

***NORTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM***

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Northern Wells Community Schools offers a state approved driver education program to its students at the cost of **\$380.00**. The cost of students outside of the Northern Wells Community School district will be **\$420.00**. This program is offered under the guidelines of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. We must adhere to their rules. NO exceptions can be made.

The program consists of 30 hours of on-line classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel driving with observation time. The 30 hours of classroom preparation is **ONLY** offered on-line. On-line classes are available to start anytime during the school year, as long as the student is 15 years of age.

ALL driving is planned for the summer after school is out. All driving begins and ends at Norwell High School unless otherwise scheduled. You must provide transportation to and from the school.

Enrollment **WILL** be limited to the amount of open driving spots available. If you are interested in enrolling, please enroll early or call our office to make sure room is available.

ON-LINE CLASS

We offer our classroom portion through an on-line company, Welcome Driver Indiana. A student **must be 15** to begin the on-line class.

The on-line class is offered via the internet through an e-mail address. NWCS purchases an on-line access code through the company and the company then e-mails the code to allow the student to begin the class. The company does not allow the student to work on the on-line class more than 3 hours per day. All lessons have to be completed with a score of 80% or higher and a minimum of 30 hours spent on the program. The BMV requires the on-line company to mandate a student finish a minimum of 30 hours of instructional time for the on-line class. Some students will complete all the lessons for the program before 30 hours, but they then have to continue until a minimum of 30 hours is reached by completing additional assignments.

The company also gives the student 60 days to complete the course before an additional fee has to be paid to extend the time. (The cost of the extended time must be paid directly to the on-line company.)

If you decide to take the on-line class option through NWCS, please fill out the enrollment form; include a deposit of \$75.00; and include an e-mail address to receive the code and begin the class.

TO RECEIVE YOUR PERMIT (NEW LAW EFFECTIVE 7/23/19)

The new law now allows NWCS to be the issuer of the permit paperwork. To receive the permit paperwork the student must be 15 years old; enrolled in an on-line class; and have started the on-line class. If you enroll in the on-line class through NWCS, I am able to see if you have started the on-line class and watch the progress. If you decide to go with an outside company approved by the BMV, I will need proof you finished the class to issue the permit paperwork.

The BMV requires each student to be enrolled in an on-line program and have the following information when acquiring their driver education permit. **You need a CDE form, issued by NWCS (after the on-line class has been started), and the information required by the BMV.** The student will also have to take a written test at the BMV over the Indiana Driver's Manual prior to receiving the driver education permit.

SUMMER DRIVING

Summer driving spots may be limited due to available openings. The driving instructors only take so many students for the summer driving. **If driving spots fill up, enrollment for the program will be closed.**

Driving information will be sent out in early April to ask each student if they have any conflicts (i.e. vacation, camps) that would interfere with their six hours of driving and observation time.

The actual driving schedules will be sent out sometime in May.

CLASSROOM AND DRIVE PORTION GRADING

The State of Indiana changed the law for students enrolled in driver education in November, 2008, in regards to the grading system.

The law states students will NO longer receive a letter grade for driver education in either the classroom or driving portions. Students will receive a PASS or FAIL. The percentage the state will recognize as passing is an 80% (or a B-). A student must receive this percentage in both the classroom portion and the driving portion to retain their driver education permit. If a student receives a FAIL in either portion, the school is required by law to notify the BMV and the student's driver education permit will be revoked immediately.

If a student's driver education permit is revoked because of failing driver education, the student will receive a letter from the State stating the driver education permit is no longer good. After receiving the letter, the student will then follow the BMV's learner permit laws. You will need to contact the license branch for information about how to obtain a learner's permit.

DRIVE TEST

Northern Wells Community Schools offers the required behind-the-wheel drive test to our students who PASS driver education. There is an additional charge of \$15.00 for the drive test. The \$15.00 is payable at the time of the drive test. The test is offered in the summer ONLY. Drive test are ONLY given on certain days..so schedule early after you are done driving.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

Fill out the enrollment form completely.

Return the enrollment form to your school office (or mail it to NWCS, 312 N Jefferson Street, Ossian IN 46777) with a **\$75.00** deposit. Checks should be made out to "NWCS".

BALANCE DUE

The balance for the driver education program is due before the student finishes their driving. You MAY make regular payments to the school secretary or at the Superintendent's office to offset a large balance due.

If you have any additional questions, please call Stephanie at 622-4125, extension 1006.