Arlington Public Schools Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel Program

Students eligible for the Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel (BTW) must meet the prerequisites and requirements as prescribed by the Code of Virginia §22.1-205. The program is also contingent on the availability of the school's Behind-the-Wheel instructors.

Students must be:

- 15 years and 6 months old
- A Virginia resident
- Possess a current Virginia's Learner's permit
- Currently enrolled in an Arlington Public Schools high school
- Completed the APS driver education classroom and parent/student safety components
- DEC-8 Completion Card (pink)
- In attendance with parent/guardian at the required by law Parent/Teen Driver Education Meeting during the online instruction (required for behind the wheel instruction)
- Willing to schedule the minimum periods of in-car instruction (7 periods on street instruction and 7 periods observation instruction) at the availability of the school's behind-the-wheel instructor's schedule. While the 7 periods of observation are waived due to COVID and Code of Virginia, APS will maintain this practice in efforts to provide enhanced instruction.
- Maintain all APS/VDH/CDC COVID guidelines at all times during the driver education instructional periods

Prior to the first session of the Behind the Wheel instruction, student must complete payment through the school bookkeeper. The APS Behind-the-Wheel lab fee of \$0.00 (based on school year).

By signing this form, the student and parent/guardian agree to the above requirements.	
Student's Name:	Date:
Student's Signature:	
Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:
Driver Education Teacher Signature:	Date:

In accordance with provisions of the National Highway Safety Act of 1966 (23 USC § 401 et seq.) and § 46.2-334 of the *Code of Virginia*, local school boards shall determine whether to offer a driver education program, and, if offered, whether it will be elective or required. School divisions offering programs that comply with the standardized program of study and regulations established by the Board of Education and the provisions of § 22.1-205 of the *Code of Virginia* are entitled to participate in the distribution of state funds for driver education.

A state-approved driver education program consists of a minimum of 36 periods of classroom instruction and <u>14 periods of in-car instruction</u>. The standardized driver education program established by the Board of Education requires that:

- Classroom and in-car instruction shall follow the standardized program of study.
- The length of a class period must be a minimum of <u>50 minutes</u>.
- Students must drive a minimum of 50 miles during the in-car phase of instruction.
- In-car instruction must be limited to no more than two periods of instruction in any 24-hour period, of which at least one must be actual driving.

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