

MINUTES OF THE
GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 22, 2020 at 1:30 pm

Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety
7 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, Suite 643, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Chairman Allen Poole called the September 22, 2020 meeting of Georgia Driver's Education Commission meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were as follows:

Board Members in Attendance	Board Members not in Attendance
Mr. Allen Poole, Chairman	
Mr. Spencer Moore, Vice Chairman	
Dr. Malika Reed Wilkins	

Non-Members in Attendance were as follows:

Mr. Josh Turner, Georgia Driver's Education Commission
Ms. Kisha Bell, Georgia Driver's Education Commission
Ms. Pamela Farr, Georgia Driver's Education Commission
Mr. Mike Mitchell, Georgia Department of Driver's Services
Mr. Kyle Cain, Georgia Department of Driver's Services
Mr. Robert Hydrick, Governor's Office of Highway Safety
Ms. Amy Radley, Georgia Attorney General's Office
Dr. Tina Kassebaum, Strategic Research Group
Mr. Darby Schaff, Strategic Research Group
Ms. Shenee Bryan, GOHS Contract Epidemiologist
Ms. Denise Yeager, Georgia Department of Public Health

Opening Remarks

Chairman Allen Poole thanked everyone in attendance and explained that due to the Public Health State of Emergency declared by Governor Kemp, Commission members and staff were attending by phone. Mr. Josh Turner stated for the record that the Public Notice for the meeting was published in the *Fulton Daily Report*, posted at the Governor's Office Highway Safety and Georgia Driver's Education Commission offices, and posted on the Georgia Driver's Education Commission website.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Poole presented the agenda. Vice Chairman Spencer R. Moore made a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Malika Reed Wilkins seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of June 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Poole presented the June 23, 2020 meeting minutes. Dr. Wilkins made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice Chairman Moore seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairman Poole offered a time for Public Comment. There was no response.

Staff Report

Mr. Turner presented the staff report including the Provider Scholarship Redemption Report, First Quarter Fiscal Year 2021 Customer Service Report, the Scholarship Report of July 2020, August 2020, and September 2020. A copy of the report is attached to and made a part of these minutes as “Exhibit A.”

Update on Proposed Research/Evaluation Project

Chairman Poole introduced Dr. Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D. Partner/Principal Investigator, Strategic Research Group (SRG) to provide an update on the research and evaluation project. The goal of the research and evaluation project is to determine the effectiveness, the Georgia Driver’s Education Scholarship program, to explore areas of programmatic improvements, and to describe population-based rates of licensure among young people in Georgia. Dr. Kassebaum stated that SRG had already conducted a literature review to refine the project research questions, worked with CODES to determine what data are available, submitted the data request to DDS through GDEC and DPH, and created the comprehensive research design. Dr. Kassebaum stated that the evaluation will ask three main questions: what is the impact, if any, of delayed licensure on differences in driving outcomes, are there differences in driving incident outcomes by method of obtaining a Class D license, and do the driving outcomes differ between scholarship recipients and applicants who did not receive a scholarship? Dr. Kassebaum stated that future work to be completed includes design (build demographically similar groups for each component of the research group and examine the difference of the outcomes) and outcome variables (crashes and related data, and convictions and license suspension/revocation). The commission continued discussion and engaged Dr. Kassebaum in questions regarding the project.

Adoption of Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report

Mr. Turner presented the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report and thanked Ms. Shenee Bryan for her assistance analyzing data for the report the report and Mr. Michael Mitchell and the DDS Regulatory Compliance Division for providing data necessary to complete the report. Mr. Turner provided a brief overview of the report including board composition and appointing authorities, monies collected by Joshua’s Law fees and monies allocated to the Commission, scholarship redemption by provider, number of applications and number of scholarships reported.

Vice Chairman Moore praised the staff on completing a great report.

Chairman Poole stated he has addressed the GDEC Commission vacancies with the Governor’s Office and made them aware of the five vacancies on the Commission and expressed his concerns of not having a fully appointed Commission. Vice Chairman Moore echoed Chairman Poole’s concerns and said that he too has had conversation with the Governor’s Office regarding Commission appointments and will continue to request the vacancies be filled.

Vice Chairman Moore made a motion to approve the 2020 Fiscal Year Annual Report. Dr. Wilkins seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report is attached to and made a part of these minutes as “Exhibit B.”

Other Business

Chairman Poole announced that the next Georgia Driver’s Education Commission Board meeting will be held on December 15, 2020.

Dr. Wilkins announced the Atlanta Regional Commission will host the State of the Region Breakfast on November 13, 2020. The meeting will be held virtually and she will send more information to the Commission members and welcomed everyone to attend this exciting event.

Adjournment

Dr. Wilkins made a motion to adjourn. Chairman Poole seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kischa Bell
Operational Analyst
Georgia Driver's Education Commission

Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program

July 2020 Scholarship Report

Summary

Monthly Allocation	Total Applied	Total Approved
350	827	350

Applications by Tier

	Applied	Approved	Rejected
Tier 1	0	0	0
Tier 2	479	350	129
Tier 3	348	0	348
Total	827	350	477

Applications by Congressional District

District #	Applied	Approved	Rejected
1	22	12	10
2	41	28	13
3	67	28	39
4	46	28	18
5	26	21	5
6	41	20	21
7	57	28	29
8	62	28	34
9	41	19	22
10	65	29	36
11	152	29	123
12	56	24	32
13	71	28	43
14	80	28	52
Total	827	350	477

Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program

August 2020 Scholarship Report

Summary

Monthly Allocation	Total Applied	Total Approved
350	659	350

Applications by Tier

	Applied	Approved	Rejected
Tier 1	1	1	0
Tier 2	441	349	92
Tier 3	217	0	217
Total	659	350	309

Applications by Congressional District

District #	Applied	Approved	Rejected
1	15	9	6
2	39	28	11
3	44	29	15
4	52	29	23
5	16	11	5
6	33	22	11
7	36	23	13
8	54	28	26
9	36	27	9
10	50	28	22
11	108	30	78
12	36	26	10
13	77	31	46
14	63	29	34
Total	659	350	309

Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program

September 2020 Scholarship Report

Summary

Monthly Allocation	Total Applied	Total Approved
350	625	350

Applications by Tier

	Applied	Approved	Rejected
Tier 1	0	0	0
Tier 2	431	350	81
Tier 3	194	0	194
Total	625	350	275

Applications by Congressional District

District #	Applied	Approved	Rejected
1	9	6	3
2	50	29	21
3	54	29	25
4	41	28	13
5	21	15	6
6	18	13	5
7	47	29	18
8	39	22	17
9	46	29	17
10	65	29	36
11	72	30	42
12	51	31	20
13	58	29	29
14	54	31	23
Total	625	350	275

September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes “Exhibit A”

**Georgia Driver’s Education Commission
7 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive,
Suite 643
Atlanta, Georgia 30334**

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report (6/19/2020 through 9/14/2020)

PROVIDER NAME	SCHOLARSHIPS REDEEMED (6/19/2020 – 9/14/2020)
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	190
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	59
A+ Driving Services, Inc.	41
West Metro Driving School	40
New London School of Driving Inc.	33
Southern Regional Technical College	33
Advance Driving Academy	31
Taggart's Driving School	26
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	24
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	23
Central Georgia Technical College	17
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	17
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	17
AA Academy of Action Driving School	15
Just Driver Training	15
Coastal Pines Technical College	14
A Driving Advantage	14
Jones Driver Education School of Augusta, Inc.	13
Kennesaw Driving School	13
Classic VIP Driving School, LLC	12
FB Driving, Inc.	12
Southern Defensive Driving School	11
Augusta Technical College	10
Ogeechee Technical College	10
The Wiser Driver	10
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	10
AABACUS, Inc.	9
Albany Technical College	9
Savannah Technical College	9
Southern Crescent Technical College	8
Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	7
DriveSmartGeorgia.com	6

September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes “Exhibit A”

South Georgia Technical College	6
Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	5
Executive Results DUI & Defensive Driving School, LLC	5
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	5
North Georgia Technical College	5
Oconee Fall Line Technical College	5
Southeastern Technical College	5
1st United Driving & DUI School	4
Duluth DUI and Driving School	4
Lanier Technical College	4
Marietta City Board of Education	4
Oconee County Board of Education	4
Drive Again Driving School	4
West Georgia Technical College	4
Towne Lake Driving School, LLC	3
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	3
Rockdale-Newton Driving School	3
Athens Technical College	2
Atlanta Technical College	2
Columbus Technical College	2
Georgia Piedmont Technical College	2
Safe America Foundation, Inc.	2
All Star Driver Education, Inc.	1
Calhoun City BOE	1
White County Board of Education	1

FY 2021 First Quarter Customer Service Report

Provider Email Inquiries	275
Parent Email Inquiries	281
Voicemails Received	67
Invoices Processed	451

September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes, "Exhibit B"

FISCAL YEAR

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

GEORGIA DRIVER'S
EDUCATION COMMISSION



Georgia Driver's Education Commission

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 15-21-181(b), the Georgia Driver's Education Commission (GDEC) submits this report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the committee chairpersons for the standing committees in the Senate and House of Representatives that are assigned issues related to motor vehicles. This report contains data on the amount of funds collected from the additional penalty imposed on traffic citations for driver's education for the previous three fiscal years, the amount of such funds appropriated to the commission for each corresponding year, and the manner and purposes for which such funds have been expended.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission is to maximize participation in driver's education and training to reduce motor vehicle crashes by making driver's training accessible and affordable to all Georgians.



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Commission Composition

Pursuant to O.C.G.A § 15-21-173, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission consist of eight (8) members who can serve four years terms. The State Board of Education shall appoint one member of the commission and the Department of Driver Services shall appoint two members of the commission. The director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety shall appoint one member of the commission. The remaining four members of the commission shall be appointed by the Governor, two of whom shall be public school driver's education providers and the other two shall be private driver's education providers. The Governor shall designate a chairperson of the commission from among the appointed members.



Allen Poole, Chairman

Director

Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Appointed by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety



Spencer R. Moore, Vice Chairman

Commissioner

Department of Driver Services

Appointed by the Department of Driver Services



Malika Reed Wilkins

Sr. Principal, Transportation Marketing Manager

Atlanta Regional Commission

Appointed by the Department of Driver Services

Five (5) Vacancies

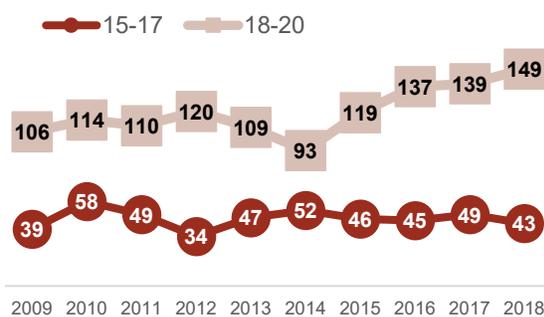
- One (1) appointed by the State Board of Education
- Two (2) appointed by the Governor representing public driver's education providers
- Two (2) appointed by the Governor representing private driver's education providers

Problem Identification

According to the Georgia Young Adult Drivers Traffic Safety Facts¹, there were **192** young drivers (18-to-20 years of age) involved in fatal crashes on Georgia roadways in 2018. This is a **32.4 percent increase** (+47 young drivers) since 2014. This does not imply that young drivers caused the crash either by their actions or failure to act. In 2018, the top three contributing factors of **fatal crashes** involving young drivers were: (1) Failure to yield right of way; (2) Overcorrecting; and, (3) Improper lane usage.

Over the past 5-years (2014-2018), young drivers consistently represented 8.5 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes. Over the past decade, the majority of young drivers involved in fatal crashes were 18-to-20 years of age (Figure 1, squares icons). In 2018, 78 percent of young drivers involved in fatal crashes were between 18 and 20 years old. The number of 18 to 20 years old drivers increased by 60 percent from 93 drivers in 2014 to 149 drivers in 2018.

Figure 1. Number of Young Drivers (15-17 and 18-20 Years) Involved in Fatal Crashes, 2009–2018



Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2009–2018

In 2018, there were 74,735 crashes that involved young drivers in Georgia. The top contributing factors for **all motor vehicle crashes** involving young drivers were: (1) following too close; (2) operating vehicle in erratic manner (e.g., speeding); and (3) driving while distracted². According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention³, teens are at a higher risk of being in a motor vehicle crash compared to any other age group. This fact also holds true for Georgia where the overall rate of young drivers involved in fatal crashes was among the highest compared to other age groups. In 2018:

- **2.57 out of every 1,000 crashes involving drivers** ages 15-to-20 were fatal
- **3.04 out of every 10,000 licensed drivers** ages 15-to-20 were involved in a fatal crash
- **2.18 out of every 10,000 Georgia residents** ages 15-to-20 were involved in a fatal crash

Fortunately, teen and young driver motor vehicle crashes, injuries, and fatalities are preventable and there are proven strategies that can improve the safety of young drivers on the road through effective driver's education. While our highway safety partners across Georgia will focus on other techniques to reduce injuries and fatalities on our highways, fostering and facilitating strong driver's education remains a paramount and effective component in the fight to reduce crash injuries and fatalities among young Georgia drivers.

¹ Crash Outcomes Data Evaluation System. (2020, May). Young Adult Drivers: 2018 data. (Georgia Traffic Safety Facts). Atlanta, GA: Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

² Distracted driving includes texting, talking on hands-free device, talking on hand-held device, other activity-mobile device, occupant distraction, other interior distraction, or other exterior distraction.

³ "Teen Drivers: Get the Facts." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 30 Oct. 2019, www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/teen_drivers/teendrivers_factsheet.html.

Young Driver Licensing

The Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TADRA) was enacted on July 1, 1997. TADRA established a Graduated Driver's License program for young drivers ages 15 to 18 in Georgia. The law significantly changed the way young motorists earn and maintain the driving privileges (Provisional License, Class D).

The methods available to young drivers to obtain their license includes a combination of 30-hour course instructions, behind-the-wheel training, supervised driving, and use of the Parent Teen Driving Guide. These methods are designed to gradually introduce young drivers to Georgia roadways and reduce high-risk driving situations. Young drivers can obtain their license using any of the four methods described below.

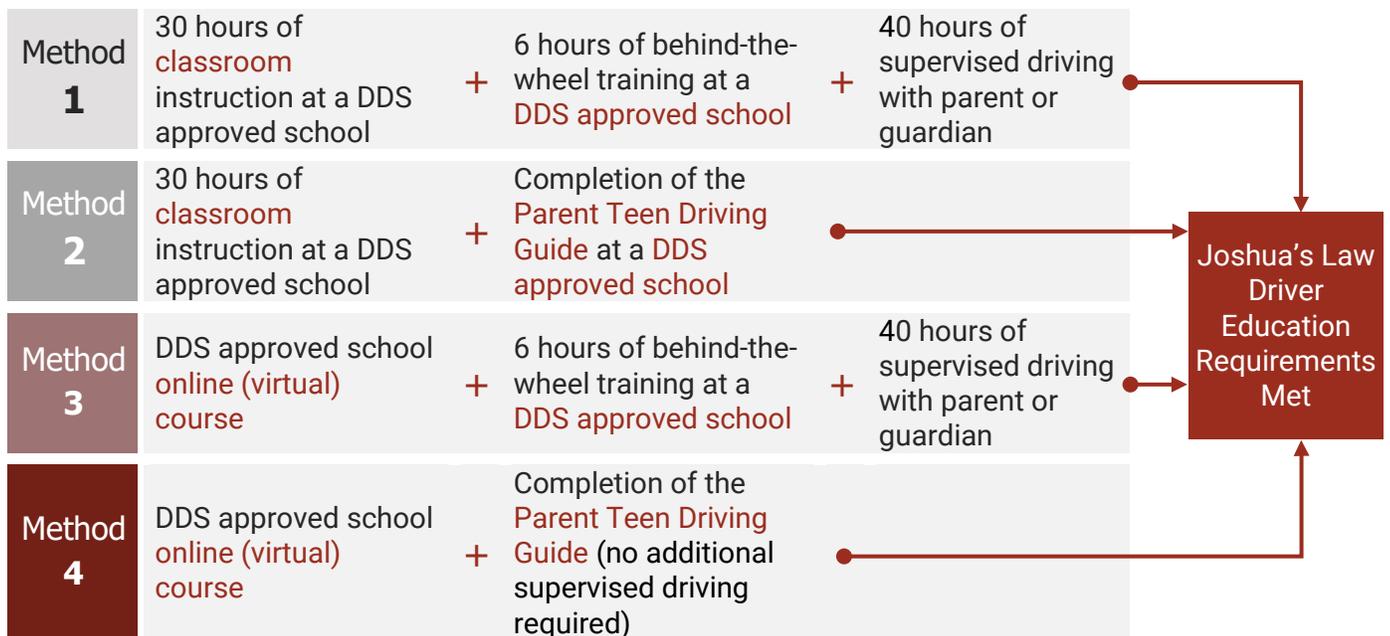


Figure 2 shows the how young drivers obtained a Provisional License (Class D) across the various methods in FY2020.

- **10.5** out of every 20 young drivers (53%) used Method 4
- **7.5** out of every 20 young drivers (37%) used Method 1
- **1** out of every 20 young drivers (5%) used Method 2
- **1** out of every 20 young drivers (5%) used Method 3

Figure 2. FY2020 Class D Licenses Issued by GDL Method (July 2019- June 2020)

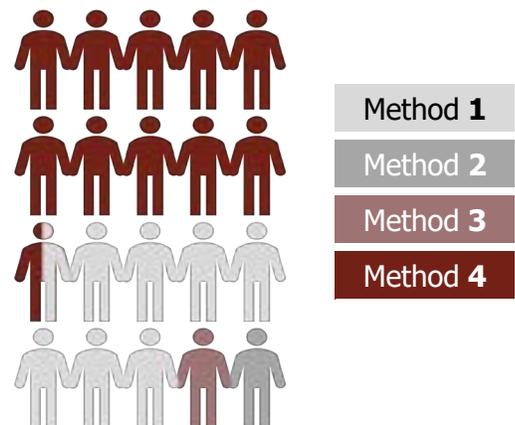


Figure 3 shows the percent of young adults (15-to-20 years old) with an instructional permit, Class D provisional license, or Class C license by county. Young drivers generally obtain their licenses for the first time under a Graduated Driver Licensing program as they learn driving skills.

- There were 8 million licensed drivers in Georgia in 2019. Young drivers (ages 15 to 20 years old) accounted for **7.9 percent (631,790)** of the all licensed drivers in 2019.
- Across the state, **71.1 percent** of all youth (ages 15 to 20 years old) held either an instructional permit or driver's license in 2019.
- The percentage (**72 percent**) of young adults that held an instructional permit or driver's license in 2019 was the same across all rural and urban counties⁴.

Figure 3. Percent of Young Adults (Ages 15-20) with an Instructional Permit, Class D Provisional License, or Class C License⁵ by County, 2019

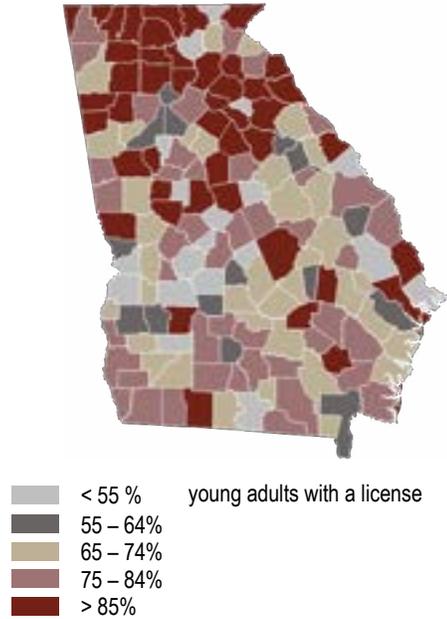


Figure 4 compares the types of licensing obtained across various age groups in FY2019 and FY2020.

- The number of teens number of teens issued an instructional permit at age 15 **decreased by 11 percent** (Figure 4a).
- The number of teens issued a Class D license under age 17 years **increased by 5 percent** (Figure 4b).
- The number of teens (16-17 years) waiting until 18 to obtain a full license (Class C) **increased 5 percent** (Figure 4c).
- The number of teens issued a Class D license at age 17 years **increased by 21 percent** (Figure 4d).

Figure 4. Young Driver Age by License Type (FY2019 and FY2020⁶)



Note: Vertical axis is drawn to scale

* Class C licenses are not required to complete driver's education

⁴ Rural definition based on Office of Management and Budget (OMB) metro counties. A metro area includes one or more counties containing a core urban area of 50,000 or more people, together with any adjacent counties that have a high degree of social and economic integration (as measured by commuting to work) with the urban core.

⁵ Source: Drivers licenses information obtained from the Department of Driver Service (Dec 2019); Estimated young adult population obtained from Georgia's Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS)

⁶ This graphic includes the number of licenses issued within the state fiscal year (FY2020 is between July 2019 and June 2020). This data includes new teen drivers that received a Class C license without taking the road-skills test between April 23, 2020 and September 30, 2020 per Governor Kemp's 2020 executive orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commission History

The timeline below describes the key historical milestones and events since the creation of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission (GDEC) in 2005.

JOSHUA'S LAW CREATES GDEC (2005)

Senate Bill 225 (2005), known as Joshua's Law, created the Georgia Driver's Education Commission (GDEC) for the purpose of recommending to the Governor and General Assembly changes in state programs, statutes, policies, budgets and standards relating to the provision of driver's education and training. Since its inception, the GDEC has worked to identify options for teen drivers to satisfy the driver's education requirements mandated by state law for young Georgians. Joshua's Law created a surcharge on all traffic citations in Georgia (originally 5%, now 1.5%), to establish funding to support driver's education programs throughout Georgia.

GOHS FACILITATES ALLOCATION OF GDEC FUNDS (2007)

In April of 2007, through an agreement between the Georgia Department of Driver Services and the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS), GOHS facilitated the allocation of the GDEC funds by way of grant funding to support driver's education programs. During fiscal years 2007 through 2010, 58 programs received grant funding to create or support existing driver's education programs at public schools and libraries.

GDEC TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED (2011)

In fiscal year 2011, the grant program was suspended due to lack of budget appropriation during the economic recession. The surcharge on traffic citations continued to be collected and appropriated to the State's general fund.

SENATE BILL 231 REDUCES SURCHARGE COLLECTION (2013)

During the 2013 legislative session of the Georgia General Assembly, Senate Bill 231 extended the sunset of the GDEC until June 30, 2016 and reduced the amount of the surcharge collection from 5 percent to 1.5 percent.

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS RESUMED (2015)

Budget appropriations resumed to the Commission in Fiscal Year 2015 and the Commission has since provided training to over 21,000 Georgia students. After budget appropriations resumed, the Commission continued support of existing driver's education programs at high schools and executed a contract with the Technical College System of Georgia to establish a scholarship program for driver's education.

HB 806 ASSIGNS GDEC TO GOHS (2016)

HB 806 during the 2016 legislative session extended the sunset to June 30, 2019 and assigned the GDEC to the GOHS for administrative purposes.

GDEC STARTS THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (2017)

In fiscal year 2017, the Commission suspended the support of driver's education programs and launched the Georgia Driver's Education Commission Grant Scholarship Program in March of 2017. The program, open to public (public high school, technical colleges, universities, and other state-owned driver education programs) and privately owned (commercial, for-profit driving schools and non-profit organizations, and private schools) awards driver's education grant scholarships to students ages 15-17 years old who seek to complete a 36 hour (30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction with an approved instructor) driver's education program (**Method 1**). The Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program was continued in fiscal years 2018 and 2020.

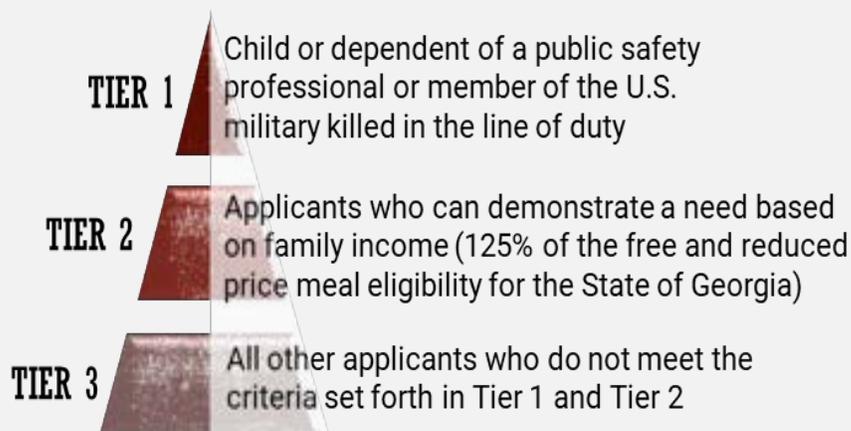


" I am thankful to have had the opportunity to get a scholarship for the Drivers Education course. I may not have been able to take the course without it and it boosted my confidence of driving on the road. Thank you!"

- Carson (Valdosta, GA)

GDEC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SELECTION PROCESS

Scholarships are awarded on a tiered priority system. First priority (**Tier 1**) is given to grant scholarship applicants who are a child or dependent of a public safety professional or member of the United States military killed in the line of duty. Second priority (**Tier 2**) is given to scholarship applicants who can demonstrate a need based on family income (financial need eligibility is based on 125% of the free and reduced priced school meal eligibility for Georgia). Third priority (**Tier 3**) is given to all applicants who do not meet the criteria set forth in Tier 1 and Tier 2 outlined above.



PRIORITY TIERS

GDEC Scholarship
Program
Selection Process

All of the applicants in Tier 1 are awarded before the second priority applicants; and all Tier 2 applicants are awarded before Tier 3 applicants are awarded a grant scholarship. If more grant scholarship applications are submitted than grant scholarships available in each tier, grant scholarships are awarded using a computer-generated random selection method from the priority level applications. Grant scholarships are evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts to ensure that all Georgians are considered despite geographical location.

Fiscal Year 2020 Activities

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

In fiscal year 2020, **8,315** applicants applied for the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship program and the Commission awarded **5,004** driver's education scholarships. **Six out of every ten** applicants were awarded a scholarship in fiscal year 2020. Compared to the 2019 fiscal year, the number of scholarships awarded **decreased by 11.2 percent** and appropriated funding for FY2020 decreased by less than percent. Of the 5,004 scholarships awarded, 708 students forfeited scholarships or chose not to complete driver's education through an authorized provider in the program. The remaining 4,296 students (**86 percent**) who completed driver's education represents a value of **\$1,806,167.85** paid in driver's education grant scholarships.

Due a decrease in applicants in the final quarter of the fiscal year caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and an Executive Order that waived certain requirements for students to obtain their driver's license, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission experienced a 79% decrease in applicants in final quarter of Fiscal Year 2020 than in Fiscal Year 2019. This decrease in applicants also significantly altered the number of applicants that would have been awarded scholarships.



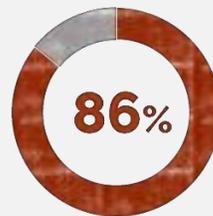
6 out of 10 applicants
were awarded a scholarship in FY2020



Scholarships
awarded through the
GDEC Scholarship
program



Student scholarship
recipients compared
to FY19



Students redeemed
their scholarships at
an authorized
provider



Paid in driver's
education grant
scholarships

CHALLENGES IN FY2020

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a world-wide pandemic, and the first detected case of COVID-19 in the state of Georgia was on March 2, 2020. The measures taken to control the spread of the virus greatly impacted the GDEC Driver's Education Scholarship Program. Since March 2020, the number of applicants applying for the GDEC scholarship reduced, the number of awarded applicants redeeming their scholarships reduced, and the way providers are administering the driver's education curriculum and training program has changed. The full impact of COVID-19 on the GDEC Driver's Education program cannot be determined at the time of this report.

GDEC AUTHORIZED PROVIDERS AND SCHOLARSHIPS REDEEMED

In fiscal year 2020, 59 authorized GDEC providers served 4,296 scholarship recipients across 131 locations⁷. The total value of the scholarships redeemed in FY2020 valued \$1,806,167.85 and the average cost per scholarship recipient was \$420.43.

Table 1 below provides a listing of the driver's education providers participating in the program, with the number of training locations operated by each provider, the number of scholarships redeemed by each provider, the financial value of the scholarships redeemed, and the average cost per recipient for each FY2020 provider.

Table 1. Number of Scholarships Redeemed, Value of Scholarships Redeemed, and Average Cost Per Recipient by Authorized GDEC Provider, FY2020

FY2020 Authorized GDEC Provider	Number of Locations	Number of Scholarships Redeemed	Value of Scholarships Redeemed	Average Cost Per Recipient
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	19	761	\$322,389.00	\$423.64
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	1	267	\$124,483.00	\$466.23
West Metro Driving School	1	249	\$112,050.00	\$450.00
A+ Driving Services, Inc.	7	176	\$87,120.00	\$495.00
New London School of Driving Inc.	1	166	\$82,170.00	\$495.00
Advance Driving Academy	1	118	\$44,840.00	\$380.00
Gwinnett County Board of Education	8	106	\$36,570.00	\$345.00
Savannah Technical College	4	105	\$36,750.00	\$350.00
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	4	101	\$35,350.00	\$350.00
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	2	92	\$41,400.00	\$450.00
Taggart's Driving School	3	91	\$45,045.00	\$495.00
DriveSmart Georgia	3	90	\$44,910.00	\$499.00
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	1	89	\$40,050.00	\$450.00

⁷ Since March 2020, the measures taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Georgia resulted in the reduction of awarded applicants redeeming their scholarships and significant changes in when and how providers administer the driver's education curriculum and training.

September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes, "Exhibit B"

FY2020 Authorized GDEC Provider	Number of Locations	Number of Scholarships Redeemed	Value of Scholarships Redeemed	Average Cost Per Recipient
Coastal Pines Technical College	5	85	\$29,750.00	\$350.00
Lanier Technical College	5	80	\$28,000.00	\$350.00
Southern Regional Technical College	3	80	\$28,000.00	\$350.00
Southern Crescent Technical College	4	78	\$27,300.00	\$350.00
Kennessaw Driving School	1	71	\$35,145.00	\$495.00
Central Georgia Technical College	2	70	\$24,500.00	\$350.00
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	1	69	\$29,325.00	\$425.00
Marietta City Board of Education	1	67	\$27,205.00	\$406.04
Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	2	66	\$32,670.00	\$495.00
Augusta Technical College	1	60	\$21,000.00	\$350.00
AA Academy of Action Driving School	1	55	\$27,500.00	\$500.00
Albany Technical College	2	55	\$19,250.00	\$350.00
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	3	55	\$19,250.00	\$350.00
Just Driver Training	1	54	\$27,000.00	\$500.00
A Driving Advantage	1	52	\$23,715.00	\$456.06
Classic VIP Driving School, LLC	1	52	\$20,592.00	\$396.00
Jones Driver Education School of Augusta, Inc.	1	52	\$22,410.00	\$430.96
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	1	51	\$20,145.00	\$395.00
The Wiser Driver	1	50	\$21,500.00	\$430.00
North Georgia Technical College	3	46	\$16,100.00	\$350.00
West Georgia Technical College	1	46	\$16,100.00	\$350.00
Georgia Piedmont Technical College	1	45	\$15,750.00	\$350.00
Ogeechee Technical College	3	45	\$15,750.00	\$350.00
Safety 1st Driver Education	1	43	\$17,157.00	\$399.00
Oconee Fall Line Technical College	3	38	\$13,300.00	\$350.00
Brownhill Enterprises Towne Lake Driving School, LLC	1	36	\$17,460.00	\$485.00
AABACUS, Inc.	2	34	\$17,000.00	\$500.00
Duluth DUI and Driving School	1	32	\$14,820.00	\$463.13
Executive Results DUI & Defensive Driving School, LLC	1	28	\$11,900.00	\$425.00
FB Driving, Inc.	1	27	\$9,855.00	\$365.00
South Georgia Technical College	2	27	\$9,450.00	\$350.00
Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	2	22	\$10,958.86	\$498.13
Oconee County Board of Education	2	22	\$8,799.12	\$399.96

FY2020 Authorized GDEC Provider	Number of Locations	Number of Scholarships Redeemed	Value of Scholarships Redeemed	Average Cost Per Recipient
Southern Defensive Driving School	1	22	\$8,690.00	\$395.00
Atlanta Technical College	1	21	\$7,350.00	\$350.00
Rockdale-Newton Driving School	1	21	\$10,395.00	\$495.00
1st United Driving & DUI School	1	18	\$8,930.00	\$496.11
Athens Technical College	1	18	\$6,300.00	\$350.00
Columbus Technical College	1	16	\$5,600.00	\$350.00
Safe America Foundation, Inc.	1	16	\$7,584.00	\$474.00
All Star Driver Education, Inc.	1	13	\$4,549.87	\$349.99
Gordon County Board of Education	2	13	\$3,835.00	\$295.00
Calhoun City BOE	1	10	\$2,900.00	\$290.00
White County Board of Education	1	10	\$2,650.00	\$265.00
Drive Again Driving School	1	7	\$3,150.00	\$450.00
Southeastern Technical College	2	7	\$2,450.00	\$350.00
FY2020 TOTAL	131	4,296	\$1,806,167.85	\$420.43



" This course helped me in many ways to become the safe and responsible driver I am today. The instructors were calm and patient which helped me overcome being nervous and unsure of myself. Also, they helped me become a safe driver by teaching step-by-step driving skills, giving me opportunities to practice, and modelling safe and legal driving. I recommend that anyone learning to drive should begin by enrolling into a driver education course to get plenty of supervised driving experience before getting their licenses."

- J'Kira (Savannah, GA)

Funding History

According to O.C.G.A. § 15-21-181, it is the intent of the General Assembly that, subject to appropriation, an amount equal to such proceeds received from such fines in any fiscal year shall be made available during the following fiscal year to the Commission. In other words, **the amount of funds collected in any fiscal year is appropriated to the Commission for the following fiscal year.**

The amount of funding collected in FY2020, **decreased by 11.1 percent (\$329,332.37 less)** from \$2,978,971.10 in FY2019 to \$2,649,638.73 in FY2020. This equates to approximately 780 scholarships becoming unavailable in FY2021.

Table 2 shows the amount of funds (in millions) collected and appropriated to the Commission from FY2017 to FY2020.

Table 2. Amounts of Funds Collected and Amount of Funds Appropriated to the Commission by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Amounts of Funds Collected	Amount of Funds Appropriated to the Commission
FY 2017	\$ 3,095,265.70	\$ 3,313,516.00
FY 2018	\$ 3,004,583.70	\$ 3,095,265.70
FY 2019	\$ 2,978,971.10	\$ 3,004,583.70
FY 2020	\$ 2,649,638.73	\$ 2,978,971.10





Georgia Driver's Education Commission

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