



Georgia Driver's Education Commission

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www.gahighwaysafety.org/gdec/

PUBLIC NOTICE: GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION

The Georgia Driver's Education Commission will conduct its first quarter Commission meeting on September 29, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive SE, Suite 370, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. The public is welcome to attend. Meeting documents and public access information will be posted on <https://www.gahighwaysafety.org/gdec-resources/> by 5:00 pm on September 25, 2025.

1	Call to Order	Allen Poole	
2	Roll Call	Josh Turner	
3	Adoption of Agenda	Allen Poole	Page 1
4	Approval of June 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes	Allen Poole	Page 2
5	Public Comments	Allen Poole	
6	Staff Report	Josh Turner	
	Scholarship Reports for July 2025, August 2025, and September 2025		Page 13
	Scholarship Redemption and Customer Service Reports for June, 2025, July, 2025, and August 2025.		Page 16
	GDOT's Daily Fatality Report		Page 19
7	Consider Adoption of Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report	Allen Poole	Page 20
8	Consider Amendments to the Georgia Driver's Education Commission Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Eligibility Requirements	Josh Turner	Page 36
9	Other New Business	Allen Poole	
10	Adjournment	Allen Poole	

Next Meeting: December 9, 2025, 1:30 PM

MINUTES OF THE
GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION

June 10, 2025

1:30 p.m.

Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety

2 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, SE, Suite 370, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Chairman Allen Poole called the June 10, 2025, meeting of Georgia Driver's Education Commission meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were as follows:

Board Members in Attendance	Board Members not in Attendance
Mr. Allen Poole, Chairman	Dr. Malika Reed Wilkins
Dr. Andrea D. Daniel	
Ms. Angelique B. McClendon	
Mr. J. Barry Schrenk	
Ms. Kathy L. Watts	

Non-Members in Attendance were as follows:

Mr. Josh Turner, Georgia Driver's Education Commission

Ms. Kisha Bell, Georgia Driver's Education Commission

Ms. Lorraine Crupi, Georgia Driver's Education Commission

Ms. Amy Radley, Georgia Attorney General's Office

Mr. Elliot Dordick, Georgia Attorney General's Office

Ms. Lisa Owens, Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Ms. Laura Bohlander, Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Mr. Robert Hydrick, Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Opening Remarks:

Chairman Allen Poole welcomed everyone to the board meeting and congratulated Commissioner Angelique B. McClendon on her appointment as the Georgia Department of Driver Services Commissioner. He stated that the board will greatly miss Commissioner Spencer Moore and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Poole presented the agenda. Mr. J. Barry Schrenk made a motion to adopt the agenda. Chairman Poole seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of March 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Chairman Poole presented the March 17, 2025, meeting minutes. Mr. Schrenk made a motion to approve the March 17, 2025, meeting minutes. Commissioner McClendon seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairman Poole offered a time for Public Comment. There was no response.

Staff Report

Chairman Poole recognized Mr. Josh Turner to present the staff report. Mr. Turner began by welcoming our new staff member, Ms. Lorraine Crupi, who joined the staff on April 1, 2025. Ms. Crupi's primary responsibility will be processing scholarship invoices for the scholarship program. She is being trained by Ms. Pamela Farr, who will remain under contract. Mr. Turner also welcomed Commissioner McClendon to the board.

Mr. Turner presented the Scholarship Reports for the months of April 2025, May 2025 and June 2025. A copy of the reports are included below.



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: April 2025	Monthly Allocation: 576	
	Applied	Approved
Total New Applicants This Month:	576	576
Tier 1 New Applicants This Month:	7	7
Tier 2 New Applicants This Month	569	569

Reconsideration Statistics	Applied	Approved	Denied	\$ Needed to Award Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	0
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month
1	0	0	0	0	0	12
2	0	0	1	0	0	31
3	0	0	0	0	0	40
4	0	0	0	0	0	28
5	0	0	0	0	0	22
6	0	0	0	0	0	67
7	0	0	0	0	0	25
8	0	0	2	0	0	25
9	0	0	0	0	0	38
10	0	0	0	0	0	43
11	0	0	4	0	0	56
12	0	0	0	0	0	32
13	0	0	0	0	0	85
14	0	0	0	0	0	65
Total	0	0	7	0	0	569
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 284,500.00



**Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program
Monthly Scholarship Report**

Month: May 2025	Monthly Allocation: 743	
	Applied	Approved
Total New Applicants This Month:	743	743
Tier 1 New Applicants This Month:	6	6
Tier 2 New Applicants This Month	737	737

Reconsideration Statistics	Applied	Approved	Denied	\$ Needed to Award Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	0
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month
1	0	0	1	0	0	22
2	0	0	0	0	0	52
3	0	0	1	0	0	41
4	0	0	0	0	0	31
5	0	0	0	0	0	20
6	0	0	0	0	0	79
7	0	0	0	0	0	31
8	0	0	0	0	0	50
9	0	0	2	0	0	67
10	0	0	0	0	0	55
11	0	0	1	0	0	84
12	0	0	1	0	0	52
13	0	0	0	0	0	86
14	0	0	0	0	0	67
Total	0	0	6	0	0	737
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 368,500.00



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: June 2025	Monthly Allocation: 824	
	Applied	Approved
Total New Applicants This Month:	824	824
Tier 1 New Applicants This Month:	9	9
Tier 2 New Applicants This Month	815	815

Reconsideration Statistics	Applied	Approved	Denied	\$ Needed to Award Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	0
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month
1	0	0	0	0	0	32
2	0	0	0	0	0	60
3	0	0	1	0	0	56
4	0	0	1	0	0	37
5	0	0	0	0	0	21
6	0	0	1	0	0	101
7	0	0	0	0	0	9
8	0	0	1	0	0	63
9	0	0	1	0	0	55
10	0	0	2	0	0	62
11	0	0	1	0	0	76
12	0	0	0	0	0	70
13	0	0	1	0	0	79
14	0	0	0	0	0	94
Total	0	0	9	0	0	815
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 407,500.00

Mr. Turner then presented Scholarship Redemption and Customer Service Reports for March 2025, April 2025 and May 2025. A copy of the reports are included below.

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for April 2025			
Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed	Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	108	South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	7
New London School of Driving Inc.	62	DriveSmart Georgia	6
West Metro Driving School	32	White County Board of Education	6
Advance Driving Academy	29	Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	6
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	25	Georgia Driving School, Inc.	5
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	19	Gordon County Board of Education	5
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	19	Ogeechee Technical College	5
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	18	Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	5
Marietta City Board of Education	17	Southern Regional Technical College	5
Kennesaw Driving School	16	Augusta Technical College	4
Southern Crescent Technical College	16	Collins Driving School	4
Taggart's Driving School	14	Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	4
Central Georgia Technical College	11	Oconee Fall Line Technical College	3
Savannah Technical College	11	West Georgia Technical College	3
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	10	Athens Technical College	2
A Driving Advantage	10	Coastal Pines Technical College	2
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	9	FB Driving, Inc.	2
The Wiser Driver	9	Lanier Technical College	2
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	7	Calhoun City BOE	1
AA Academy of Action Driving School	7	Duluth DUI and Driving School	1
Albany Technical College	7	Southern Defensive Driving School	1
North Georgia Technical College	7	Total	542

Customer Service Report for April 2025			
GDEC Provider Email Contacts	67	Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,461
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	178	Invoices Processed: 122 totaling \$118,891.64 accounting for 389 students	

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for March 2025			
Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed	Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	147	Central Georgia Technical College	8
New London School of Driving Inc.	62	Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	6
West Metro Driving School	55	A Driving Advantage	6
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	34	Southern Defensive Driving School	5
Kennesaw Driving School	26	Southern Regional Technical College	5
Advance Driving Academy	23	Collins Driving School	4
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	20	FB Driving, Inc.	4
Albany Technical College	19	Taggart's Driving School	4
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	18	Athens Technical College	3
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	18	DriveSmart Georgia	3
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	15	Safe America Foundation, Inc.	3
North Georgia Technical College	15	Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	3
The Wiser Driver	15	AA Academy of Action Driving School	2
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	14	Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	2
Marietta City Board of Education	14	Duluth DUI and Driving School	2
Savannah Technical College	13	Georgia Piedmont Technical College	2
Augusta Technical College	12	West Georgia Technical College	2
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	12	White County Board of Education	2
Southern Crescent Technical College	11	Coastal Pines Technical College	1
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	10	Gordon County Board of Education	1
Lanier Technical College	9	Oconee County Board of Education	1
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	9	South Georgia Technical College	1
		Total	641

Customer Service Report for March 2025			
GDEC Provider Email Contacts	45	Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,382
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	216	Invoices Processed: 115 totaling \$172,418.92 accounting for 379 students	

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for May 2025			
Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed	Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	149	DriveSmart Georgia	9
New London School of Driving Inc.	68	Gwinnett County Board Of Education	9
West Metro Driving School	49	Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	9
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	39	Albany Technical College	8
Advance Driving Academy	29	A Driving Advantage	8
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	20	West Georgia Technical College	8
Kennesaw Driving School	20	AA Academy of Action Driving School	7
Augusta Technical College	19	Lanier Technical College	6
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	18	Coastal Pines Technical College	5
Taggart's Driving School	17	Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	4
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	17	Collins Driving School	4
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	16	FB Driving, Inc.	4
The Wiser Driver	15	Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	4
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	15	Southern Crescent Technical College	4
North Georgia Technical College	14	White County Board of Education	4
Savannah Technical College	14	Athens Technical College	3
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	13	Calhoun City BOE	3
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	12	Georgia Piedmont Technical College	3
Gordon County Board of Education	11	Safe America Foundation, Inc.	3
Marietta City Board of Education	11	Duluth DUI and Driving School	2
Ogeechee Technical College	11	Oconee County Board of Education	2
Southern Regional Technical College	11	Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	1
Oconee Fall Line Technical College	10	Southern Defensive Driving School	1
Central Georgia Technical College	9	South Georgia Technical College	1
		Total	719

Customer Service Report for May 2025			
GDEC Provider Email Contacts	50	Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,722
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	179	Invoices Processed: 133 totaling \$178,634.14 accounting for 384 students	

Mr. Turner presented the Georgia Department of Transportation's Daily Fatality Report from June 4, 2025. A copy of the report is provided below.



Georgia Traffic Deaths - Yearly Total and Comparison
GDOT Office of Traffic Operations
Fatalities as of 06/04/2025

ROUTE TYPE

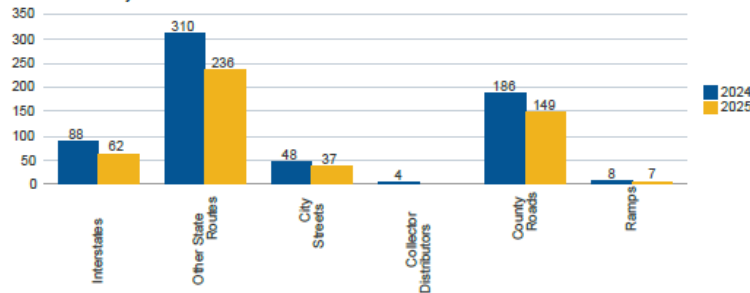
Fatality Details	TOTAL		ANNUAL		YEAR TO DATE		YTD CHANGE	
Fatality Type	2023	2024	Difference	Percent	2024	2025	Difference	Percent
Interstates	227	187	-40	-18	88	62	-26	-30
Collector Distributors	6	7	1	17	4			
Ramps	39	17	-22	-56	8	7	-1	-13
Other State Routes	818	747	-71	-9	310	238	-74	-24
County Roads	457	404	-53	-12	186	149	-37	-20
City Streets	121	113	-8	-7	48	37	-11	-23
Grand Total	1668	1475	-193	-12	644	491	-153	-24

YTD Fatalities by EMPHASIS TYPE

Fatality Details	TOTAL		ANNUAL		YEAR TO DATE		YTD CHANGE	
Fatality Type	2023	2024	Difference	Percent	2024	2025	Difference	Percent
Pedestrians	324	297	-27	-8	110	99	-11	-10
Bikes	24	25	1	4	6	11	5	83
Motorcycles	182	165	-17	-9	77	44	-33	-43
Commercial Motor Vehicle	184	175	-9	-5	79	75	-4	-5
Trains	5	4	-1	-20		3		
Ages < 15	53	53	0	0	21	25	4	19
Ages 15-24	260	246	-14	-5	125	73	-52	-42
Ages 25-65	1110	916	-194	-17	405	305	-100	-25
Ages > 65	241	253	12	5	101	85	-16	-16
Intersections	376	347	-29	-8	148	118	-30	-20
Roadway Departure	541	449	-92	-17	222	145	-77	-35
Lane Departure	617	451	-166	-27	215	156	-59	-27
Seat Belt (No/Unknown)	697	582	-115	-16	282	213	-69	-24

Note: Any single fatality may fall into one or more Emphasis Types.

YTD Fatalities by ROUTE TYPE



YTD Fatalities by EMPHASIS TYPE

Furthermore, Mr. Turner announced that the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, will host the 2025 Georgia Highway Conference from August 11 through 13, 2025, at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, Georgia. Mr. Turner emphasized that travel expenses for board members would be covered and encouraged them to contact him as soon as possible if they wish to attend. Chairman Poole also invited the board to attend the GOHS conference.

Chairman Poole made a motion to approve the staff report. Ms. Daniels seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of Vice Chairman

Mr. Turner explained O.C.G.A. § 15-21-173(d) provides that the chairperson of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission is appointed by the Governor and that the commission may elect other offices as it considers appropriate and with the retirement of Commissioner Spencer Moore, there is a vacancy in the

position of Vice Chairman. Mr. Turner explained that the primary responsibility of the Vice Chairman is to execute documents and contracts in the extended absence of the Chairman and to preside over Commission meetings in the absence of the Chairman.

Chairman Poole inquired if there were any candidates for the Vice Chair position. Mr. Schrenk nominated Ms. Angelique McClendon. Chairman Poole asked if there were there any other nominees.

Mr. Schrenk made a motion to close the nominations. Chairman Poole seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and with no other nominees, Ms. McClendon was elected Vice Chairwoman.

Consider Amendment to Georgia Driver's Education Commission By-Laws

Mr. Turner stated that the bylaws, in Article II, specify the principal office of the commission as being located at the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). GOHS has relocated from 7 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, Georgia to 2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive SE, Suite 370, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia and the bylaws need to be updated to reflect the new location. There were no questions or further discussion.

Dr. Andrea F. Daniel made a motion to amend the bylaws as presented. Vice Chairwoman McClendon seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider Amendment to Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

Mr. Turner presented the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. He explained that the amended budget approved by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor included an increase in appropriations of \$522,000 and that all those funds would be applied to scholarships. Additionally, an additional \$142,398 is being allocated to the scholarships line item from other underspent line items for a total increase in scholarships in \$664,398. The other line-item increase is for telecommunications, which was under budgeted at \$2,200. All other line-item changes were due to underspent actual expenses. A copy of the report is included in these minutes.

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment and Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Proposal

Budget Category	Cost Category	Fiscal Year 2025 Budget	Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment #1	Difference between FY 2025 Approved Budget and FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1	Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Proposal	Difference between FY 2026 Proposal and FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1
Computer Charges/Supplies	Computer Charges	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 2,653.00	\$ (2,547.00)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,653.00)
Administrative Fees	Contractual Services			\$ -		\$ -
GOHS Shared Expenses	Contractual Services	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ -	\$ 83,097.00	\$ 72,097.00
Software Support (Scholarship Program IT Support)	Contractual Services	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ (25,000.00)	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
Temporary Labor	Contractual Services	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 32,500.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 7,500.00
Scholarships	Grants	\$ 2,150,000.00	\$ 2,814,398.00	\$ 664,398.00	\$ 2,569,183.00	\$ (245,215.00)
Board Member Expenses	Per Diem	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ (2,000.00)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Personnel Services	Personnel Services	\$ 421,596.00	\$ 349,544.00	\$ (72,052.00)	\$ 468,030.00	\$ 118,486.00
Board Meeting Expenses	Regular Operating	\$ 500.00	\$ 150.00	\$ (350.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ 350.00
Office Supplies	Regular Operating	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 800.00
New Office Space Furnishings	Regular Operating	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 6,645.00	\$ (8,355.00)	\$ -	\$ (6,645.00)
Printing	Regular Operating	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Shipping	Regular Operating	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Software License	Regular Operating	\$ 83,500.00	\$ 83,500.00	\$ -	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Subscriptions, Memberships and Certifications	Regular Operating	\$ 467.00	\$ 467.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 33.00
Rent	Rent	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ (26,000.00)		\$ (10,000.00)
Equipment Rental	Rent Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Telecommunications	Telecommunications	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ -	\$ (12,000.00)
Staff & Board Member Travel	Travel	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 13,443.00	\$ (6,557.00)	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 6,557.00
Contingency		\$ 9,810.00	\$ 9,810.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 190.00
Total		\$ 2,929,873.00	\$ 3,452,310.00	\$ 522,437.00	\$ 3,452,310.00	\$ -

Ms. McClendon made a motion to approve the Amended FY 2025 Budget. Dr. Daniels seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Poole thanked the staff at the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Finance Director, Ms. Laura Bohlander.

Consider Adoption of Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

Chairman Poole asked Mr. Turner to present the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. Mr. Turner explained the budget in detail by line item. A copy of the report is included in these minutes.

There was discussion among the Board and Mr. Turner answered questions for the members.

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment and Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Proposal

Budget Category	Cost Category	Fiscal Year 2025 Budget	Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment #1	Difference between FY 2025 Approved Budget and FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1	Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Proposal	Difference between FY 2026 Proposal and FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1
Computer Charges/Supplies	Computer Charges	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 2,653.00	\$ (2,947.00)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,653.00)
Administrative Fees	Contractual Services			\$ -		\$ -
GOHS Shared Expenses	Contractual Services	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ -	\$ 83,097.00	\$ 72,097.00
Software Support (Scholarship Program IT Support)	Contractual Services	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ (25,000.00)	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
Temporary Labor	Contractual Services	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 32,500.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 7,500.00
Scholarships	Grants	\$ 2,150,000.00	\$ 2,814,398.00	\$ 664,398.00	\$ 2,569,183.00	\$ (245,215.00)
Board Member Expenses	Per Diem	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ (2,000.00)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Personnel Services	Personnel Services	\$ 421,596.00	\$ 349,544.00	\$ (72,052.00)	\$ 468,030.00	\$ 118,486.00
Board Meeting Expenses	Regular Operating	\$ 500.00	\$ 150.00	\$ (350.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ 350.00
Office Supplies	Regular Operating	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 800.00
New Office Space Furnishings	Regular Operating	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 6,645.00	\$ (8,355.00)	\$ -	\$ (6,645.00)
Printing	Regular Operating	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Shipping	Regular Operating	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Software License	Regular Operating	\$ 83,500.00	\$ 83,500.00	\$ -	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Subscriptions, Memberships and Certifications	Regular Operating	\$ 467.00	\$ 467.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 33.00
Rent	Rent	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ (26,000.00)		\$ (10,000.00)
Equipment Rental	Rent Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Telecommunications	Telecommunications	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ -	\$ (12,000.00)
Staff & Board Member Travel	Travel	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 13,443.00	\$ (6,557.00)	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 6,557.00
Contingency		\$ 9,810.00	\$ 9,810.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 190.00
Total		\$ 2,929,873.00	\$ 3,452,310.00	\$ 522,437.00	\$ 3,452,310.00	\$ -

Dr. Daniel made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 budget as presented. Mr. Schrenk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of Fiscal Year 2026 Meeting Schedule

First Quarter First Quarter Meeting: September 16, 2025

Second Quarter Meeting: December 9, 2025

Third Quarter Meeting: March 10, 2026

Fourth Quarter Meeting: June 9, 2026

Chairman Pool made a motion to approve the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026 meeting Schedule. Mr. Schrenk made a motion to set the Fiscal Year 2026 Meeting Schedule (September 16, 2025, December 9, 2025, March 10, 2026, and June 9, 2026). Chairman Poole seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Daniel offered to host the March 10, 2026, board meeting at Athens Technical College. Chairman Poole thanked Dr. Daniel for offering to host the meeting and directed Mr. Turner to make arrangements with Dr. Daniel after the new year.

Adjournment

Chairman Poole thanked the Georgia Driver's Education Commission staff for all that they do. Chairman Poole made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Schrenk seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. The Meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kischa Bell
Operational Analyst
Georgia Driver's Education Commission



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: July 2025		Monthly Allocation: 400	
		Applied	Approved
Tier 1 New Applicants:		11	11
Tier 2 New Applicants:		836	389
New Applicants Automatically Denied	Due to	168	0
Exceeding Household Income Limits			
Total New Applicants This Month:		1015	400

Reconsideration Statistics	Applied	Approved	Denied	\$ Needed to Award Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	0
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month
1	0	0	1	0	0	25
2	0	0	2	0	0	29
3	0	0	0	0	0	29
4	0	0	0	0	0	29
5	0	0	0	0	0	17
6	0	0	1	0	0	29
7	0	0	0	0	0	29
8	0	0	1	0	0	28
9	0	0	2	0	0	29
10	0	0	0	0	0	29
11	0	0	2	0	0	29
12	0	0	1	0	0	29
13	0	0	0	0	0	29
14	0	0	1	0	0	29
Total	0	0	11	0	0	389
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,150.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 252,850.00



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: August 2025		Monthly Allocation: 400	
		Applied	Approved
Tier 1 New Applicants:		9	9
Tier 2 New Applicants:		543	391
New Applicants Automatically Denied	Due to	126	0
Exceeding Household Income Limits			
Total New Applicants This Month:		678	400

Reconsideration Statistics	Applied	Approved	Denied	\$ Needed to Award Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	152
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month
1	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	50	0
3	0	0	1	0	31	0
4	0	0	0	0	28	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	51	0
7	0	0	1	0	4	0
8	0	0	0	0	7	0
9	0	0	3	0	25	0
10	0	0	0	0	37	0
11	0	0	1	0	43	0
12	0	0	0	0	21	0
13	0	0	1	0	51	0
14	0	0	0	0	43	0
Total	0	0	9	0	391	0
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,850.00	\$ -	\$ 254,150.00	\$ -



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: September 2025		Monthly Allocation: 400	
		Applied	Approved
Tier 1 New Applicants:		5	5
Tier 2 New Applicants:		766	0
New Applicants Automatically Denied	Due to	160	0
Exceeding Household Income Limits			
Total New Applicants This Month:		931	5

Reconsideration Statistics	Applied	Approved	Denied	\$ Needed to Award Denied
Tier 1 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 1 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -
Tier 2 Awaiting First Reconsideration:	543	339	204	\$ 132,600.00
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	56	56	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	766
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	0

Congressional District	Tier 1			Tier 2		
	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month	Denied Twice; Awaiting Final Consideration	Denied Once; Awaiting Second Consideration	Applied this Month & Approved This Month
1	0	0	0	0	10	0
2	0	0	0	6	26	0
3	0	0	1	0	26	0
4	0	0	0	0	26	0
5	0	0	1	0	25	0
6	0	0	0	22	26	0
7	0	0	2	0	20	0
8	0	0	0	0	25	0
9	0	0	0	0	26	0
10	0	0	0	0	26	0
11	0	0	1	0	26	0
12	0	0	0	0	25	0
13	0	0	0	28	26	0
14	0	0	0	0	26	0
Total	0	0	5	56	339	0
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 36,400.00	\$ 220,350.00	\$ -

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for June 2025				
Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed		Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	142		Central Georgia Technical College	8
West Metro Driving School	53		Coastal Pines Technical College	8
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	41		Gwinnett County Board Of Education	8
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	34		Ogeechee Technical College	7
Augusta Technical College	30		Southern Crescent Technical College	7
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	29		North Georgia Technical College	6
New London School of Driving Inc.	29		Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	6
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	26		West Georgia Technical College	5
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	25		AA Academy of Action Driving School	4
Marietta City Board of Education	24		Albany Technical College	4
Advance Driving Academy	19		FB Driving, Inc.	4
Savannah Technical College	19		Georgia Piedmont Technical College	4
Thumbs Up Driving Inc.	19		Oconee Fall Line Technical College	4
Shead Capital Group, LLC	17		Collins Driving School	3
Kristin National, Inc.	16		DriveSmart Systems, Inc.	3
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	15		Gordon County Board of Education	3
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	13		Lanier Technical College	3
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	13		Safe America Foundation, Inc.	3
SGG Enterprises, Inc	12		Hugh Miller	2
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	11		South Georgia Technical College	2
Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	9		Calhoun City BOE	1
Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	9		Duluth DUI and Driving School	1
Southern Regional Technical College	9		White County Board of Education	1
			Total	711

Customer Service Report for June 2025

GDEC Provider Email Contacts	90		Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,184
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	233		Invoices Processed: 152 totaling \$263,3810.02 accounting for 555 students	

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for July 2025				
Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed		Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	87		Coastal Pines Technical College	5
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	29		Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	5
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	25		DriveSmart Systems, Inc.	4
West Metro Driving School	18		Oconee County Board of	4
Savannah Technical College	14		SGG Enterprises, Inc	4
Advance Driving Academy	13		Southern Regional Technical	4
Kristin National, Inc.	12		Wiregrass Georgia Technical	4
Augusta Technical College	11		Collins Driving School	3
AA Academy of Action Driving School	10		South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	3
Albany Technical College	9		South Georgia Technical College	3
Brock's Driver Education School,	9		Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	2
North Georgia Technical College	9		FB Driving, Inc.	2
Thumbs Up Driving Inc.	9		Georgia Piedmont Technical	2
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	8		Lanier Technical College	2
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	8		Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	2
Ogeechee Technical College	8		West Georgia Technical College	2
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving	8		Gordon County Board of	1
Central Georgia Technical College	7		Gwinnett County Board Of	1
Marietta City Board of Education	7		Hugh Miller	1
New London School of Driving Inc.	7		Oconee Fall Line Technical	1
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	6		Safe America Foundation, Inc.	1
Shead Capital Group, LLC	6		Southeastern Technical College	1
Southern Crescent Technical	6		Total	383

Customer Service Report for July 2025

GDEC Provider Email Contacts	40		Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,371
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	167		Invoices Processed: 177 totaling \$307,359.60 accounting for 640 students	

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for August 2025				
Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed		Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	74		Southern Regional Technical College	4
West Metro Driving School	30		Central Georgia Technical College	3
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	22		Lanier Technical College	3
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	16		Marietta City Board of Education	3
New London School of Driving Inc.	11		Southeastern Technical College	3
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	10		AA Academy of Action Driving School	2
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	9		Calhoun City BOE	2
Advance Driving Academy	9		Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	2
SGG Enterprises, Inc	9		Duluth DUI and Driving School	2
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	9		FB Driving, Inc.	2
Albany Technical College	8		Georgia Piedmont Technical College	2
Thumbs Up Driving Inc.	8		Hugh Miller	2
Shead Capital Group, LLC	7		North Georgia Technical College	2
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	6		Southern Crescent Technical College	2
Kristin National, Inc.	6		Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	2
Augusta Technical College	5		DriveSmart Systems, Inc.	1
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	5		Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	1
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	5		Oconee County Board of Education	1
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	5		Oconee Fall Line Technical College	1
Collins Driving School	4		South Georgia Technical College	1
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	4		Total	303

Customer Service Report for August 2025

GDEC Provider Email Contacts	59		Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,293
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	104		Invoices Processed: 149 totaling \$229,920.48 accounting for 472 students	



Georgia Traffic Deaths - Yearly Total and Comparison
GDOT Office of Traffic Operations
Fatalities as of 09/25/2025

ROUTE TYPE

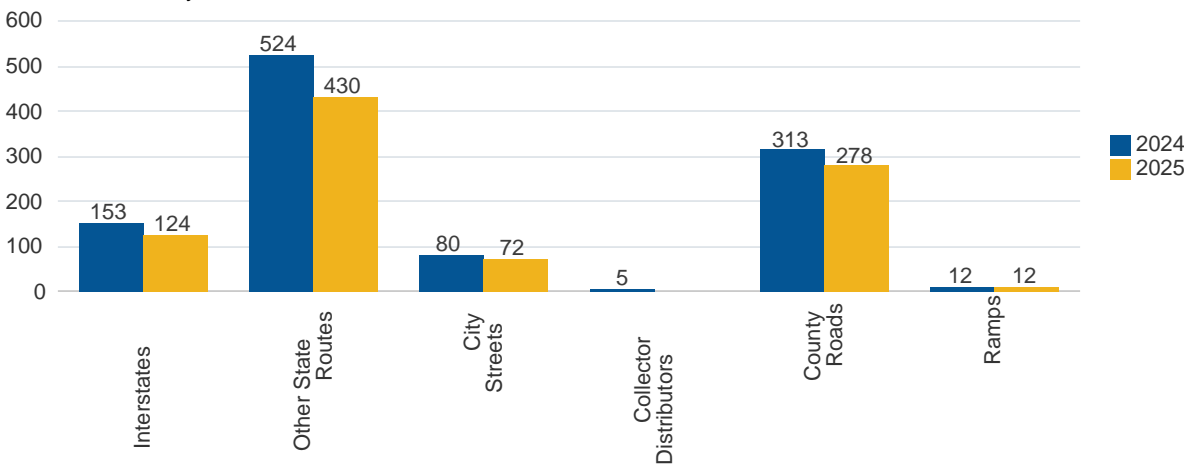
Fatality Details	TOTAL		ANNUAL		YEAR TO DATE		YTD CHANGE	
Fatality Type	2023	2024	Difference	Percent	2024	2025	Difference	Percent
Interstates	227	189	-38	-17	153	124	-29	-19
Collector Distributors	6	7	1	17	5			
Ramps	39	17	-22	-56	12	12	0	0
Other State Routes	818	748	-70	-9	524	430	-94	-18
County Roads	457	408	-49	-11	313	278	-35	-11
City Streets	121	113	-8	-7	80	72	-8	-10
Grand Total	1668	1482	-186	-11	1087	916	-171	-16

YTD Fatalities by EMPHASIS TYPE

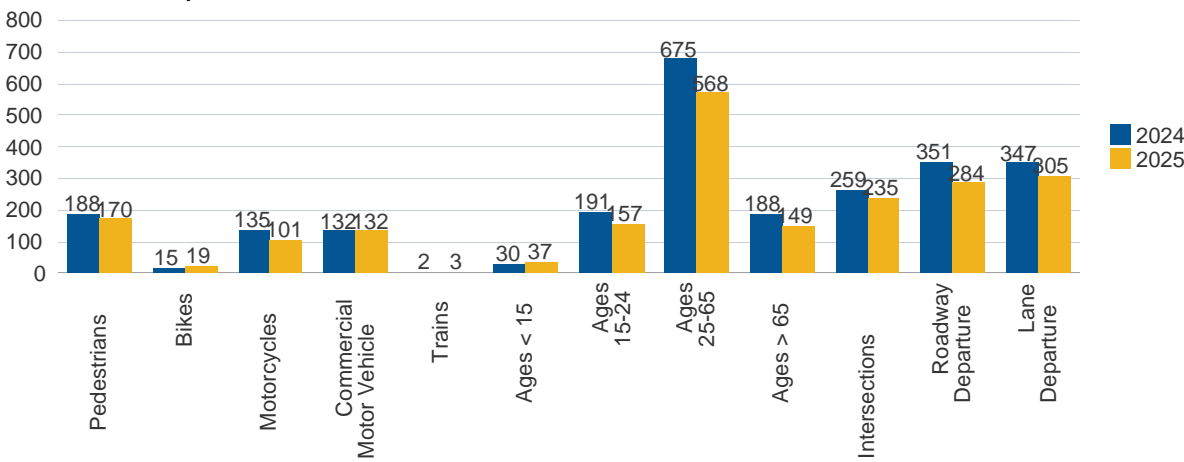
Fatality Details	TOTAL		ANNUAL		YEAR TO DATE		YTD CHANGE	
Fatality Type	2023	2024	Difference	Percent	2024	2025	Difference	Percent
Pedestrians	324	297	-27	-8	188	170	-18	-10
Bikes	24	25	1	4	15	19	4	27
Motorcycles	182	166	-16	-9	135	101	-34	-25
Commercial Motor Vehicle	184	176	-8	-4	133	132	-1	-1
Trains	5	4	-1	-20	2	3	1	50
Ages < 15	53	52	-1	-2	31	37	6	19
Ages 15-24	260	247	-13	-5	191	157	-34	-18
Ages 25-65	1110	922	-188	-17	676	568	-108	-16
Ages > 65	241	254	13	5	191	149	-42	-22
Intersections	376	348	-28	-7	262	235	-27	-10
Roadway Departure	541	453	-88	-16	352	284	-68	-19
Lane Departure	617	455	-162	-26	349	305	-44	-13
Seat Belt (No/Unknown)	697	584	-113	-16	436	375	-61	-14

Note: Any single fatality may fall into one or more Emphasis Types.

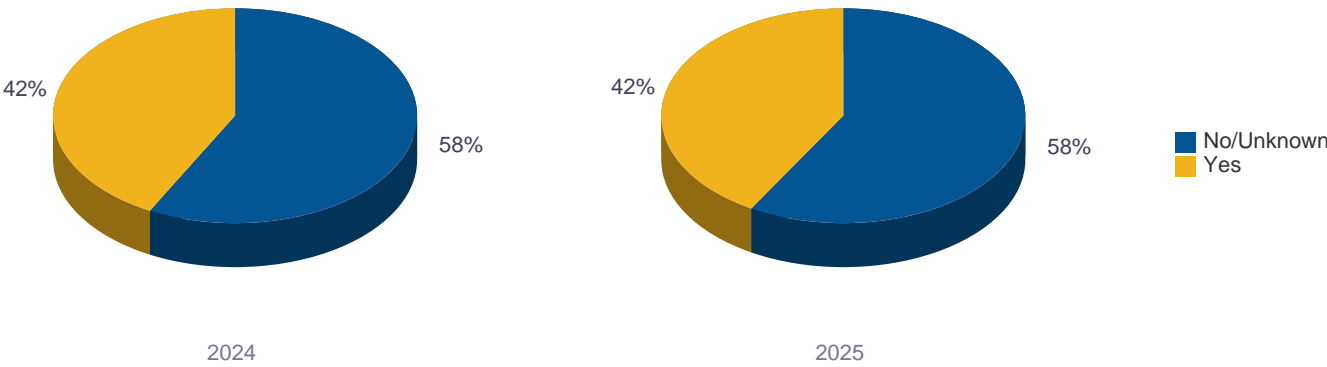
YTD Fatalities by ROUTE TYPE



YTD Fatalities by EMPHASIS TYPE



YTD Seat Belt Fatalities



2025

ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED BY

GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION

WWW.GAHIGHWAYSAFETY.ORG/GDEC

404-656-2769



Georgia Driver's Education Commission

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 15-21-181(b), the Georgia Driver's Education Commission (GDEC) submits this report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the committee chairpersons for the standing committees in the Senate and House of Representatives that are assigned issues related to motor vehicles. This report contains data regarding funds collected from the additional penalty imposed on traffic citations for driver's education for the previous three fiscal years, the amount of such funds appropriated to the commission for each corresponding year, and the manner and purposes for which such funds have been expended.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission is to maximize participation in driver's education and training to reduce motor vehicle crashes by making driver's training accessible and affordable to all Georgians.



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Commission Composition

Under O.C.G.A § 15-21-173, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission consists of eight (8) members who can serve four-year terms. The State Board of Education shall appoint one commission member, and the Department of Driver Services shall appoint two members. The director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety shall appoint one member of the commission. The remaining four members of the commission shall be appointed by the Governor, two of whom shall be public school driver's education providers, and the other two shall be private driver's education providers. The Governor shall designate a chairperson of the commission from among the appointed members.



Allen Poole, Chairman
Director
Governor's Office of Highway Safety
Appointed by the Governor's
Office of Highway Safety



**Angelique McClendon,
Vice Chairman**
Commissioner
Department of Driver Services
Appointed by the Department of
Driver Services



Dr. Andrea Daniel, DBA
President
Athens Technical College
Represents Public Driver's
Education Providers appointed by
the Governor



J. Barry Schrenk
Owner
Taggart's Driving School
Represents Private Driver's Education
Providers appointed by the Governor



Kathy L. Watts
Owner
New London School of Driving
Represents Private Driver's
Education Providers appointed by
the Governor



Dr. Malika Reed Wilkins, PhD
Chief External Affairs & Strategy Officer
Atlanta Regional Commission
Appointed by the Department of
Driver Services

One (1) vacancy appointed by the
Governor representing a Public
Driver's Education Provider

One (1) vacancy appointed by the
State Board of Education

Problem Identification

According to the most recent data available from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), there were 176 young drivers (15-to-20 years) involved in fatal crashes on Georgia roadways in 2023. This is an **8% decrease** (13 fewer young drivers) since the previous year. During this same period, the rate of young drivers involved in fatal crashes per 100,000 population also decreased by 9% (from 20.8 to 18.9). This does not imply that young drivers caused the crash either by their actions or failure to act.

In 2023, young drivers represented 8% of all drivers involved in fatal crashes – similar to the previous year. Over the past decade, most young drivers involved in fatal crashes were in the 18-to-20 age group (Figure 1). In 2023, 70% of all young drivers involved in fatal crashes were in the 18-to-20 age group.

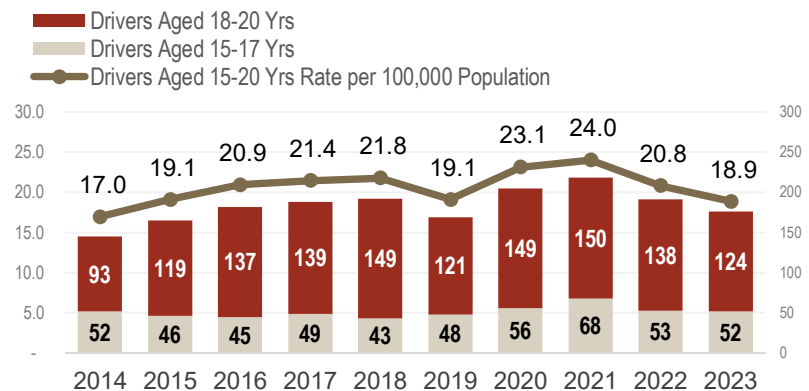
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention¹, teens are at a higher risk of being in a motor vehicle crash compared to any other age group. In 2023:

- **253.8** out of every **100,000** crashes involving drivers aged 15-to-20 were fatal
- **26.9** out of every **100,000** licensed drivers aged 15-to-20 were involved in a fatal crash
- **18.9** out of every **100,000** Georgia residents aged 15-to-20 were involved in a fatal crash

In 2023, there were 69,348 crashes that involved young drivers in Georgia—86% of all crashes involved other vehicles (multi-vehicle crashes), and 14% were single-vehicle crashes. The most common harmful event in single-vehicle crashes involving young drivers was speeding too fast for conditions and losing control of the vehicle. In 2023, 38% of all young drivers involved in a single-vehicle crash were driving too fast for conditions, and 36% lost control of the vehicle before the crash. The top contributing factors among young drivers and other drivers involved in multi-vehicle crashes were following too closely and failure to yield the right of way. Additionally, 10% of all young drivers involved in any traffic crash were confirmed or suspected of distracted driving. Crashes caused by these top contributing factors can often be avoided with proper training.

Fortunately, teen and young driver motor vehicle crashes, injuries, and fatalities are preventable, and there are proven strategies that can improve the safety of young drivers on the road through effective driver education. While our highway safety partners across Georgia will focus on other techniques to reduce injuries and fatalities on our highways, fostering and facilitating strong driver education remains a paramount and effective component in the fight to reduce crash injuries and fatalities among young drivers in Georgia.

Figure 1. Number of Young Drivers (15-to-17 and 18-to-20 Years) Involved in Fatal Crashes



Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2014-2023

¹ "Teen Drivers: Get the Facts." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 30 Oct. 2019, www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/teen_drivers/teendrivers_factsheet.html.

Young Driver Licensing

The Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TADRA) was enacted on July 1, 1997. TADRA established a Graduated Driver's License program for young drivers ages 15-to-18 in Georgia. The law significantly changed how young motorists earn and maintain their driving privileges (Class D Provisional License).

The methods available to young drivers to obtain their license include a combination of a 30-hour course with instructors, behind-the-wheel training, supervised driving, and the use of the Parent-Teen Driving Guide. These methods are designed to gradually introduce young drivers to Georgia roadways and reduce high-risk driving situations. Young drivers can obtain their licenses using any of the four methods described below.

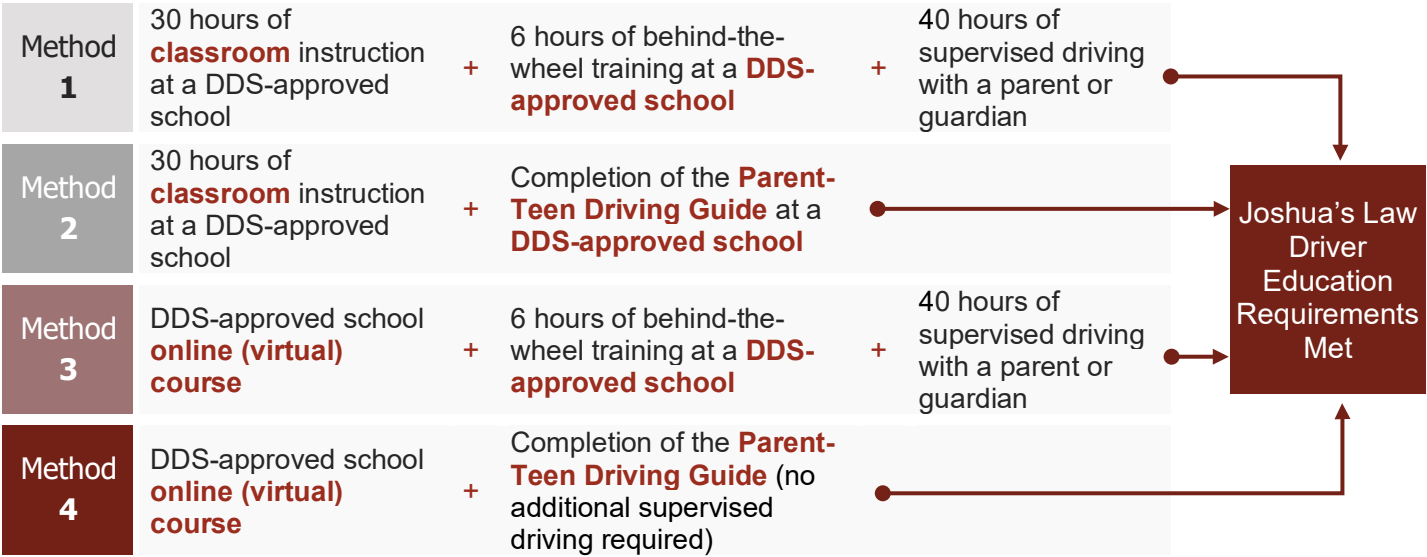


Figure 2 shows how young drivers obtained a Provisional License (Class D) across the various methods in FY2025.

- **11.3** out of every 20 young drivers (57%) used Method 4
- **6.4** out of every 20 young drivers (32%) used Method 1
- **1.5** out of every 20 young drivers (7%) used Method 3
- **0.8** out of every 20 young drivers (4%) used Method 2

According to the Georgia Driver's Education Commission's research study of Joshua's Law, young drivers who use **Method 1** to complete the Graduated Driver License (GDL) requirement **demonstrated better and safer driver outcomes** in comparison to other methods. Method 1 young drivers had fewer crashes and crashes with serious injuries or fatalities compared to other young drivers who completed the GDL requirement using other methods.

Figure 2. FY2025 Class D Licenses Issued by GDL Method (July 2024- June 2025)



Figure 3 shows the percentage of young adults (15-to-20 years old) with an instructional permit, Class D provisional license, or Class C license by county. Young drivers generally obtain their licenses for the first time under a Graduated Driver Licensing program as they learn driving skills. In 2023:

- There were 8.3 million licensed drivers in Georgia, and young drivers (ages 15-to-20 years old) accounted for **8% (669,218) of all licensed drivers**.
- Across the state, **72% of all youth** (ages 15 to 20 years old) held either an instructional permit or a driver's license.
- The percentage of young adults holding an instructional permit or driver's license in rural counties (**78%**) was higher than young adults in the Atlanta region (**71%**) and other urban counties² (**69%**).

Figure 3. Percent of Young Adults (Ages 15-to-20 Years) with an Instructional Permit, Class D Provisional License, or Class C License³ by County, 2023

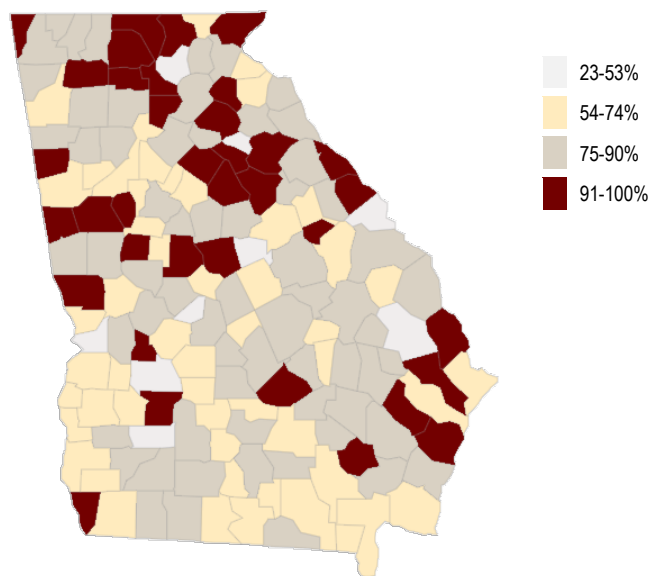
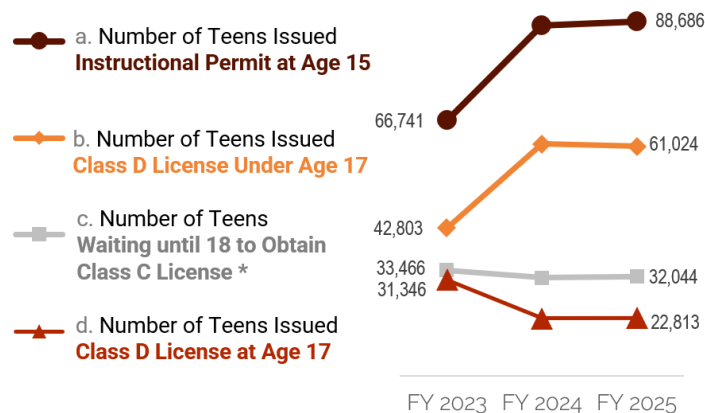


Figure 4 compares the types of licensing obtained across various age groups between FY2023 and FY2025. Between FY 2023 and FY 2025:

- The number of teens who were issued an instructional permit at age 15 **increased by 33%** (Figure 4a, circle icons).
- The number of teens who were issued a Class D license under 17 years **increased by 43%** (Figure 4b, diamond icons).
- The number of teens (16-17 years) waiting until 18 to obtain a full license (Class C) **decreased by 4%** (Figure 4c, square icons).
- The number of teens who were issued a Class D license at 17 years **decreased by 27%** (Figure 4d, triangle icons).

Figure 4. Young Driver Age by License Type (FY2023 - FY2025)



Note: The vertical axis is not drawn to scale

* Class C licenses are not required to complete driver's education

² Rural counties are counties that have a residential population less than 50,000 persons. This is different than roadway classifications where urban road systems can be located in urban clusters (or metropolitan areas) of at least 2,500 persons within the rural counties.

³ Source: Drivers licenses information obtained from the Department of Driver Service (Dec 2019); Estimated young adult population obtained from Georgia's Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS)

Commission History

The timeline below outlines the key historical milestones and events that have occurred since the establishment of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission (GDEC) in 2005.

- JOSHUA'S LAW CREATES GDEC (2005)** Senate Bill 225 (2005), known as Joshua's Law, created the Georgia Driver's Education Commission (GDEC) for the purpose of recommending to the Governor and General Assembly changes in state programs, statutes, policies, budgets, and standards relating to the provision of driver's education and training. Since its inception, the GDEC has worked to identify options for teen drivers to satisfy the driver's education requirements mandated by state law for young Georgians. Joshua's Law created a surcharge on all traffic citations in Georgia (originally 5% in 2005, then 1.5% in 2013, and zero percent effective July 1, 2022), to establish funding to support driver's education programs throughout Georgia.
- GOHS FACILITATES ALLOCATION OF GDEC FUNDS (2007)** In April of 2007, through an agreement between the Georgia Department of Driver Services and the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS), GOHS facilitated the allocation of the GDEC funds by way of grant funding to support driver's education programs. During FY2007 through FY2010, 58 programs received grant funding to create or support existing driver's education programs at public schools and libraries.
- GDEC TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED (2011)** In FY2011, the grant program was suspended due to a lack of budget appropriation during the economic recession. The surcharge on traffic citations continued to be collected and appropriated to the State's general fund.
- SENATE BILL 231 REDUCES SURCHARGE COLLECTION (2013)** During the 2013 legislative session of the Georgia General Assembly, Senate Bill 231 extended the sunset of the GDEC until June 30, 2016, and reduced the amount of the surcharge collection from 5% to 1.5%.
- BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS RESUMED (2015)** Budget appropriations resumed to the Commission in FY2015 and the Commission has since provided training to over 21,000 Georgia students. After budget appropriations resumed, the Commission continued support of existing driver's education programs at high schools and executed a contract with the Technical College System of Georgia to establish a scholarship program for driver's education.
- HB 806 ASSIGNS GDEC TO GOHS (2016)** HB 806, during the 2016 legislative session, extended the sunset to June 30, 2019, and assigned the GDEC to the GOHS for administrative purposes.

GDEC STARTS THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (2017) In FY2017, the Commission suspended the support of driver's education programs and launched the Georgia Driver's Education Commission Grant Scholarship Program in March of 2017. The program, open to the public (public high schools, technical colleges, universities, and other state-owned driver education programs) and privately owned entities (commercial, for-profit driving schools and non-profit organizations, and private schools), awards driver's education grant scholarships to students ages 15-to-17 years old who seek to complete a 36-hour driver's education program (also known as Method 1 that requires 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction with an approved instructor). The Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program was continued from FY2018 to FY2023 (using funds collected from surcharges applied before the discontinuation of the surcharge on citations, effective July 1, 2022)

CITATION SURCHARGE EXPIRED (2022) The additional penalty imposed on traffic citations expired on July 1, 2022, after HB 202, which would have increased the surcharge from 1.5% to 3% and eliminated the sunset provision, died after the legislation failed to be considered on the Senate Floor on Sine Die. Unless the surcharge is reinstated or other appropriations are provided, the grant scholarship program will be suspended in future fiscal years.

CITATION SURCHARGE REINSTATED (2023) The additional penalty imposed on traffic citations, which expired on July 1, 2022, was reinstated with the passage of HB 242. The surcharge was reinstated at 3% and was effective for traffic citations issued on or after July 1, 2023. Funds collected in Fiscal Year 2024 will, subject to appropriations, be allocated to the Commission during the Fiscal Year 2025 budget on July 1, 2024.

COMMISSION INCREASES REIMBURSEMENT RATE OF SCHOLARSHIP (2025) The Commission has increased the maximum reimbursement rate for providers from \$500 to \$650—the first adjustment since the scholarship program began in 2017. This change was implemented to better align with inflation and the rising Consumer Price Index.

GDEC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SELECTION PROCESS

For scholarship applications submitted between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, scholarships were awarded on a tiered priority system. First priority (**Tier 1**) is given to grant scholarship applicants who are a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled or killed in the line of duty, or a member of the United States military killed in action, and to applicants who are in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Second priority (**Tier 2**) is given to scholarship applicants who can demonstrate a need based on family income. All of the first-priority level applicants are awarded before any of the second-priority level applicants are awarded. Additionally, if there are insufficient scholarships for all applicants in any given priority level, scholarship recipients are determined at random by computer selection without human selection, and scholarships are evenly distributed among Georgia's United States Congressional Districts. The date of application submission does not affect the outcome of the scholarship award. Scholarships are awarded on the 1st day of each month by 11:59 pm. Notification of award or denial is sent by email. If awarded a scholarship, the award date of the scholarship must be prior to the first day of Instruction or class by the driver training school.

Students are only eligible to apply for a grant scholarship one time. However, if a student's application is rejected, the application will be reconsidered for the following two months and given priority over new applicants in their respective priority level. No action is needed to be reconsidered. The applicant will be notified by email on the first day of the following month by 11:59 pm with the outcome of the application on the second consideration.

TIER 1 (1st Priority)

- Child or dependent of Georgia first responder disabled or killed in the line of duty or member of the United States military killed in action.
- Applicants in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services.

TIER 2 (2nd Priority)

- Applicants who demonstrate a need based on family income (125% of the free and reduced-price meal (FRM) eligibility for Georgia).

As of July 1, 2022, the grant scholarship tier selection was altered.

PRIORITY TIERS

GDEC Scholarship Program Selection Process

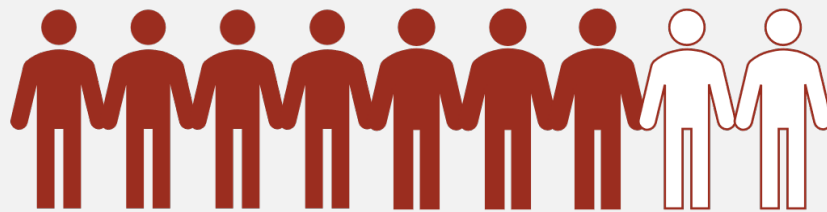
Fiscal Year 2025 Activities

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

In FY2025, a total of **8,147** applicants applied for the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program. Of these, 1,574 applicants did not qualify based on the family income eligibility requirements. The Commission awarded **6,552** driver's education scholarships — 8 out of every 10 applicants received funding. **Among those who met the eligibility requirements, 99% were awarded a scholarship.** Compared to the previous fiscal year, the number of scholarships awarded by the Commission **increased by 35%.**

Of the **6,552** scholarships awarded, 5,523 students (**84%**) redeemed their scholarships and completed driver's education through an authorized program provider in FY2025. These redeemed scholarships represent a total value of **\$2,627,129** paid through the driver's education grant program.



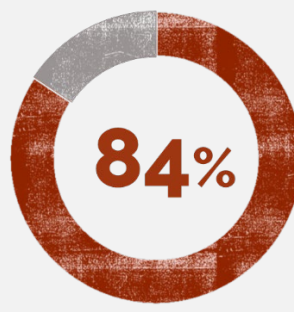
8 out of 10 applicants
were awarded a scholarship in FY2025
(6,552 out of 8,147 applicants)



Scholarships awarded
through the GDEC
Scholarship program



Student scholarship
recipients compared to
FY24



Students redeemed their
scholarships at an
authorized provider
(5,523 out of 6,552 students)



Awarded in driver's
education grant
scholarships

CHALLENGES IN FY2025

- **Prohibition of Reserving Funds for the Following Fiscal Year**

The Georgia Driver's Education Commission (GDEC) is funded through a surcharge on traffic citations, as outlined in OCGA § 15-21-179(a). These funds support the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program. According to OCGA § 15-21-181(a), the amount collected from these surcharges in any fiscal year is made available to the Commission in the following fiscal year.

For over a decade, the state's original appropriations bill has included an estimate of the funds expected to be collected for driver training. The supplemental appropriations bill then adjusts (or "trues up") GDEC's budget to match the actual collections. However, this process presents a challenge: there is often only a short window—typically three to four months—between the passage of the supplemental budget and the end of the fiscal year to allocate and distribute the additional funds equitably.

For example, the estimated revenue and appropriation for FY2026 was \$3,452,310, but the actual revenue collected in FY2025 was \$5,471,252—a difference of \$2,018,942. If this additional amount is appropriated in the supplemental budget, the Commission would receive an extra \$2 million with only a few months to distribute it through its monthly scholarship award process.

If the Commission was allowed to reserve funds to be allocated during the following fiscal year, the burden to spend appropriations would not be challenging and would allow for the equitable distribution of scholarships on a monthly basis.

GDEC-AUTHORIZED PROVIDERS AND SCHOLARSHIPS REDEEMED

In FY2025, 52 authorized GDEC providers served 5,523 out of the 6,552 scholarship recipients across 152 locations, and applicants who redeemed their scholarship awards. The total value of the scholarships redeemed in FY2025 was \$2,627,129. The *median* cost per scholarship recipient across the GDEC-authorized providers in FY2025 was \$495, with the average cost ranging from \$275 to \$595 per provider.

Table 1 below provides a listing of the driver's education providers participating in the program, with the number of training locations operated by each provider, the number of scholarships redeemed by each provider, the financial value of the scholarships redeemed, and the average cost per recipient for each FY2025 provider.

Table 1. Number of Scholarships Redeemed, Value of Scholarships Redeemed, and Average Cost Per Recipient by Authorized GDEC Provider, FY2025

FY2025 Authorized GDEC Provider	Number of Locations	Number of Scholarships Redeemed	Value of Scholarships Redeemed	Average Cost Per Recipient
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	19	1,189	\$ 588,555	\$ 495
West Metro Driving School	1	448	\$ 232,576	\$ 519
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	1	340	\$ 168,300	\$ 495
New London School of Driving Inc.	1	290	\$ 145,750	\$ 503
Advance Driving Academy	2	196	\$ 95,500	\$ 487
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	6	155	\$ 62,000	\$ 400
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	1	147	\$ 72,765	\$ 495
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	6	146	\$ 73,346	\$ 502
Marietta City Board of Education	1	145	\$ 72,355	\$ 499
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	2	142	\$ 83,465	\$ 588
Kennesaw Driving School	2	137	\$ 68,409	\$ 499
Savannah Technical College	4	123	\$ 49,200	\$ 400
The Wiser Driver	1	120	\$ 57,600	\$ 480
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	2	119	\$ 60,121	\$ 505
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	1	118	\$ 59,000	\$ 500
Augusta Technical College	1	113	\$ 48,025	\$ 425
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	1	111	\$ 47,175	\$ 425
Taggart's Driving School	3	103	\$ 59,150	\$ 574
Thumbs Up Driving Inc.	1	100	\$ 49,500	\$ 495
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	4	95	\$ 33,250	\$ 350
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	16	91	\$ 39,375	\$ 433
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	1	79	\$ 31,205	\$ 395
Central Georgia Technical College	2	77	\$ 32,725	\$ 425

FY2025 Authorized GDEC Provider	Number of Locations	Number of Scholarships Redeemed	Value of Scholarships Redeemed	Average Cost Per Recipient
North Georgia Technical College	3	76	\$ 30,400	\$ 400
Albany Technical College	2	74	\$ 31,450	\$ 425
Southern Crescent Technical College	5	67	\$ 28,150	\$ 420
AA Academy of Action Driving School	1	59	\$ 21,297	\$ 361
Southern Regional Technical College	4	57	\$ 19,950	\$ 350
Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	3	52	\$ 29,450	\$ 566
DriveSmart Systems, Inc.	3	51	\$ 26,649	\$ 523
Ogeechee Technical College	1	51	\$ 19,400	\$ 380
Coastal Pines Technical College	4	45	\$ 19,125	\$ 425
Collins Driving School	2	44	\$ 22,450	\$ 510
Lanier Technical College	6	43	\$ 18,200	\$ 423
West Georgia Technical College	2	33	\$ 11,600	\$ 352
FB Driving, Inc.	1	30	\$ 13,800	\$ 460
Oconee Fall Line Technical College	3	30	\$ 12,200	\$ 407
Duluth DUI and Driving School	1	26	\$ 12,870	\$ 495
Georgia Piedmont Technical College	2	26	\$ 10,400	\$ 400
Calhoun City BOE	1	25	\$ 7,250	\$ 290
Just Driver Training	1	21	\$ 10,500	\$ 500
Gordon County Board of Education	2	20	\$ 5,900	\$ 295
Southern Defensive Driving School	10	18	\$ 7,110	\$ 395
Athens Technical College	1	15	\$ 6,000	\$ 400
Oconee County Board of Education	1	15	\$ 6,750	\$ 450
White County Board of Education	1	13	\$ 3,575	\$ 275
Safe America Foundation, Inc.	1	12	\$ 6,256	\$ 521
Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	2	10	\$ 5,950	\$ 595
South Georgia Technical College	2	10	\$ 3,750	\$ 375
A+ Driving Services, Inc.	6	9	\$ 4,455	\$ 495
Columbus Technical College	1	6	\$ 2,400	\$ 400
NBK All-Risk Solutions, LLC	1	1	\$ 495	\$ 495
FY 2025 TOTAL	152	5,523	\$ 2,627,129	\$ 495 Median Cost

Funding History

According to O.C.G.A. § 15-21-181, it is the intent of the General Assembly that, subject to appropriation, an amount equal to such proceeds received from such fines in any fiscal year shall be made available during the following fiscal year to the Commission. In other words, **the amount of funds collected in any fiscal year is appropriated to the Commission for the following fiscal year**. Table 2 shows the funds collected and appropriated to the Commission from FY2021 to FY2025.

The additional penalty imposed on traffic citations expired on July 1, 2022, after HB 202, which proposed increasing the surcharge from 1.5% to 3% and eliminating the sunset provision, failed to advance on the Senate Floor on Sine Die. Without reinstatement or alternative appropriations, the GDEC Scholarship Program faced potential suspension in future fiscal years.

However, with the passage of HB 242, the citation surcharge was reinstated at 3%, effective July 1, 2023, for traffic citations issued on or after that date. Funds collected under the reinstated surcharge during FY2024 will be allocated to the Commission beginning July 1, 2024, as part of the FY2025 budget. **This increase in funding is projected to support approximately 2,100 to 2,500 additional scholarships⁷**, expanding opportunities for Georgia students and promoting safe driving through the GDEC Scholarship Program.

Table 2. Amounts of Funds Collected and Appropriated to the Commission by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Amounts of Funds Collected	Amount of Funds Appropriated to the Commission
FY 2021	\$ 2,489,649.40	\$ 2,649,638.73
FY 2022	\$ 2,785,079.85	\$ 2,489,649.40
FY 2023	\$1,495,070.98	\$ 2,785,080.00
FY 2024	\$3,452,309.74	\$ 2,210,027.00
FY 2025	\$4,471,252.55	\$3,452,309.74

⁷ Calculations based on maximum scholarship award amount (\$595) and median cost per scholarship across the GDEC providers (\$495) FY2025.





Georgia Driver's Education Commission

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Georgia Driver's Education Commission
Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program
Eligibility Requirements (Adopted 9/26/16 and Amended on 11/16/16ⁱ, 3/21/17ⁱⁱ, 6/26/17ⁱⁱⁱ, 9/26/17^{iv}, 3/27/18^v, 3/26/19^{vi}, 6/28/19^{vii}, 6/10/22^{viii}, 3/17/2025^{ix}, and 9/29/2025^x.)

A. Student Eligibility

1. The student must be a resident of the State of Georgia and actively enrolled in school.
2. The student must be between the ages of fifteen and seventeen and possess a valid Georgia instructional driving permit or driver's license.
3. First priority will be given to grant scholarship applicants who are a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled or killed in the line of duty or member of the United States military killed in action and to applicants who are in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. If the applicant is a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled or killed in the line of duty, the applicant must identify said professional and provide a copy of the student applicant's birth certificate or other government issued documentation proving the student was a dependent of the identified Georgia first responder. For purposes of this grant scholarship program, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will rely on the Georgia Public Safety Memorial Committee to identify a Georgia first responder killed in the line of duty. For purposes of this grant scholarship program, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will rely on O.C.G.A § 35-8-7.4 (a) to identify and define a Georgia first responder. If the applicant is a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled in the line of duty, the applicant must provide of letter of disability. If the applicant is a child or dependent of United States military personnel killed in action, the applicant must provide DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) as documentation. If the applicant is under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services, the applicant must submit a letter documenting custody from the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts.
4. Second priority will be given to scholarship applicants who can demonstrate a need based on family income. Financial need eligibility will be based on 175% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program for the State of Georgia as published by the Georgia Department of Education. The Commission authorizes agency staff to make necessary technical adjustments to the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program application and award process to ensure that the eligibility level is appropriately adjusted as the financial need eligibility for the Free and Reduced Price Meal program is increased or decreased by the Georgia Department of Education. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts.
5. . Paragraph reserved.

6. Grant scholarships will be awarded monthly, except for the months of June and July. In June, the Director of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission, subject to available funding and at his discretion, is given authority to process an additional scholarship award cycle on the 30th of the month. In the event that an additional scholarship award cycle is processed on June 30th, the scholarship award process on the following July 1st will not occur and the monthly scholarship award process will resume on August 1st. Grant scholarship applications are due on the last day of every month. Grant Scholarship awards and denials will be issued on the 1st day of each following month, except in instances where the scholarship award is processed on June 30th when such awards and denials will be issued on August 1st, and will be sent by electronic mail. The number of grant scholarships available to be awarded will be determined by staff and entered into the grant scholarship management system. Grant scholarships will be awarded based on the priority levels defined above. All the applicants meeting the requirements for first priority will be awarded before the second priority applicants. If more grant scholarship applications are submitted than there are grant scholarships available in each priority level, grant scholarships will be awarded using a computer-generated random selection method. The grant scholarship will be awarded in the form of a voucher to the student. The student may then take said voucher to an eligible Authorized Provider. The Authorized Provider will then submit the voucher to the Commission for reimbursement as set forth herein.
7. Students are only eligible to apply for a grant scholarship once. If a student's application is rejected, the application will be reconsidered for the following two months and given priority over new applicants.
8. Scholarships are only valid for students who agree to complete a standard 30/6 driver's education course in which the student receives a minimum of thirty (30) hours of classroom training and six (6) hours of behind the wheel training. Additionally, the student's parent or guardian must be a co-applicant and agree to complete forty hours of supervised driving with the student. Additionally, the scholarship must be awarded prior to the start date of the driver's education course.
9. Students will only be awarded one scholarship. In the event of a failure or withdrawal from the course, the student will not be eligible to apply for another scholarship.
10. Grant Scholarship awardees must identify the provider of choice from a list of authorized providers and redeem the grant scholarship with the provider within 30 days of the grant scholarship award notice. Further, the driver's education course must be completed within 180 days of the grant scholarship award date. If a scholarship is not redeemed after 30 days of notice of the award and the course is not completed within 180 days of notice of the award of the grant scholarship by the student, the grant scholarship is forfeited, and the student loses the scholarship and eligibility to apply again in the future. Students and providers may petition the Chairman of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission, or his designee, for a one-time 60-day extension of these deadlines. Additional requests will

be considered with a proven medical reason from a physician necessitating the addition time extension.

B. Provider Eligibility

1. Provider eligibility is open to the following types of providers:
 - a. Public and private high schools that are licensed by the Georgia Department of Driver Services.
 - b. Private driving schools (commercial for profit, and not for profit) that are licensed by the Georgia Department of Drivers Services and that have been licensed for a minimum of two years.
 - c. Technical Colleges, Colleges, Universities and State Agencies that are authorized to provide driver's education by their governing bodies and that meet the minimum standards for drivers training and driver's education set forth by said governing body.
2. To participate in the scholarship program, providers must submit a completed Provider Application and meet the minimum qualifications set forth in these requirements. All providers must agree to abide by the State of Georgia vendor requirements including, but not limited to, compliance with the Statewide Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy in accordance with Executive Order 01.14.19.02, the submission of a Form W-9, Vendor Management Form, E-Verify documents and agree to receive payments by Automated Clearing House (ACH) transfer.
3. Private driving schools must be in compliance with the Georgia Department of Revenue.
4. Government-owned driving schools must be in compliance with all Georgia Department of Audit and Accounts regulations.
5. Public and private high schools and private driving schools must be in good standing with the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS). Additionally, public and private high schools must submit a copy of the most recent audit report conducted by DDS and a corrective action plan if one was issued. If a public or private high school or private driving school has received a moderate or severe risk assessment within the previous year from DDS, the driver training school must provide the subsequent audit report demonstrating that the concerns raised in the DDS audit report have been satisfactorily addressed before they become an authorized provider in the program.
6. Technical Colleges, Colleges and Universities, and State Agencies who participate in the scholarship program must be in good standing with their governing body and the Georgia Driver's Education Commission and agree to general oversight including the enforcement of driver's education standards adopted by the governing body and annual program reviews or audits.
7. Providers must agree to auditing and general oversight as required by the Georgia Driver's Education Commission.

8. Providers must agree that the scholarship grants may only be applied toward a standard 30/6 driver's education course in which the student receives a minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction. For the purpose of this scholarship criteria, classroom instruction means in-person training conducted by an approved instructor. Remote synchronous classroom instruction as defined in the Department of Driver Services Rules and Regulations 375-5-2-.10 (11)(b) qualifies for eligibility in this grant scholarship program. Online asynchronous (self-paced) classroom instruction does not qualify for eligibility in this grant scholarship program. Providers shall not offer or provide a free or complimentary third-party road test for scholarship recipients. Providers licensed by the Department of Driver Services as a "Third Party Tester Program" as defined by the Department of Driver Services Rules 375-5-2.27(1) may offer third party road tests to scholarship recipients for the same fee charged to the general public, but shall not mandate that a scholarship recipient purchase a third-party road test for use of the scholarship.
9. The provider must agree that the reimbursement to the provider by the Commission based upon a scholarship grant to a student applicant for the 30/6 course will not exceed \$650.00. Further, the provider must agree that it will not impose any additional fee or surcharge to the student for the 30/6 course excluding a "no-show" fee. The "no-show" fee charged to the student shall not exceed ten percent of the contracted rate of the 30/6 course for students who fail to show up for a scheduled behind the wheel driving lesson without canceling or rescheduling 24 hours in advance of the scheduled lesson. The Commission agrees that contracts will not be amended to accommodate fee increases.
10. The provider must agree that request for reimbursement of the scholarship grant submitted to the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will be the same cost or less than that cost charged to the general public for driver's education for a 30/6 driver's education course.
11. The provider must agree to submit an OCRA Certificate to the Commission within 30 days after completion of the course by the student grantee as proof that the course was completed. The provider must further agree that reimbursement to the provider by the Commission for any scholarship grant will be made after proof has been provided to the Commission after completion of the course. In the event that the student fails the driver's education course, the provider must submit a copy of the Student Log detailing the student's attendance in the course and a statement detailing the reason for failure in order for payment to be made to the provider. In the event that the student grantee withdraws from the course or fails to timely complete the driver's education course, the provider may charge the Georgia Driver's Education Commission up to \$5.25 per hour of classroom education completed and up to \$82.00 per hour of behind the wheel training completed. Providers must submit student logs detailing classroom hours and behind-the-wheel training completed in order to be compensated for students who have withdrawn

from the course or have failed to timely complete the driver's education course. The total amount reimbursed for a student who withdraws or fails will not exceed \$649.50.

12. The provider may not set in place additional eligibility requirements for the students in addition to those set forth by the Georgia Driver's Education Commission.

ⁱ Paragraph A-4 amended to increase the maximum income level for second priority of scholarship awards for financial need to 125% of the free and reduced priced meals for students in the State of Georgia. Paragraph A-4 and A-5 amended to provide that grant scholarship allocations in priority level one and priority level two will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts. Paragraph A-7 amended to delete the provision allowing students reapply for the scholarship up to six times and including that students are only eligible to apply for a grant scholarship one time. Paragraph B-7 amended to delete the provision permitting the provider to charge the grant scholarship student and co-grant awardee parent up to half of the price of the driver's education course for students who withdraws or fails to timely complete the course and includes the provision for providers to charge hourly rates to the Commission for students who withdraw from the course or fail to timely complete the course.

ⁱⁱ Paragraph A-1 was amended to include a driver's license in addition to a learner's permit for student eligibility criteria. Paragraph A-9 was amended to delete the provision that the provider may charge the student applicant and co applicant for up to half of the price of the driver's education course. Paragraph B-5 was amended to require public or private high school or private driving school's previously receiving a moderate or severe risk assessment within the previous year from DDS to provide subsequent audit reports demonstrating that the concerns raise in the DDS audit report have been satisfactorily addressed before they will become an authorized provider in the program. Paragraph B-8 was amended to clarify that that virtual classroom programs do not qualify for eligibility.

ⁱⁱⁱ Paragraph A-3 was amended to require DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) as documentation for dependents of United States military personnel killed in the line of duty instead of Form DD 214 and DEERS records. Paragraph A-8 was amended to require that the scholarship must be awarded prior to the state date of the driver's education course. Paragraph B-9 was amended to include that the providers agree not to impose any additional fee to the student.

^{iv} Paragraph A-10 was amended to include a provisions for students to request a one-time 60 day extension to the 180 day deadline for course completion. Paragraph B-9 was amended to clarify that the Commission will not consider contract amendments with providers for fee increases.

^v Paragraph A-4 was amended to update the income eligibility levels for Tier 2 applicants to reflect updated free and reduced cost meal eligibility set by the Department of Education.

^{vi} Paragraph A-4 was amended to delete the chart used to determine financial need eligibility and language added authorizing agency staff to make necessary adjustments to the needs-based income level to ensure that financial need eligibility is consistent with 125% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program for the State of Georgia as determined by the Georgia Department of Education as changes are published.

^{vii} Paragraph A-6 was amended to change the award date of scholarships from the 20th of each month to the first day of each month. Paragraph B-2 was amended to include the Statewide Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy contractor requirements to the minimum qualifications for driver training schools to participate in the program.

^{viii} "Public safety professional" was changed to "Georgia first responder" throughout the document. Additionally, the term "provider" was changed to "Authorized Provider" in Section A to eliminate confusion from applicants on which driver training providers can redeem the scholarship voucher. Paragraph A-3 was amended to include children or dependents of Georgia first responders who were disabled in the line of duty and to applicants who are in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Paragraph A-3 was further amended to use O.C.G.A. § 35-8-7.4(a) to define Georgia first responder. Additionally, Paragraph A-3 was amended to update documentation requirements for applicants in Tier 1 to include a letter of disability for applicants who are the child or dependent of Georgia first responder's disabled in the line of duty and a letter of documenting state-custody for applicants in the custody of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Paragraph A-4 was amended to change the financial need eligibility from 125% to 175% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program. Paragraph A-5 creating a third priority level for all other applicants who do not mee the criteria set forth in the first and second priority level was deleted. Paragraph A-6 was amended by deleting the award

process for third priority level applicants. Paragraph A-7 was amended to provide reconsideration of a rejected application for the following two months after the application was rejected.

^{ix} Paragraph B-8 was amended to clarify eligibility for “remote synchronous classroom instruction”, to prohibit online asynchronous classroom instruction”, to prohibit providers from providing free or complimentary road test for scholarship recipients, and to clarify that authorized “third party tester programs” may offer third party road testing to scholarship recipients but shall not mandate that a scholarship recipient purchase a third party road test for use of the scholarship. Paragraph B-9 was amended to increase the reimbursement fee for a 30/6 course from \$500.00 to \$650.00 and to allow providers to impose a “no-show” fee, not to exceed 10% of the 30/6 GDEC contracted rate, to be charged to the students for failing to show up for a driving lesson that was not cancelled or rescheduled 24 hours in advance of the scheduled lesson. Paragraph B-11 was amended to increase the maximum classroom hourly fee from \$4.00 to \$5.25 per hour of classroom education completed and the maximum behind the wheel hourly fee from \$62.50 to \$82.00 per hour of behind the wheel training for a student who does not complete the 30/6 course due to failure or withdrawal, and to increase the maximum reimbursement for a student who does complete the course from \$491.00 to \$649.50.

^x Paragraph A-6 was amended to give authority for the GDEC Director to process an additional scholarship award cycle on June 30th, subject to available funding, and to establish the process allow GDEC to skip the July 1st scholarship award cycle when a June 30th scholarship award cycle occurs. Scrivener's errors were also corrected throughout the document.