
A New Look at Parent / Guardian Seminars and Increasing Access



American Driver and Traffic Safety
Education Association

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ANSTSE



Overview

- ▶ Young Driver Motor Vehicle Crashes
- ▶ Parent / Guardian Involvement
- ▶ ANSTSE Projects
- ▶ Benefits of Parent Seminars
- ▶ Draft Core Elements of a Parent Seminar
- ▶ Parent Resources
- ▶ How to Make Parent Seminars More Accessible
- ▶ States Who Require Parent Seminars
- ▶ States with Established Guidelines / Presentations
- ▶ Examples of Parent Seminars
- ▶ Open Discussion

Young Driver Motor Vehicle Crashes

- ▶ Leading cause of death for teens
- ▶ Major contributing factors:
 - Passengers
 - Not wearing a seat belt
 - Speeding
 - Impairment
 - Distractions from mobile phones and navigation systems

64% of passengers died in car crashes with a young driver

47% of fatalities were unrestrained

27% of fatal crashes
Increase of 4%

24% died in car crashes with BAC of .01 or higher

10% of teen deaths caused by distraction

Source: NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts 2016

Parent/Guardian Involvement

Parents /Guardians play an important role in reducing teen crashes and fatalities.

ANSTSE Projects

- ▶ Develop and Disseminate Resources to Assist States in the Implementation of the NTDETAS
- ▶ Core Elements for a Driver Education Parent/Guardian Session

Core Elements for a Driver Education Parent/Guardian Session

- ▶ **Project Tasks:**
 - Develop core elements for the delivery of parent/guardian sessions.
- ▶ **These core elements will:**
 - Help to prepare parents for their critical role in their teen's learning-to-drive process.
 - Ease States' path toward the implementation of such sessions.

Core Elements for a Driver Education Parent/Guardian Session

- ▶ The goals of this project are to:
 - Increase the value of parent sessions.
 - Provide more uniformity in parent sessions.
 - Increase the number of States to require/offer parent sessions.
 - Help parents become effective driving coaches for their teens.
 - Support new young drivers in developing greater driving skills and risk-reduction abilities.
 - Provide a foundation for fewer teen motor vehicle crashes.

Benefits of Parent Seminars

- ▶ Helps ease the parent into their teen's learning-to-drive experience.
- ▶ Shows parents how to conduct effective risk-management.
- ▶ Describes restrictions that can be placed on the teen.
- ▶ Provides parents with ideas and resources when driving with their teen.

Draft Administrative Elements

- ▶ Standardized Program (NTDETAS 5.2)
- ▶ Mandatory Program
 - Both parents and teens
- ▶ Oversight or quality control to ensure consistent delivery
- ▶ Evaluations to document program effectiveness in producing intended results
- ▶ Parent Progress Report (NTDETAS 5.3)

Draft Delivery Elements

- ▶ Conducted by trained individuals
- ▶ Required attendance / participation
- ▶ Recognizes and incorporates the perspectives and needs of adult participants / learners

Draft Delivery Elements

- ▶ Incorporates active learning approaches
 - Small group discussions
 - Role playing and other activities
- ▶ Repeated methods of contact / communication with parents.
- ▶ Clear guidance to parents on what they should work on with their teens.

Draft Core Content Elements

- ▶ The State's GDL laws
- ▶ Modeling safe driving behaviors
- ▶ Risks for teen drivers
- ▶ Determining the readiness of the teen to begin the learning process
- ▶ Conducting effective supervised practice driving

Draft Core Content Elements

- ▶ Managing the novice driver's overall learning-to-drive experience
- ▶ Restricting and granting increasing driving privileges
- ▶ Determining the teen's readiness to advance to the next licensing stage
- ▶ Negotiating and adopting a written agreement between the teen and parent



Draft Core Content Elements

- ▶ The parent seminar should focus on the parent's responsibilities and opportunities related to supervised driving practice and managing their teens learning to drive experience, rather than on school administrative information or other social health issues.

Parent Resources

- ▶ Resources should include, but are not limited to:
 - rules, regulations and expectations of the State GDL and Driver Education requirements;
 - a list of state approved driver education schools;
 - a parent practice guide;
 - access to a “Parent–Teen Driving Agreement;” and
 - access to tools, including a tool for logging the required hours of supervised practice.

Parent Resources

- ▶ App and electronic based resources
 - Road Ready, Time to Drive, Teen Driving Log – tracking supervised practice
 - New York's Teen Electronic Event Notification System (TEENS) – alerts parents when a teen under 18 with a permit or license has a crash, moving violation or suspension on driving record.

How to Make Parent Seminars More Accessible

Increases opportunities for access:

- ▶ Not just brick and mortar applications
- ▶ Multiple offerings evenings/weekends
- ▶ One-on-one meetings
- ▶ Online parent program
 - AAA StartSmart
 - Rhode Island State Board of Education
 - Virginia DOE for those taking online DE
 - Utah DOE currently working on

States Who Require Parent Seminars

▶ Examples of states who require parent seminars for driver education include:

- Connecticut
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Montana
- New Jersey
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia (Northern)

▶ Other states encourage seminars.

Source: GHSA Promoting Parent Involvement in Teen Driving and Web Meetings with States

States w/ Established Guidelines/Presentation

- ▶ Examples of states with established guidelines or presentations include:
 - Connecticut – outline
 - Delaware – standard presentation
 - Idaho – standard presentation
 - Massachusetts – curriculum outline
 - Minnesota – outline and guide
 - Montana – parent teen homework
 - Oregon – PlayBook
 - Utah – uses Zero Fatalities

Examples of Parent Seminars

- ▶ AAA Start Smart
- ▶ Connecticut – Highway Safety Office, DOT
- ▶ Georgia – Parents Reducing Injuries & Driver Error (PRIDE)
- ▶ Idaho – Road to Success
- ▶ Michigan – Checkpoints Program
- ▶ Minnesota Teen Driver Parental Awareness Program (TDPAP)
- ▶ Montana – KEYS
- ▶ New Jersey – Share the Keys
- ▶ Utah – Zero Fatalities
- ▶ Virginia – Partners for Safe Teen Driving




Montana KEYS

- ▶ The MT OPI, MT State University and Montana Traffic Education Association developed five parent-teen homework assignments, called KEYS (Keep Encouraging Young Driver Safety.)
- ▶ KEYS addresses two to three safe driving topics (e.g., safety precautions/equipment) and includes four to five family activities (e.g., properly adjusting mirrors).

Parent-Teen Activity #3: Driving Pictures

Driving Situation. For each picture, (1) put an "X" on the "target" you would use for driving, (2) circle all the driver's needs, shortcomings, & equipment issues, ranges, & (3) circle all the possible issues with line-of-sight & path-of-travel.

Evaluation. For each picture, (1) list 3 issues for driving in the scene, & then list (2) the best speed control option & (3) the best lane position option for each.

	Issue 1 Issue 2 Issue 3 Speed control option Lane position option
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	Issue 1 Issue 2 Issue 3 Speed control option Lane position option

Each picture represents the perspective and quality of the driver's view.

Montana KEYS

- ▶ “Research conducted with parents across Montana, confirms there is strong support (76%) for parental involvement. Most parents want information and instruction, including written materials and tools to help them assess their teens.”
- ▶ “Parents’ time is ALWAYS limited, but it’s only a 5-week commitment and the effects could last a lifetime!”

KEYS Pilot Study: Increasing Parental Involvement in Teenage Driving Through Driver Education, Final Report: Prepared by Jessica Hartos, Ph.D., David Huff, M.S., James Carroll, M.Ed., 2009

<https://opi.mt.gov/> – click on driver education

Montana Parent Seminar Benefits

- ▶ “I think it’s a blast to get parents involved. I can’t think of a better place in education when parents and teachers should be working together. Parents don’t have a clue about the GDL restrictions and the risks for teens, so partnering with them is critical.”

Whitefish School District’s Traffic Education Coordinator

Utah Zero Fatalities

- ▶ 1 hour presentation
- ▶ After school (sometimes before school)
- ▶ 5 deadly behaviors
- ▶ Parent / teen contract signed
- ▶ Instructors:
 - Pick the date and time
 - Contact Zero Fatalities presenter to sign up
 - Require students to bring a parent or guardian



Utah Zero Fatalities

zero[®]
Fatalities

A Goal We Can All Live With

Home

Prevention

Statistics

Don't Drive Stupid

Heads Up

Safety Plan

Partners

Safety Summit

Tell A Loved One



www.zerofatalitiesUT.com

Slide 25



Utah Parent Support

- ▶ “I learned MANY things that I had forgotten”
- ▶ “I loved this presentation even though I didn't want to come...it was not only beneficial for my daughter but for me as well”
- ▶ “Everyone should see this presentation!”

Utah Parent Support

- ▶ “After this presentation I will turn my phone off before getting in the car. I think making the parent night mandatory is a really good idea. I am glad I came. I wish I could have come to this with my older son – would have helped me to be more confident teaching/working with him during new driving phase.”

Utah Instructor Support

- ▶ “Keep doing what you are doing. Our parents love it.”
- ▶ “You do a fabulous job. I always get positive feedback with a thank you”
- ▶ “I think it is great, and the parents have very positive things to say about it”
- ▶ “This the best thing to happen to my driver education program since I started teaching the class”

Utah Administrator Support

- ▶ “I have attended multiple presentations. As I watch parents arrive I hear a lot of complaints about how frustrated they are that they have to attend. When they leave I watch them wait for the teacher to make sure they thank them for making them come. This 1-hour presentation changes behaviors and is the best 1-hour spent in the driver education classroom.”

Troy Nordick, Utah State Board of Education

Idaho Parent Seminar

- ▶ 1 hour required, most schools do 2 hours
- ▶ Provide outline of what to discuss
- ▶ 95% of schools offer prior to the class starting
- ▶ Provide Road Ready App
- ▶ Also have end of session parent meetings where they conduct parent drives



Parent Materials: <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/driver-ed/>

Idaho Parent Drives

- ▶ Require that one or more parents ride in the backseat during the last 30 minutes of the In-Car Instruction.
- ▶ Great opportunity to accomplish what's necessary to ease the student's transition from teacher directed instruction to parent directed instruction.

Idaho Parent Drives

- ▶ Model the type of instruction we have used and give some tips to the parents.
- ▶ Allow the parent to see that their child is not a perfect driver yet.
- ▶ Allow the student to demonstrate some driving in a variety of environments.
- ▶ Can answer most of the questions and concerns the parent may have.
- ▶ Is good public relations to involve the parents.

Idaho Instructor Support

- ▶ “We believe the importance of pre and post parent meetings are:
 - To acquaint and orient the parents with our polices/procedures and update on current laws that have changed since the parents have taken drivers ed.
 - This is an important milestone in a teenagers life. They need parent support, encouragement and involvement to become responsible drivers to themselves and respectful to others.”

Idaho Administrator Support

- ▶ “GHSA shows teen driver fatalities are on the rise among 16 to 17 year old drivers.
- ▶ Parents can help reverse that trend since they play a key role in teen driving decisions.
- ▶ Research shows teens tend to emulate how their parents drive.
- ▶ By setting a good example BTW, parents can increase the chances their children will adopt safe driving practices.
- ▶ While state laws and educational programs are critical, ultimately, parents are the most important component to keep their teen drivers safe.”

Audra Urie, State Department of Education

Michigan Checkpoints

- ▶ Developed by University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute
- ▶ 30 minute session
- ▶ Review and discuss a 9 minute video
- ▶ Discuss the risks in the first few months of licensure
- ▶ Work on parent/teen contract and restrictions for teen

<http://youngdriverparenting.org/>

Source: GHSA Promoting Parent Involvement in Teen Driving

Key Findings of Checkpoints

- ▶ 16 times more likely to report parent teen driving agreement use (three quarters were still using them six months after participating in the program);
- ▶ 9 times more likely to have restrictions on driving with peer passengers and on weekend nights;
- ▶ 3 ½ times more likely to be restricted from driving on roads with speed limits over 55 mph; and
- ▶ Restricted from transporting, on average, one fewer passenger

Source: GHSA Promoting Parent Involvement in Teen Driving

Current UNC Highway Safety Research Center Study on Helping Parents of New Drivers

- ▶ 90 minute, in-person session
- ▶ Goals
 - Encourage practice
 - Share driving wisdom using good communication skills
 - Choosing a safe vehicle
- ▶ Evaluation (in progress)
 - Random assignment (517 families)
 - Interviews with parents and teens

Current UNC Highway Safety Research Center Study on Helping Parents of New Drivers

▶ Preliminary Results

- Felt more prepared, more confident
- Understood what teen needed to know

▶ Communication

- Teens said:
 - Mom and dad tells me ahead of time what to do
 - Less yelling
- 100% attended since required
- 99% would recommend other parents attend a meeting like this
- 89% of parents felt should be required

Current UNC Highway Safety Research Center Study on Helping Parents of New Drivers

- ▶ BTW Debriefing
 - Assessment of teens strengths/weaknesses
 - Remind parents of key points
- ▶ Continue to provide support during supervised driving
- ▶ Smartphone App by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Time to Drive
 - Helps track supervised practice
 - Mapping shows environments teen has not practiced driving
 - Provided parents with driving / teaching tips

Current UNC Highway Safety Research Center Study – Parents Play a Big Role

Guidance for parents includes:

1. a driving agreement for parents and teens to complete together,
2. information about how parents can best enforce GDL's nighttime, passenger and cell phone restrictions, and
3. resources on choosing a safe vehicle for the teen

Open Discussion

- ▶ Core Elements of Parent Seminars
- ▶ Delivery of Parent Seminars
- ▶ How to create access to attend/participate

What Do You Feel Are Core Elements That Every Parent Seminar Should Possess?

- ▶ Be mandatory – if can't be there, child can't be in the class.
- ▶ Pre-contact e-mail with teacher and class information
- ▶ Duration should be 90 – 120 minutes.
- ▶ Student and parent expectations and responsibilities
- ▶ GDL and other driving laws
- ▶ How they get their license
- ▶ Risks of driving
- ▶ Written contract / agreement
- ▶ Parent's right to take license away temporarily
- ▶ Parent liabilities
- ▶ Parent practice guide
- ▶ Stress the driving log – how to complete it and why it is important

What Do You Feel Are Core Elements That Every Parent Seminar Should Possess?

- ▶ Parents are part of the team
- ▶ Techniques we teach and why
- ▶ Provide tips on how to instruct
- ▶ Coaching of parents & students for guided practice
- ▶ When is a good time to drive?
- ▶ Explain commentary driving
- ▶ Basic assessment tool for parents
- ▶ Discussion of emergency plans
- ▶ Extended activities beyond first meeting (required parent ride-along, apps)
- ▶ Affect parent's emotions by teen deaths

What Do You Feel Are Core Elements That Every Parent Seminar Should Possess?

- ▶ 5 major causes for teen fatalities
- ▶ Cell phone distraction
- ▶ Guidelines for IEP's
- ▶ What happens in class – format
- ▶ Topics covered in class
- ▶ Ways to communicate with the instructor
- ▶ Enthusiasm about the program
- ▶ Suggested activities and handouts
- ▶ Encourage parents they are welcome to attend classes
- ▶ Require parent for one drive

What Are Some Ways Parent Seminars Can Be Delivered To Be Beneficial To Parents?

- ▶ Blended presentations (engagement, lecture, demonstration, questions, role play, videos)
- ▶ Family GDL plan suggestion
- ▶ Outside reference point demonstration (after being taught in classroom)
- ▶ Use different learning styles
- ▶ Create a culture of safety
- ▶ Provide handouts with key information in multiple languages
- ▶ Videos or practice
- ▶ Hands-on practice that is useful
- ▶ Provide in English and Spanish
- ▶ Visualize – data to show and/or make an impact

What Are Some Ways Parent Seminars Can Be Delivered To Be Beneficial To Parents?

- ▶ Games, distractions, etc.
- ▶ Highlight changes since parent took driver education
- ▶ Email orientation PowerPoint to parent; follow-up with phone call and key points
- ▶ Videos to watch before coming to seminar
- ▶ Access lesson plans – sent home to parents / guardians with each chapter provide main ideas, vocabulary, scenarios

What Are Some Ways Parent Seminars Can Be Delivered To Be Beneficial To Parents?

- ▶ Interactive app or cite requiring parent
- ▶ Make funny
- ▶ Small groups
- ▶ Discuss fears of teaching teen to drive
- ▶ Worthwhile / entertaining / informational
- ▶ Interactive – ask parents what are the key elements that make a good driver
- ▶ Trauma nurse present

What Are Some Ways Parent Seminars Can be Provided to Make More Accessible to Parents?

- ▶ On-line presentations (as an alternative) with certificates upon completion
- ▶ Skype / Zoom or Go To meeting
- ▶ Alternative dates
- ▶ Weekends in addition to weeknights
- ▶ Common location
- ▶ Offer one-on-one meetings for make-ups
- ▶ Offer to engage more with director of program

What Are Some Ways Parent Seminars Can be Provided to Make More Accessible to Parents?

- ▶ Give access to routes
- ▶ Provide incentives
 - Show up, schedule first
 - Provide food
- ▶ Text / email reminders
- ▶ Charge a fee for missing orientation
- ▶ Provide seminar for different languages (send tapes)
- ▶ Coordinate with other school programs
- ▶ Convenient time
- ▶ Send home materials / handouts
- ▶ Have weekend parent's education

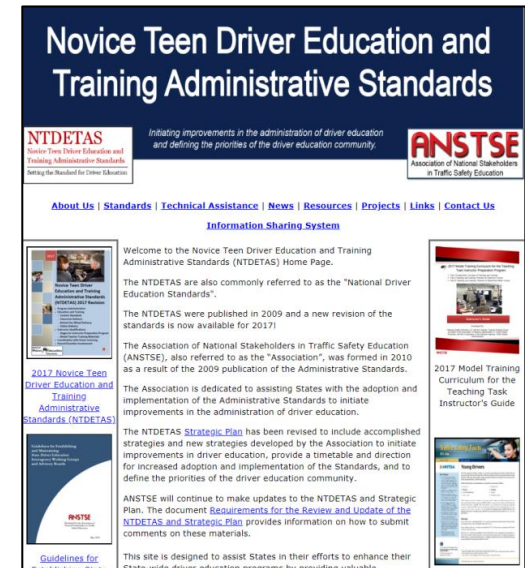
Assignment

- ▶ Implement or enhance your parent/guardian seminars
- ▶ Learn about other parent/guardian seminars
- ▶ Incorporate elements from other parent/guardian seminars into your program
- ▶ Talk to parents/guardians and teens to see what they feel is important
- ▶ Utilize feedback from parents/guardians, teens, instructors and other stakeholders

ANSTSE Website

www.anstse.info

- ▶ Revised NTDETAS
- ▶ Model teaching task instructor curriculum
- ▶ ANSTSE Strategic Plan
- ▶ NHTSA State assessment / ANSTSE technical assistance reports
- ▶ Driver education reports and research



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Questions

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Thank you!

Thank you for your support and interest in Driver Education and Training!

Advancing Quality in Driver Education!

