



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING
PO Box 9020, Olympia, Washington 9850-9020

**Washington Administrative Code
Notice of Permanent Rules for
Course Requirements**

Adoption of: WAC 308-108-150, Course Requirements

Effective date: These rule changes will become effective 31 days after filing or on April 18, 2019.

What are the agency's reasons for adopting this rule?

Existing language regarding instruction schedule is ambiguous. Amending rules to provide consistency in application of rule.

Summary of all public comments received on this rule proposal and the agency's response to those comments:

308-108-150 Concise Explanatory Statement	
Paraphrased Comment	Department response
Integration	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Teaching should be integrated. You need to teach the classroom and then the driving in the car. Not where you teach a portion at the end of the class. If you let everything go past a point in time, kids do not retain the information. They need to be taught concepts and practice them.2. Understands the point about doing something in class and then practicing it. But the rigidity of having to do it exactly that way for every student when students have life situations that come up is unreasonable. Exceptions are needed. The proposed language is fantastic. Currently DTS auditors spend so much time focusing on if 3 drives were complete by class 15. They should be focusing on the quality of information that students are getting.	<p>The change in this rule recognizes that Driver Training Schools and Instructors are best equipped to determine when a student is ready to progress. Integrated scheduling does not mean learning is taking place. What needs to be assessed is whether the student has learned what they need in order to be prepared for the next classroom or behind the wheel lesson.</p> <p>Our decision to remove the requirement for integrated scheduling was made after thoughtfully assessing what will be the least restrictive while most effective oversight for supporting schools in developing competent drivers.</p>

The Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.325(6)) requires agencies to complete a concise explanatory statement before filing adopted rules with the Office of the Code Reviser. This statement must be provided to anyone who gave comment about the proposed rulemaking.

The Department of Licensing appreciates your involvement in this rulemaking process. If you have any questions, please contact Damon Monroe, Agency Rules Coordinator, at (360) 902-3843 or email dmonroe@dol.wa.gov.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Does this rule change mean we teach a concept in the classroom and then at the convenience of the student and parents we would allow them to do the drive lesson that pertains to that concept some time later? My experience as a teacher and coach is that students retain information when it is taught and practiced close in time. An example of this is where a concept was taught before Christmas break then after break the students were given a test on the information, 23 kids failed. 4. Forcing every student to complete a rigidly integrated course that may or may not align with their learning needs does not support student learning. Removing integration requirements allows schools to progress a highly-skilled learner at a responsible quick pace, while progressing a low-skilled learner through the drive lessons at a responsible slow pace. 5. Integration is not over regulation, it is a best practice. 6. Integration is not the problem; inflexibility in the rule is the problem. 7. Removing integration would mean that OSPI and DOL are not uniform. It is not consistent and goes against the spirit of ESHB 1481. 8. Removing integration goes against the NHTSA recommendation. 9. It is not safe not to integrate. What about schools with unsafe practices? 10. If you have too much time between concepts you forget what you learned. 11. We will not reach Target Zero because of lack of integration. 12. Oregon has integration and they have great statistics. Our state has the same. Other states do not, show me statistics that show integration is not key. 13. Sometimes you don't need research. This is just common sense to teach a concept then apply the concept. 14. We can focus on student outcomes and still keep integration. The curriculum matters but so does scheduling. 	<p>These rule changes do not limit a school's ability to continue the use of integrated schedules. Schools are encouraged to consider all recommendations in the NTDETAS (Novice Teen Driver Educational and Training Administrative Standards) when designing their programs for developing competent drivers.</p> <p>The safety of students will always be the mandate of DOL. A school's course schedule does not make the school safe or unsafe. DOL does not want to use course scheduling as a mechanism for taking action against schools. In 2006, new rules were written which equipped DOL to appropriately sanction schools that are unsafe, unprofessional, or refuse to come into compliance with State mandates.</p> <p>Uniformity for both regulatory agencies (DOL and OSPI) will come through the teaching of the Required Curriculum.</p>
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15. Keep integration and give us the flexibility for exceptions not making it so rigid.	
Behind the Wheel	
1. Language around when behind the wheel lessons can start is ambiguous. There is concern students could start drive lesson before having any classroom lesson and learning basic fundamentals.	Schools/instructors need to assess when the student is prepared for the first (or any) behind the wheel lesson. The change in this rule recognizes that Driver Training Schools and Instructors are best equipped to determine when a student is ready to progress. Integrated scheduling does not mean learning is taking place. What needs to be assessed is whether the student has learned what they need in order to be prepared for the next classroom or behind the wheel lesson.
Organ donation	
1. Please remove the requirement for providing organ donation information as DOL does not have the statutory authority to require this of schools.	Applicants are asked if they want to be an organ donor at the time of applying for a license. DOL has determined that novice drivers and parents of novice drivers need to be properly informed of the organ donor program in order for applicants to make an educated decision at the time of licensure.
General	
<p>2. I just want to say thank you for working with the industry on the proposed language. Trying to bring two agencies together is extremely difficult. I commend you guys for working on it. Thank you for taking everything into consideration.</p> <p>3. The proposed language is fantastic</p> <p>4. I appreciate what the proposed language does, it gives us the opportunity to make decisions that are best for the student based on their circumstances.</p> <p>5. I think the proposed language allows more flexibility for the instructor and consumer.</p> <p>6. The new WAC removes the problem of interpretive words such as “complementary”,</p>	Thank you for your comments.

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<p>“integrated”, and “timely”. The proposed language should be adopted.</p> <p>7. Draft language keeps necessary minimum course duration regulations intact to ensure minimum learning guidelines, but also removes guidelines that impose unnecessary expenses on the driving school.</p>	
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Changes made to the proposed WAC as a result of public comment:

There are no differences between the text of the proposed rules as published in the register and the text of the rule as adopted. However, change was made to the title of the section, changing it from Curriculum Requirements to Course Requirements.

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