



Georgia Driver's Education Commission

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PUBLIC NOTICE: GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION

The Georgia Driver's Education Commission will conduct its first quarter Commission meeting on December 9, 2025, at 1:30 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.

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|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| 1 | Call to Order | <i>Allen Poole</i> | |
| 2 | Roll Call | <i>Josh Turner</i> | |
| 3 | Adoption of Agenda | <i>Allen Poole</i> | Page 1 |
| 4 | Approval of September 29, 2025 Meeting Minutes | <i>Allen Poole</i> | Page 2 |
| 5 | Public Comments | <i>Allen Poole</i> | |
| 6 | Staff Report | <i>Josh Turner</i> | |
| | Scholarship Reports for October 2025, November 2025, and December 2025 | | Page 16 |
| | Scholarship Redemption and Customer Service Reports for September 2025, October 2025, and November 2025. | | |
| | GDOT's Daily Fatality Report | | |
| 7 | Reschedule March 2025 Meeting
Proposed Date: March 25, 2026
Athens Technical College | <i>Allen Poole</i> | |
| 8 | Adjournment | <i>Allen Poole</i> | |

Next Meeting:

MINUTES OF THE
GEORGIA DRIVER'S EDUCATION COMMISSION

September 29, 2025; 2:00 pm

Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety
7 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, Suite 643, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Chairman Allen Poole called the September 29, 2025, meeting of Georgia Driver's Education Commission meeting to order at 2:00 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. Pamela Farr, Georgia Driver's Education Commission
Mr. Robert Hydrick, Governor's Office of Highway Safety
Mr. Maurice Raines, Governor's Office of Highway Safety
Ms. Amy Radley, Georgia Attorney General's Office

Opening Remarks

Chairman Allen Poole welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for attending the meeting. Chairman Poole requested that Mr. Josh Turner call the roll of members. A quorum was present.

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 June 10, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Chairman Poole presented the June 10, 2025, meeting minutes. Mr. Schrenk identified a scrivener's error and requested that it be corrected. Dr. Andrea D. Daniel made a motion to approve the June 10, 2025, minutes with the correction of the scrivener's error. Mr. Schrenk 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 presented the Scholarship Reports for the months of July 2025, August 2025, and September 2025. Mr. Turner reminded the board that first priority is given to 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 is given to applicants who can demonstrate need based on family income. All first-priority applicants are awarded before any second-priority applicants are considered. A copy of the reports is included below.



**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 Exceeding Household Income Limits	168	0
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:	447
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	0
New Applicants Automatically Denied Due to Exceeding Household Income Limits	126	0
Total New Applicants This Month:	678	9

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:	447	391	56	\$ 36,400.00
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	0	0	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	543
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 Exceeding Household Income Limits	160	0
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	\$ -

Mr. Turner then presented the Scholarship Redemption and Customer Service Reports for June 2025, July 2025, and August 2025. A copy of the reports is included below.

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	Cathoun 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	

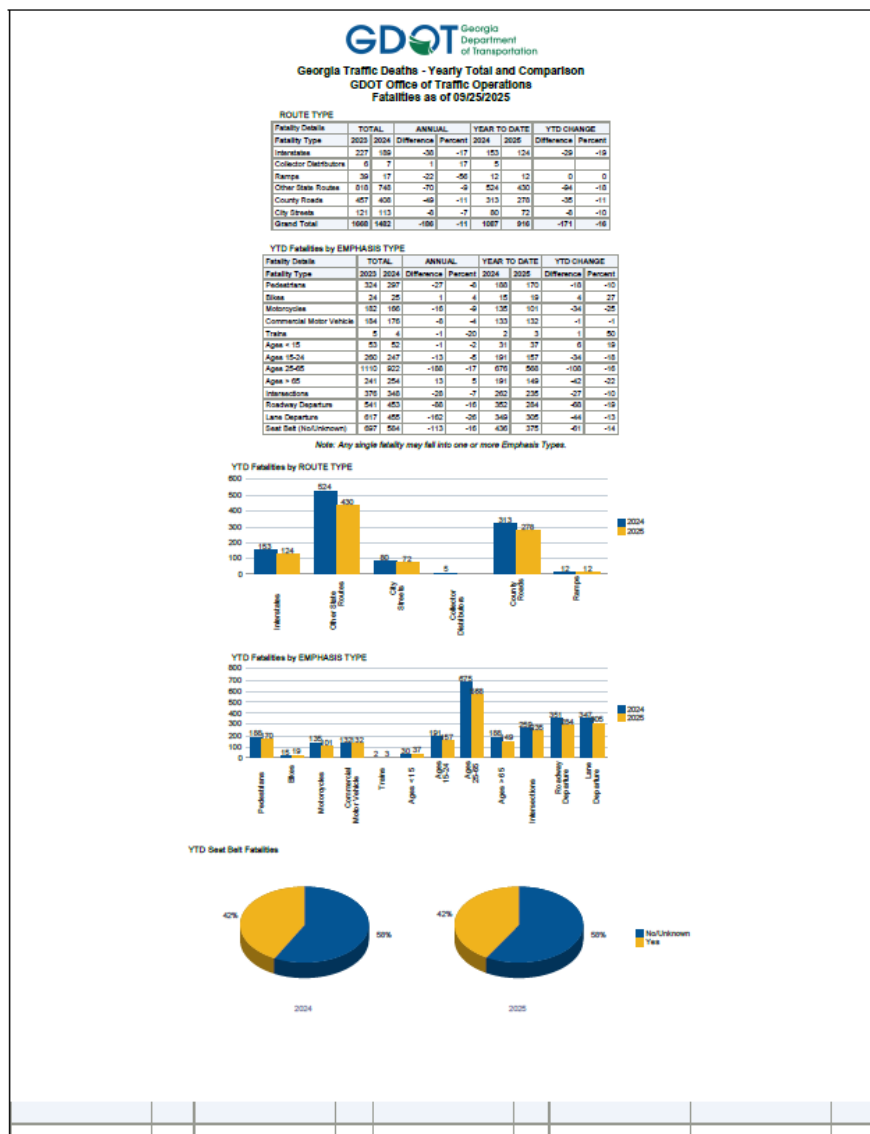
Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for July 2025			
Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed	Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	87	Coastal Pines Technical College	5
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	29	Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	5
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	25	DriveSmart Systems, 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	Cathoun 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
Shed 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	

Mr. Turner also presented the Georgia Department of Transportation's Daily Fatality Report, a copy of which is below.



Mr. Turner stated that, unless there were objections from Commission members, he planned to cease allowing providers to amend contracts to increase their fees, effective today, September 29, 2025. The board voted in March to grant Mr. Turner the authority to establish the necessary procedures for providers to amend their rates due to the increase in maximum reimbursements allowed. Mr. Turner stated that providers have been given ample time to amend contracts and he believes it is time to resume standard operations. He also acknowledged Ms. Bell for her efforts in assisting providers with amending their contracts.

Finally, Mr. Turner acknowledged Anna Rountree, a student at a driver's education provider, who tragically passed away last month. Anna had completed the 30-hour classroom component of her driver's education program and was awaiting behind-the-wheel training when she was involved in a fatal collision on August 20, 2025. Her passing serves as a solemn reminder of the significance of the Commission's mission.

Mr. Turner extended his appreciation to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety and the Drivers Education Commission for their continued dedication.

The Commission members engaged in further discussion and questions regarding Mr. Turner's proposal to stop accepting contract amendments for fee increases. The Commission raised no objections to discontinuing the acceptance of such amendments.

Mr. Schrenk made a motion to approve the staff report. Dr. Daniel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider Adoption of Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report

Mr. Turner presented the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report. He highlighted the following:

- 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 (15–20 years old) involved in fatal crashes on Georgia roadways in 2023.
- In 2023, young drivers represented 8% of all drivers involved in fatal crashes — similar to the previous year.
- In 2023, there were 69,348 crashes that involved young drivers in Georgia.
- The most common harmful event in single-vehicle crashes involving young drivers was speeding too fast for conditions and losing control of the vehicle, as opposed to distracted driving in the previous year.
- 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.
- In Fiscal Year 2025, 57% of young drivers seeking to obtain a Provisional License (Class D) used Method 4 to satisfy Joshua's Law, while 32% used Method 1, 7% used Method 3, and 4% used Method 2.
- The increase in the maximum reimbursement rate for the scholarship program is referenced in the Commission history section.
- 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 family income eligibility requirements. The Commission awarded 6,552 scholarships — 8 out of every 10 applicants received funding. Among those who met eligibility requirements, 99% were awarded a scholarship. Compared to the previous fiscal year, the number of scholarships awarded increased by 35%.
- Of the 6,552 scholarships awarded, 5,523 students (84%) redeemed their scholarships and completed driver's education through an authorized provider in FY2025, representing a total value of \$2,627,129 paid through the grant program.

Mr. Turner thanked Ms. Shenee Bryan, Contract Epidemiologist for the Commission, for compiling the report. He also requested that any motion approving the report include authorization for staff to correct any identified scrivener's errors.

Dr. Daniel made a motion to adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report and to allow staff to correct any scrivener's errors identified. Mr. Schrenk seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider Amendments to the Georgia Driver's Education Commission Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Eligibility Requirements

Mr. Turner presented the proposed changes to the Program Eligibility Requirements. A copy of the proposed changes is included below.

<p>Georgia Driver's Education Commission Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Eligibility Requirements (Adopted 9/26/16 and Amended on 11/16/16, 3/21/17, 6/26/17^{mt}, 9/26/17^{mt}, 3/27/18^{mt}, 3/26/19^{mt}, 6/28/19^{mt}, 6/10/22^{mt}, and 3/17/2025^{mt}), and 9/29/2025^{mt})</p> <p>A. Student Eligibility</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">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. <p>Page 1 of 6</p>	
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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 as outlined above 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 of the~~ the applicants ~~in the 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 computer-generated~~ random selection method ~~from the priority level~~ applications. 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 ~~one-time~~ 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~~ 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

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Education Commission, or his designee, for a one-time ~~60-day~~ 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. ~~In order to~~ 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 will~~ 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.

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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~~ ~~submitted to~~ the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will be the same cost or less than that ~~cost charged~~ ~~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~~~~

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~~wheel~~ ~~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.

¹ 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.

² Paragraph A-1 was amended to include a driver's license in addition to a learner's permit for student eligibility criteria. Paragraph A-2 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

⁶ 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.

⁷ Paragraph A-4 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.

⁸ "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 (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

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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 meet 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.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ Paragraph A-6 was amended to give authority for the GDEC Director to process an additional scholarship award annually on June 30th, subject to available funding, and to establish the process allow GDEC to skip the August 1st - 1st scholarship award process cycle when a June 30th 30 scholarship award process cycle occurs. Scrivener's errors were also corrected throughout the document.

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Mr. Turner advised that the only substantive change is in paragraph 6, which would give the Director of the Commission, subject to the availability of funds, the authority to award scholarships on June 30 of each year. This change would allow the Commission to maximize the number of scholarships awarded in the fiscal year. If an award is made on June 30, the next award cycle would begin on August 1.

The remaining changes correct scrivener's errors and do not change policies or processes. There was further discussion among the board.

Chairman Poole made a motion to approve the amendments to the Eligibility Requirements. Dr. Daniel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Other New Business

Dr. Daniel explained that she had previously offered to host the December meeting at Athens Technical College; however, she has since learned that she will be off campus that day. She offered instead to host the Commission on an alternate date or at a future meeting. Chairman Poole thanked her for the offer and asked Mr. Turner to coordinate a suitable time for the Commission to meet in Athens.

Adjournment

Dr. Daniel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Poole seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Meeting Minutes of Georgia Driver's Education Commission
September 29, 2025
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Kischa Bell
Business Operations Analyst
Georgia Driver's Education Commission

DRAFT



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: October 2025		Monthly Allocation: 400	
		Applied	Approved
Tier 1 New Applicants:		3	3
Tier 2 New Applicants:		523	0
New Applicants Automatically Denied	Due to	136	0
Exceeding Household Income Limits			
Total New Applicants This Month:		662	3

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:	766	193	573	\$ 372,450.00
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	204	204	0	\$ -

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	523
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	13	0
2	0	0	0	19	14	0
3	0	0	0	14	14	0
4	0	0	1	13	14	0
5	0	0	1	2	13	0
6	0	0	0	32	14	0
7	0	0	0	0	14	0
8	0	0	0	0	14	0
9	0	0	0	15	13	0
10	0	0	0	30	14	0
11	0	0	0	17	14	0
12	0	0	0	0	14	0
13	0	0	0	40	14	0
14	0	0	0	22	14	0
Total	0	0	3	204	193	0
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,950.00	\$ 132,600.00	\$ 125,450.00	\$ -



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: November 2025		Monthly Allocation: 400	
		Applied	Approved
Tier 1 New Applicants:		5	5
Tier 2 New Applicants:		458	0
New Applicants Automatically Denied	Due to	88	0
Exceeding Household Income Limits			
Total New Applicants This Month:		551	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:	522	0	522	\$ 339,300.00
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	573	395	178	\$ 115,700.00

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	458
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	178

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	2	0	0
2	0	0	2	37	0	0
3	0	0	1	37	0	0
4	0	0	0	37	0	0
5	0	0	0	17	0	0
6	0	0	0	37	0	0
7	0	0	0	13	0	0
8	0	0	0	16	0	0
9	0	0	1	37	0	0
10	0	0	0	36	0	0
11	0	0	0	36	0	0
12	0	0	0	16	0	0
13	0	0	0	37	0	0
14	0	0	1	37	0	0
Total	0	0	5	395	0	0
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 256,750.00	\$ -	\$ -



Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program Monthly Scholarship Report

Month: December 2025	Monthly Allocation: 410	
	Applied	Approved
Tier 1 New Applicants:	10	10
Tier 2 New Applicants:	381	0
New Applicants Automatically Denied Exceeding Household Income Limits	100	0
Total New Applicants This Month:	491	10

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:	458	0	458	\$ 297,700.00
Tier 2 Awaiting Final Reconsideration:	522	400	122	\$ 79,300.00

New Applicants this Month Eligible for First Reconsideration Next Month:	381
Applicants Eligible for Final Reconsideration Next Month:	122

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	10	0	0
2	0	0	0	25	0	0
3	0	0	0	35	0	0
4	0	0	0	31	0	0
5	0	0	0	20	0	0
6	0	0	0	36	0	0
7	0	0	2	15	0	0
8	0	0	0	21	0	0
9	0	0	1	36	0	0
10	0	0	1	35	0	0
11	0	0	1	35	0	0
12	0	0	0	29	0	0
13	0	0	4	36	0	0
14	0	0	0	36	0	0
Total	0	0	10	400	0	0
Value of Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 260,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for September 2025

Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed		Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	87		Georgia Northwestern Technical College	5
New London School of Driving Inc.	23		Savannah Technical College	5
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	19		Southern Crescent Technical College	5
West Metro Driving School	17		Southern Regional Technical College	5
Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	11		Collins Driving School	4
Central Georgia Technical College	11		Gwinnett County Board Of Education	4
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	11		Kennesaw Driving School	4
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	9		Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	4
Advance Driving Academy	8		North Georgia Technical College	3
DriveSmart Georgia	8		Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	3
The Wiser Driver	8		West Georgia Technical College	3
Taggart's Driving School	7		Albany Technical College	2
A Driving Advantage	7		FB Driving, Inc.	2
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	6		Southern Defensvie Driving School	2
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	6		Athens Technical College	1
AA Academy of Action Driving School	6		Calhoun City BOE	1
Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	6		Duluth DUI and Driving School	1
Marietta City Board of Education	6		Oconee Fall Line Technical College	1
Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	6		Ogeechee Technical College	1
Augusta Technical College	5		South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	1
			Total	324

Customer Service Report for September 2025

GDEC Provider Email Contacts	50		Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,144
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	104		Invoices Processed: 161 totaling \$211,475.80 accounting for 445 students	

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for October 2025

Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed		Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	87		North Georgia Technical College	4
New London School of Driving Inc.	21		Kennesaw Driving School	4
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	17		Augusta Technical College	3
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	17		Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	3
West Metro Driving School	17		Coastal Pines Technical College	3
Advance Driving Academy	15		Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	3
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	12		Southern Defensive Driving School	3
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	9		Lanier Technical College	3
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	8		Southeastern Technical College	3
Thumbs Up Driving Inc.	8		Albany Technical College	2
Taggart's Driving School	7		Central Georgia Technical College	2
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	6		Duluth DUI and Driving School	2
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	6		Southern Regional Technical College	2
Savannah Technical College	6		West Georgia Technical College	2
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	6		Calhoun City BOE	1
AA Academy of Action Driving School	5		DriveSmart Georgia	1
Marietta City Board of Education	5		The Wiser Driver	1
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	5		Southern Crescent Technical College	1
Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	4		Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	1
			Total	305

Customer Service Report for October 2025

GDEC Provider Email Contacts	41		Individual Staff Email Contacts	1,384
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	120		Invoices Processed: 170 totaling \$208,975.11 accounting for 442 students	

Provider Scholarship Redemption Report for November 2025

Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed		Provider Name	Scholarships Redeemed
A-1 Driving School, Inc.	87		North Georgia Technical College	4
New London School of Driving Inc.	21		Kennesaw Driving School	4
1 ACT Driving Schools, LLC	17		Augusta Technical College	3
Barber's Driving School, Inc.	17		Brock's Driver Education School, Inc.	3
West Metro Driving School	17		Coastal Pines Technical College	3
Advance Driving Academy	15		Dickerson Driving School, Inc.	3
Pinnacle Pointe DUI & Driving Schools	12		Southern Defensive Driving School	3
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	9		Lanier Technical College	3
1st Stop Georgia Driving Academy	8		Southeastern Technical College	3
Thumbs Up Driving Inc.	8		Albany Technical College	2
Taggart's Driving School	7		Central Georgia Technical College	2
Georgia Driving School, Inc.	6		Duluth DUI and Driving School	2
Gwinnett County Board Of Education	6		Southern Regional Technical College	2
Savannah Technical College	6		West Georgia Technical College	2
Southeastern Regional Driving and Safety Academy Inc	6		Calhoun City BOE	1
AA Academy of Action Driving School	5		DriveSmart Georgia	1
Marietta City Board of Education	5		The Wiser Driver	1
South Cherokee/Jasper Driver Improvement Clinic Inc.	5		Southern Crescent Technical College	1
Nathan's Driving School, Inc.	4		Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	1
			Total	305

Customer Service Report for November 2025

GDEC Provider Email Contacts	30		Individual Staff Email Contacts	922
GDEC Student/Parent Email Contacts	101		Invoices Processed: 124 totaling \$167,656.78 accounting for 340 students	

Georgia Traffic Deaths - Yearly Total and Comparison
GDOT Office of Traffic Operations
Fatalities as of 12/05/2025

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	181	153	-28	-15
Collector Distributors	6	7	1	17	7			
Ramps	39	17	-22	-56	17	18	1	6
Other State Routes	818	766	-52	-6	694	558	-136	-20
County Roads	457	399	-58	-13	375	351	-24	-6
City Streets	121	104	-17	-14	99	88	-11	-11
Grand Total	1668	1482	-186	-11	1373	1168	-205	-15

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	269	212	-57	-21
Bikes	24	25	1	4	23	27	4	17
Motorcycles	182	166	-16	-9	161	131	-30	-19
Commercial Motor Vehicle	184	176	-8	-4	164	170	6	4
Trains	5	4	-1	-20	4	3	-1	-25
Ages < 15	53	52	-1	-2	49	45	-4	-8
Ages 15-24	260	247	-13	-5	236	211	-25	-11
Ages 25-65	1110	922	-188	-17	858	722	-136	-16
Ages > 65	241	254	13	5	232	183	-49	-21
Intersections	376	348	-28	-7	321	304	-17	-5
Roadway Departure	541	453	-88	-16	432	366	-66	-15
Lane Departure	617	455	-162	-26	417	336	-81	-19
Seat Belt (No/Unknown)	697	584	-113	-16	548	492	-56	-10

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

