DRIVER EDUCATION

The Albemarle County School Board offers a program of driver education in the high schools in the safe operation of motor vehicles. The program includes instruction concerning:

- alcohol and drug abuse,
- aggressive driving,
- the dangers of distracted driving and speeding, and reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds:
- motorcycle awareness,
- ~~the dangers of distracted driving and speeding,~~
- organ and tissue donor awareness,
- fuel-efficient driving practices, and
- traffic stops, including law-enforcement procedures for traffic stops, appropriate actions to be taken by drivers during traffic stops and appropriate interactions with law-enforcement officers who initiate traffic stops.

~~The School Board establishes fees that do not exceed the limit established by the Department of Education, for the behind-the-wheel (in-car) portion of the program. The School Board may waive the fee or surcharge in whole or in part for those students it determines cannot pay the fee or surcharge.~~

~~To complement the Virginia Code requiring parents to provide 45 hours of supervised driving for new teen drivers, Albemarle County requires the participation of the student's parent or guardian in a minimum 90-minute "Parent Seminar". This seminar emphasizes parental responsibilities regarding juvenile driver behavior, juvenile driving restrictions pursuant to the Code of Virginia, the dangers of driving while intoxicated and underage consumption of alcohol, practical tips on coaching the teen and insuring the teen. No student who is at least 18 years of age, an emancipated minor, or an unaccompanied minor who is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian may be required to participate in this component.~~

The program also includes an additional minimum 90-minute parent/student driver education component as part of the classroom portion of the driver education curriculum. However, no student who is (1) at least 18 years of age, (2) an emancipated minor, or (3) an unaccompanied minor who is not in the physical custody of the student's parent or guardian is required to participate in the parent/student driver education component. The parent/student driver program emphasizes:

- parental responsibilities regarding juvenile driver behavior,
- juvenile driving restrictions pursuant to the Code of Virginia,
- the dangers of driving while intoxicated and underage consumption of alcohol, and
- the dangers of distracted driving, speeding, and reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds.

The School Board establishes fees that do not exceed the limit established by the Department of Education, for the behind-the-wheel (in-car) portion of the program. The School Board may waive the fee or surcharge in whole or in part for those students it determines cannot

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pay the fee or surcharge.

Any student who participates in a driver education program must meet the academic requirements established by the Board of Education. No student is permitted to operate a motor vehicle without a learner's permit or a license. Necessary certification of students' academic standing and compliance with compulsory attendance laws is provided by the administration to the Department of Motor Vehicles upon request, in accordance with state law.

Driver education instructors possess valid driver's licenses and maintain satisfactory driving records. Any teacher of behind-the-wheel instruction who receives six or more demerit points in a 12-month period will be suspended from teaching driver education for 24 months.

At the beginning of each school year and thereafter as necessary, the Superintendent/Designee reports to the Department of Motor Vehicles the name and driver's license number of all persons providing instruction in driver education for the school division.

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Adopted: July 1, 1993
Amended: February 22, 1999; October 11, 1999; November 30, 2000; September 6, 2007; August 13, 2009; March 8, 2012; April 23, 2015; September 10, 2015; August 24, 2017; January 27, 2022
Reviewed: September 9, 2004; October 25, 2012
Equity Review: January 27, 2022

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-205, 46.2-334, 46.2-340

8 VAC 20-340-10

8 VAC 20-720-80

Cross Ref.: JED, *Student Absences/Excuses/Dismissals*
JFC, *Standards of Student Conduct*
JN, *Student Fees, Fines, and Charge*