

Rensselaer Central High School

Driver Education COVID-19 Protocol

Rensselaer Central High School is planning on beginning our summer driver education program on Monday, July 6th. Per Governor Holcomb's executive orders, schools will at that time be open for students to return. We currently have approximately 50 students enrolled in our driver education program. Our plan is to have 2 separate classrooms of approximately 25 students per class. When we drive, it will only be the instructor and the student.

Using the guidelines to schools by the Indiana State Department of Education and seeing how other driver education schools are currently successfully implementing their programs, we are planning on using the following procedures:

Classroom Procedure

- Classroom will be held in the small lecture hall (Room 206). This is a big room where we can really spread out students easily to a minimum of 6 to 10 feet apart.
- Masks are recommended but not mandatory since we will be separated.
- There will be no formal breaks. Students can use restrooms on a per need basis.
- Classroom materials will not be shared.
- The classroom will be thoroughly disinfected at the conclusion of each class.
- All students will be screened by the instructor before entering the classroom (Please see Mandatory Screening on Page 2).

Driving Procedure

- Students will drive for 1 hour at a time with instructor.
- Students are to wait inside family car until instructor calls them to car.
- Each student must wear a mask for each driving lesson.
- Each instructor will wear a mask.
- Student driver and instructor will disinfect hands before driving instruction begins.
- Instructor will disinfect components of car after each hour of instruction including:
 - Steering Wheel and Adjustment Lever
 - Dash Board
 - Seat Belts and Latching Mechanisms
 - Wiper and Turn Signal Levers
 - Gear Shift
 - Center Console
 - Seat and Seat Controls
 - Head Restraints
 - Mirror Controls
 - Door Handles
 - Keys
 - Any Other Surfaces Likely to be Touched.
- We will also not be using the air recirculating feature.
- We will also have windows partially open.

Mandatory Screening For Driving and Class

Each student will be screened before driving and before entering the classroom. If any student exhibits any of the following symptoms, they will not be allowed to drive or attend class.

- A fever of 100.4° F or greater
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Return to School After Exclusion

Once a student is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the CDC. Currently those guidelines are:

Untested

Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms may return if the following three conditions are met:

- They have not had a fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.

Tested Positive- Symptomatic

Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:

- The individual no longer has a fever (without the use medicine that reduces fevers); and
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
- The individual has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.

Tested Positive- Asymptomatic

Persons who have not had symptoms but test positive for COVID-19 may return when they have gone ten calendar days without symptoms and have been released by a healthcare provider.

Students may also return if the student's health care provider approves them to do so in writing.

These guidelines are being implemented for the safety of the students and instructors. We believe that we can successfully have a safe, fun environment for the students to learn how to drive while taking the necessary safety measures against COVID-19. If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to our program or our safety measures, please feel free to contact me at chris.meeks@rcsc.k12.in.us or 219-863-7710.