

# DRIVER EDUCATION

## NEWSLETTER

QUARTER 2 | April/May/June

### Driver Education Program Updates:

Information on the *2025 Behind-the-Wheel Online Refresher Course* will be sent to instructors this spring.

Instructors are required to take the refresher course **every other year** as a requirement for the Behind-the-Wheel license. If you did not take the course in 2024, you will receive directions on how to access the course this spring.

**Please complete the refresher course by December 2025.**

### Share the Road with Motorcycles

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month! A.B.A.T.E of Iowa offers a [Share the Road Motorcycle Awareness training](#) to provide education and insight from a motorcyclist point of view.

Driver education programs are encouraged to schedule presentations with A.B.A.T.E of Iowa to assist with covering the share the road with motorcycle curriculum requirements.

### Driving in Severe Spring Weather

The arrival of spring brings warmer temperatures, but there is always a chance for severe weather like thunderstorms, hail, and tornadoes. It may be difficult to practice, but it's important to have conversations with young drivers to prepare them for unpredictable spring weather.

#### Driving in Thunderstorms

Rain during thunderstorms can make roads slippery and reduce visibility. To see upcoming hazards, drivers should:

- Turn on low-beam headlights.
- Reduce speed and increase distance between vehicles.
- Depending on the severity of the storm and your comfort level, wait until the storm has cleared. Make sure to park away from trees and power lines. If pulling over, turn on your hazard lights to alert other drivers.

#### Driving in Tornadoes and High Winds

- Do not try to outrun a tornado. Tornadoes are unpredictable and can change direction rapidly, making it difficult to outmaneuver them in a vehicle.
- The best course of action is to find a sturdy building to seek shelter.
- If you are unable to make it to a shelter, pull over, duck down below the windows in the vehicle, keep your seat belt fastened, and cover your head with your hands or an object such as a blanket or cushion.
- As an alternative, if you can safely exit your vehicle, take cover in a low lying ditch or ravine and covering your head.
- Stay away from bridges and overpasses.



## Iowa Donor Network

April is Donate Life Month! This is a great opportunity to promote organ and tissue donation in your classrooms and in your communities! You can request a representative of IDN to come to your classroom or to speak to your community organization here:

[REQUEST A SPEAKER](#)

## Iowa Heartlander's Hockey Game



Thursday, April 12  
6 p.m.



Xtream Arena  
200 E 9th St Ste 100  
Coralville, IA

We would love to have you join us at the Iowa Heartlander's Hockey Game. IDN will be the featured non-profit on April 12, and we would love to celebrate Donate Life Month with you!

[GET TICKETS](#)

## Driver Education Instructor Meetings

The Iowa DOT is excited to announce our new quarterly 2025 Driver Education Instructor meetings! These meetings offer a valuable opportunity to stay informed on important topics and are designed for all behind-the-wheel instructors, classroom instructors, driver education program leaders, and related stakeholders.

Meetings will be held on Microsoft Teams and will be recorded for future viewing. Meetings are not mandatory but highly encouraged.

[REGISTER FOR MEETINGS](#)

## Work Zone Safety Tips

As temperatures increase, drivers may see more work zones across Iowa. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration states over 700 fatalities occur in work zones each year. All vehicles should be careful while traveling through work zones and follow the speed limit requirements. Check out the [FMCSA work zone tips](#) and resources to prepare for your next trip!

## Upcoming Events

### April 4

#### Driver Education Instructor Meeting

Guest Speaker Shannon Booth with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

### April 17

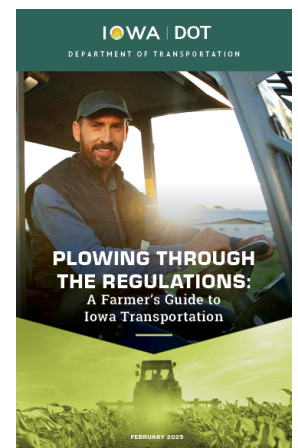
#### MADD Iowa Candlelight Vigil

Iowa Capitol

RSVP: [ia.state@madd.org](mailto:ia.state@madd.org)

## Iowa DOT Agriculture Guide: Plowing Through Regulations

We appreciate our Iowa farmers and want to make sure they can navigate the laws, regulations, and exemptions that pertain to farm transportation. For instructors or parents who have questions regarding their teen driver assisting with farm work, please review the new Iowa DOT [Farm Guide](#)!



## CURRENT IOWA TRAFFIC FATALITIES

The Iowa DOT provides a daily report of Iowa traffic fatalities organized by year, month, type, and county.