

MEMORANDUM

To: School District Superintendents

From: Brian McGairty, Director *BM*
Office of Safe and Orderly Schools

Darrell Latham, Program Specialist Team Lead *DL*
Office of Safe and Orderly Schools, Division of Driver Education

Date: March 2, 2026

Subject: Application for Approval and State Aid for Teaching Driver Education
2026 Summer Session

Enclosed is an Application to the Mississippi State Board of Education for approval and state-aid for teaching Driver Education (DE-1). Please distribute copies of this form to the principal in each high school where driver education will be offered during the 2025-2026 summer school session. If the district has multiple high schools, please submit **all** completed DE-1 forms from the schools together. Please ensure that the district follows the policies and procedures outlined in the Mississippi Driver Education Framework.

After submission of the DE-1 forms(s), please ensure that the district receives an approval letter from the Office of Safe & orderly Schools for Driver Education for the 2026 Summer session in the form of a letter or approval stamped and signed. This approval shall be kept on file in the district. Failure to apply for approval from MDE will disqualify the district from receiving reimbursement for the driver education program at the end of the summer session. Requisition for Reimbursement for Driver Education (Form DE-3), Summary of Students Completing Driver Education (Form DE-3A), and Driver Education Yearly Cost Report (Form DE-4) shall be submitted **within ten (10) days after the last day of the 2025-2026 summer session.** If the district is currently teaching driver education for the 2025-2026 regular session, please submit the regular session forms and the summer session forms together.

The DE-1 form(s) shall be completed, signed, and submitted to the Mississippi Department of Education **no later than April 15, 2026.** These forms may be found at <https://mdek12.org/safeorderlyschools/dep/>. Please email all completed forms to Darrell Latham at dlatham@mdek12.org.

Enclosures

C: Dr. Paula A. Vanderford, Chief Accountability Officer
Mr. Brian McGairty, Bureau Director