

Chapter 3 - Driving Risks and Responsibilities

Content for this chapter aligns with the NYS Pre-licensing course outline

Chapter 3 Student Objectives:

1. The students will be able to identify all parts of the Highway Transportation System and:
 - a. Identify several components of each part
 - b. Discuss the interrelation of the parts
 - c. Determine if each part is controllable or uncontrollable
2. The Student will understand all the skills and processes necessary along with the important values of driver education in order to become a responsible driver in the state of New York.
3. The students will understand that driving is a complex task that involves risk and decisions about risk taking.
4. The students will learn how to manage space, visibility and time in order to control risk.

Instructional Outline:

1. The Highway Transportation System

- ◆ What makes up the HTS-streets, highways, pedestrians, cars, trucks, motorcycles, bicycles
- ◆ Modern Highway Design- 200 Million road users, road engineers, different vehicle types
- ◆ Roadways- 4 million miles of roads, alleyways, city streets, multi-lane highways, maintenance
- ◆ Road Users- 176 million drivers, passengers, cyclists, and pedestrians, Safe or Unsafe driving behaviors.

Highway Transportation System Regulations

- ◆ Federal, State and Local governments working together
- ◆ Speed limits-“ speed zoning” (changing speed limits based on growth and needs)
- ◆ Traffic Laws and enforcement
- ◆ Vehicle Safety
- ◆ Vehicle Registration, Licensing, and Inspections
- ◆ Highway Construction and Maintenance
- ◆ State and local laws and rules may vary

2. The Responsibilities of Driving

- ◆ Vehicle condition
- ◆ Knowledge of rules and regulations for operating a motor vehicle

- ◆ Anticipating the actions of others using proper visual skills
- ◆ Managing space around vehicle and ability to adjust and adapt
- ◆ Demonstrate proper use of the 3 car controls, steering, braking and acceleration
- ◆ Respect for other road users in the HTS
- ◆ Driver and Passenger protection- seat belts, headlights, passive and active restraints
- ◆ Physical condition of driver
- ◆ Mental condition of driver
- ◆ Dedication to improve and increase driving skills and processes

The Values of Driver Education

- ◆ Knowledge of laws, rules and regulations
- ◆ Handling emotions behind the wheel
- ◆ Understanding of your vehicle
- ◆ Handling emergencies
- ◆ Awareness of alcohol, drugs and driver distraction
- ◆ Knowledge of managing time , time space and distance around your car
- ◆ Understanding vehicle controls and handling
- ◆ Understanding of buying, insuring and maintaining a car

3. The Risks of Driving

What is Risk?

The chance of injury, death or property damage, to you or others, from a vehicle collision.

How do we assess risk?

By anticipating and evaluating the actions of others, as well as, weather and the driving environment

How do we manage risk?

By making adjustments in steering, braking and speed well in advance.

Causes of Risk:

- ◆ Driver Inexperience
- ◆ Improper Speed
- ◆ Driver Distraction
- ◆ Driver Fatigue
- ◆ Alcohol and Drugs
- ◆ Mental and or emotional state of the driver

Managing Time, Space, and Visibility – Introduction to the defensive driving systems

The Smith system

1. Aim High in Steering- visual lead time
2. Keep Your Eyes Moving- stay alert, eyes never fixate on one object
3. Get the Big Picture- see everything, the dog, the pedestrian, other cars etc.
4. Make Sure Other Drivers See You- drive in a position where you can be seen by others
5. Leave Yourself an Out- always plan an escape route

SIPDE

1. Search- visual lead time, gather data
2. Identify- problems in your path
3. Predict- “the worst” actions of others
4. Decide- how will you manage the risk?
5. Execute- your plan, by steering, braking or accelerating away from problem

Chapter 3 Key Terms

Highway Transportation System

Speed Zoning

Risk

Risk assessment

Risk Management

Smith System

SIPDE System

Visual Lead Time

Resources

Responsible Driving Textbook – McGraw-Hill

<http://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/program/responsible-driving-2016/MKTSP-RCP15M0.html>

Driver Right Textbook – Pearson

<http://www.phschool.com/webcodes10/index.cfm?wcprefix=cyk&wcsuffix=9999&area=view>

Sample Videos:

Teaching Teenagers How to Drive Safely – Ford’s Driving Skills for Life series

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdlQprj_4Ts

Teaching Your Teens to Drive- AAA video - <https://www.aaafoundation.org/videos-list>

Distractions and Teen Driver Crashes- AAA video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDWmwxQ_NnY

Sharing the Road with Trucks- AAA video - <https://www.aaafoundation.org/sharing-road-big-trucks>

Visual Perception- AAA video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8YS8rwWwbl>

Managing Space and Time for Safe Driving- AAA video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMJJmNW6iu0>

Anticipate by Looking Ahead- AAA video - <https://www.aaafoundation.org/videos-list>