

Iowa Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel and Classroom Instructor Code of Ethics

It shall be the guiding purpose and the individual duty of every Iowa driver education class and behind-the-wheel instructor certified by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

P: Professionalism

A classroom and behind-the-wheel instructor should model exemplary personal and professional behaviors. Students and family members should be met with prompt and courteous service. Staying informed of organizational changes and developments in the traffic safety-related field increases an instructor's proficiency and effectiveness when performing their job.

R: Respect

Respect others as you would want them to respect you. Listen actively to each novice teen driver's problem or question, including questions and concerns from the parent or guardian. New teen drivers and their parents or guardians are seeking your assistance in understanding driver education, the GDL rules, and the licensing process. Do your best to exhibit a patient, upbeat, and positive attitude with everyone.

I: Integrity

The success of a driver education instructor is driven by personal integrity. Uphold the honor of your profession by abiding by the professional guidelines and educational standards. Review your work performance standards and code of ethics periodically. Provide in-person and detailed feedback to the parents of the novice teen driver on the positives and opportunities for improvement about their child. Avoid negative remarks about the novice teen driver's performance and remarks directed at the parents. We need to educate parents about the importance of practicing with their children without assigning blame. Avoid sending emails or texts unless it is the only option.

D: Due Diligence

Exercise due diligence with all instruction and practice. Provide only instruction you have been trained to administer and inform the novice teen driver and parent or guardian of all the essential rules and expectations of being a new teen driver under Iowa's Graduated Driver Licensing rules. Handle all interactions with diplomacy and tact.

E: Equality

Use your professional expertise and experience to evaluate and instruct each new teen driver equally and fairly. You must ensure the fundamentals of safe and responsible driving requirements to operate a motor vehicle safely are met.

Most importantly, remember you are a certified behind-the-wheel and classroom instructor (CDI) and are the first line of instruction to ensure the safety of our roads with our new teen drivers.