



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## Can I get private lessons before I start behind the wheel?

A. Yes. As long as you have a valid VA Learner's Permit, we can provide you with in-car instruction. We provide these sessions as private 1-hour sessions at an hourly rate. You cannot however, start your Behind-the-Wheel program until you have completed your classroom Driver's Education Course. You will need to provide us with proof of classroom completion with a DEC 1 card from a public/private school or a DTS B from a Commercial Driving School.

## Do you offer free pick-up and drop-off for students?

A. Yes, as long as it is in the local area. If it is at a different location from where you are picked up, we do require advanced notice and parental consent.

## How are the driving sessions scheduled?

A. For students under the age of 18, scheduling works best when you have a partner that wants to drive with you and you have a similar schedule, however in cases when that is not possible we will arrange for you to have your 7 sessions with another student.

## If I'm 18 years old, do I still have to take Behind-the-Wheel?

A. **No. New legislation was passed effective 7/1/2016** that allows those who are at least 18 years old to be issued a driver's license after holding a learner's permit for 60 days. After 60 days, you can take your Road Skills Test at the DMV. No proof of completion of a driver education program is required for those 18+.

## How long will it take to finish the BTW lessons?

A. That depends on your availability and our schedule. If the student is ready for his/her road test, we may be able to finish him/her in a short time span. If a student has limited driving experience, it is preferable to spread out lessons so they can practice what they have learned with a parent in between lessons.

*Note: Per the code of Virginia, in-car instruction for BTW must include 7 sessions of in-car instruction. The 7 sessions of instruction must include a minimum of 50 minutes of actual driving and 50 minutes of observation of another student.*

## Who evaluates me for my Road Skills Test?

A. For all drivers under the age of 18, your BTW instructor will evaluate you on the last day of BTW. For all drivers over the age of 18, you must go to the DMV for your road skills test.



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## Do I have to go to DMV after I pass my Road Skills Evaluation?

A. No. Your instructor will issue a DTS B, which is your temporary driver's license that permits you to drive alone. Your DTS B is valid for 6 months. We mail a copy of your DTS B to the DMV. They process your new permanent license and send it to the Juvenile District Court. The court will mail you a letter inviting you and a parent to the Licensing Ceremony, where you will exchange your learner's permit and DTS B for your new permanent license.

## What if I forget, or have to cancel?

A. If you have to cancel, we do require at least 12 hours notice. If you forget and are a "no show" you will be assessed a \$30 no show fee. It is important that you try to adhere to the schedule so all students are able to complete their observation and driving time in a timely manner.

## What must I do to get scheduled for Street SMART Programs?

A. Call us or email us so we can discuss your needs, then simply download a SSDA Student Contract from our [website](#) to complete and bring with you for your first session.

## What do I need for my first day?

- ☐ VA Learner's Permit
- ☐ A photocopy of your VA Learner's Permit
- ☐ DEC-1 Card from a public/private school or DTS B Form from a Driver Training School (Behind-the-wheel only)
- ☐ Signed SSDA Student Contract
- ☐ Payment for requested services