real-Life Check:** On your next ride, find a legal passing zone. Would you feel safe passing there? Why or why not?

Module 7.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz on rural vs. urban driving, speed, and passing laws
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver which roads they avoid at night — and why.

Day 8 – Freeway Driving & Emergency Zones

Goal: Build confidence with high-speed merging, lane use, exits, and safe behavior near roadside responders.

Module 8.1 – Merging onto the Freeway

- Use of acceleration lanes, matching traffic flow
- Yielding vs. sharing the responsibility
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a new driver what merging feels like — overwhelming or manageable? Why?

Module 8.2 – Lane Discipline & Safe Lane Changes

- RCW 46.61.100 – Keep right except to pass
- RCW 46.61.140 – Signal before moving between lanes
- **Real-Life Check:** Observe a freeway trip: how many drivers stay in the left lane unnecessarily?

Module 8.3 – Exiting the Freeway

- Plan ahead, don't swerve, use the off-ramp
- Late decisions = dangerous chain reactions
- **Real-Life Check:** Think about your last missed exit — what was the safest way to recover?

Module 8.4 – Move Over Law & Roadside Emergencies

- RCW 46.61.212 – Move over or slow down near emergency vehicles
- Applies to tow trucks, utility crews, and law enforcement
- **Real-Life Check:** Have you ever seen a close call with a roadside worker? What should drivers have done?

Module 8.5 – Freeway Hazards & Real Risks

- High speeds = less time to react
- Lane closures, tire debris, brake checks, blind spots
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone about their worst freeway scare. What did they learn from it?

Module 8.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz on merging, lanes, exits, and emergency zones
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver what *their* rules are when entering, driving on, or exiting the freeway.

Day 9 – Distracted & Drowsy Driving

Goal: Teach students how focus and fatigue affect driving — and how to stay alert behind the wheel.

Module 9.1 – What Counts as Distraction?

- Visual, manual, cognitive distractions
- RCW 46.61.672 – Handheld device law
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask yourself: What's your biggest distraction risk? Texts? Friends? Music?

Module 9.2 – Dangerously Distracted Driving

- RCW 46.61.673 – Negligent and dangerously distracted driving
- Looking down = 5 seconds blindfolded at 55 mph
- **Real-Life Check:** Watch traffic for 5 minutes — how many people are on their phones while driving?

Module 9.3 – Reaction Time & the Multitasking Myth

- The brain cannot multitask while driving
- Slower reactions = higher crash risk
- **Real-Life Check:** Try a reaction time app — does multitasking affect your results?

Module 9.4 – Drowsy Driving: Signs & Consequences

- Microsleeps, wandering thoughts, late night driving
- More common in rural crashes than DUI
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a parent or friend if they've ever fought to stay awake while driving. What did they do?

Module 9.5 – What to Do if You're Tired

- Warning signs: yawning, head nods, drifting
- Pull over, rest, switch drivers, grab caffeine
- **Real-Life Check:** What signs tell *you* that your focus is fading? Do you act on them?

Module 9.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: Distraction laws, drowsiness, brain lag
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver: Which is more dangerous — being tired or distracted? Why?

Day 10 – Freeway Merging, Passing & Exiting

Goal: Teach confident freeway navigation — including safe merging, passing, and smooth exits.

Module 10.1 – Merging onto Freeways

- Use acceleration lane to match traffic speed
- Identify gaps, check blind spots, commit confidently
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver what they wish new drivers knew about freeway merging.

Module 10.2 – Proper Lane Use & Safe Lane Changes

- RCW 46.61.140 – Signal, mirror, shoulder check before lane changes
- Stay centered in your lane
- **Real-Life Check:** Watch how many people change lanes without signaling during your next ride.

Module 10.3 – Keep Right Except to Pass

- RCW 46.61.100 – Left lane is for passing only
- Right lane = default lane unless passing or avoiding traffic
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a friend or parent if they stay left. Why? What do they think about this rule now?

Module 10.4 – Safe Passing on Freeways

- Pass quickly, smoothly, and don't linger in blind spots
- Merge back when you see headlights in your mirror
- **Real-Life Check:** Can you describe when it's *not* safe to pass — even if the lane is clear?

Module 10.5 – Exiting the Freeway

- Plan ahead, signal early, use exit ramps
- Never back up or cut across lanes at the last second
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask: What do you do if you miss your exit? What's the safe way to fix it?

Module 10.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: Merging, passing, lane use
- **Real-Life Check:** Think of a time someone made a dangerous move on the freeway. What could they have done differently?

Day 11 – Aggressive Driving & Emotional Control

Goal: Recognize road rage, stay calm, and manage your mindset behind the wheel.

Module 11.1 – What Counts as Aggressive Driving

- Tailgating, brake-checking, honking, speeding
- RCW 46.61.500 – Reckless Driving
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone if they've ever lost their temper while driving. What triggered it?

Module 11.2 – Negligent Driving & Street Racing

- RCW 46.61.5249 – Negligent driving
- RCW 46.61.530 – Illegal street racing
- **Real-Life Check:** What driving behavior do you think crosses the line from careless to dangerous?

Module 11.3 – How Emotions Affect Driving Decisions

- Stress, arguments, anxiety can cloud judgment
- Emotional driving = risky decisions
- **Real-Life Check:** How do *you* feel after a stressful day? Would you drive differently?

Module 11.4 – Staying Calm in High-Stress Situations

- Breathe, slow down, mentally disengage
- Let it go: don't "win" the interaction

- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a driver what calms them down when someone else drives aggressively.

Module 11.5 – Handling Aggressive Drivers Safely

- Don't make eye contact, avoid confrontation, exit safely
- Call 911 if followed or threatened
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone what they would do if another driver started following them aggressively.

Module 11.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: Road rage, reckless laws, emotional control
- **Real-Life Check:** What's your personal strategy to stay calm, even when other drivers don't?

Day 12 – Adverse Conditions, Emergency Response & Police Stops

Goal: Equip students to drive safely in poor weather, handle vehicle emergencies, and interact respectfully with law enforcement.

Module 12.1 – Driving in Rain, Fog & Wet Roads

- Hydroplaning, reduced visibility, slower response times
- RCW 46.37.020 – Headlights required in poor visibility
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone about the scariest weather they've ever driven through. How did they stay safe?

Module 12.2 – Snow, Ice & Black Ice

- Traction techniques, steering recovery, skid handling
- Prep your vehicle: tires, defrost, wipers
- **Real-Life Check:** If your car started sliding, what's the right way to regain control?

Module 12.3 – Roadside Emergencies

- What to do if your car breaks down
- RCW 46.61.212 – Move Over Law
- **Real-Life Check:** On your next ride, observe how drivers act around a stopped vehicle on the shoulder.

Module 12.4 – What to Do If You're Pulled Over

- Pull over safely, keep hands visible, stay respectful
- Officer safety matters too — stay calm
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a parent or friend about their first traffic stop. What would they do differently now?

Module 12.5 – Knowing Your Rights & Responsibilities

- You must show license, registration, insurance
- RCW 46.61.021 – Obedience to police officers
- **Real-Life Check:** If you were nervous during a stop, how would you stay calm and respectful?

Module 12.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: Weather, roadside safety, police interaction
- **Real-Life Check:** What part of today's topics feels most unfamiliar — and how can you prepare for it?

Day 13 – Insurance, Maintenance & Eco-Driving

Goal: Help students understand car ownership responsibilities, from insurance to maintenance and driving efficiently.

Module 13.1 – Auto Insurance Basics

- Liability vs. full coverage
- WA minimums for legal driving
- RCW 46.29.260 – Proof of financial responsibility
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a parent or friend what kind of coverage they carry — and why.

Module 13.2 – What Affects Insurance Costs

- Age, driving record, car model, ZIP code
- Deductibles and claim impact
- **Real-Life Check:** If you caused a minor fender-bender, would you file a claim or pay out of pocket?

Module 13.3 – Basic Car Maintenance for Safety

- Tire pressure, brakes, fluids, dashboard warnings
- RCW 46.37.010 – Required vehicle condition
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone if they've ever ignored a dashboard light. What happened?

Module 13.4 – Preventing Breakdowns

- Noises, smells, leaks = warning signs
- Small repairs now prevent big expenses later
- **Real-Life Check:** What's the most expensive repair your family's car ever needed? Could it have been avoided?

Module 13.5 – Eco-Driving Habits

- Smooth acceleration, avoid idling, proper tire pressure
- Extra: Intro to hybrid & electric cars
- **Real-Life Check:** Track your fuel use for a week. Could eco-driving improve it?

Module 13.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: Insurance, maintenance, fuel efficiency
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone what they wish they'd known about car ownership at 16.

Day 14 – Handling Collisions & Reporting

Goal: Teach the correct response steps after a crash, including legal duties and documentation.

Module 14.1 – What to Do After a Crash

- Check for injuries, hazards on, call 911
- Stay calm — don't admit fault or leave
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone what they did (or wish they did) right after a crash.

Module 14.2 – Exchanging Information & Gathering Evidence

- Names, plates, licenses, insurance
- Photos of damage and scene
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a friend what info they forgot to get after a collision — and what happened next.

Module 14.3 – WA Collision Reporting

- RCW 46.52.030 – Must report if \$1,000+ in damage
- Online or paper forms — report within 4 days
- **Real-Life Check:** Visit the WA collision report site. Would you know what to fill out today?

Module 14.4 – Hit-and-Run Laws

- RCW 46.52.020 – Leaving the scene = criminal offense
- Always leave a note if no one is present
- **Real-Life Check:** If you scratched a parked car with no witnesses, what's the right move — and why?

Module 14.5 – When Police Are Involved

- Stay respectful, give basic info, answer calmly
- Don't argue — clarify later if needed
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone how the police handled their crash. What made the process better or worse?

Module 14.6 – Final Quiz & Reflection

- Quiz: Post-crash steps, reporting laws, responsibilities
- **Real-Life Check:** What would be your biggest concern if you got into a crash today?

Day 15 – Final Exam, Reflection & The Educated Driver Pledge

Goal: Celebrate progress, reflect on growth, and make a personal commitment to safe, responsible driving.

Module 15.1 – Course Review Recap

- Key lessons: Laws, SEE model, risk, emotions, emergencies
- **Real-Life Check:** What lesson from this course will *stick* with you long-term?

Module 15.2 – Final Knowledge Exam: Part 1

- 25-question mixed exam
- Signs, RCWs, risk management, road behavior
- **Real-Life Check:** What was the most surprising or challenging question?

Module 15.3 – Final Knowledge Exam: Part 2

- Additional 25 questions
- Real-world scenarios and legal comprehension
- **Real-Life Check:** Did any question make you think, “I’m not ready for that... yet”? What will you work on?

Module 15.4 – Self-Reflection: Who Are You as a Driver Now?

- What changed? What are you proud of?
- How will you keep improving?
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask a parent or mentor how they’ve grown as a driver over the years.

Module 15.5 – The Educated Driver Pledge

- “I will stay calm. I will stay focused. I will stay legal.”
- Downloadable pledge certificate
- **Real-Life Check:** Ask someone you trust what *they* would include in a driving pledge.

Module 15.6 – Final Instructor Wrap-Up

- Encouragement for future practice
- Reminder: the learning never stops
- **Real-Life Check:** Who do you want to make proud by being a responsible, educated driver?