

# HOUSE BILL 1025

R4

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By: **Delegate Forbes**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Driver Education – Self-Paced, Online Instruction**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain individuals to satisfy the classroom instruction  
4 component necessary for obtaining a provisional driver’s license by completing  
5 certain self-paced, online driver education instruction approved by the Motor  
6 Vehicle Administration; requiring certain regulations adopted by the Administration  
7 to include standards for self-paced, online driver education instruction; and  
8 generally relating to self-paced, online driver education instruction.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
10 Article – Transportation  
11 Section 16–105(d)(2)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article – Transportation  
16 Section 16–105(d)(3) through (5) and 16–505  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Transportation**

22 16–105.

23 (d) (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, an individual  
24 under the age of 19 years who holds a learner’s instructional permit may not take a driver  
25 skills examination or driver road examination for a provisional license:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) Sooner than 9 months following the later of:

2 1. The date that the individual first obtains the learner's  
3 instructional permit; or

4 2. The most recent date the individual was convicted of, or  
5 granted probation before judgment under § 6-220 of the Criminal Procedure Article for, a  
6 moving violation;

7 (ii) Until after successful completion of:

8 1. The driver education program approved under Subtitle 5  
9 of this title, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at least 6 hours of  
10 highway driving instruction; and

11 2. At least 60 hours, 10 hours of which must occur during the  
12 period beginning 30 minutes before sunset and ending 30 minutes after sunrise, of  
13 behind-the-wheel driving practice supervised by an individual who:

14 A. Holds a valid driver's license;

15 B. Is at least 21 years old; and

16 C. Has been licensed to drive for at least 3 years; and

17 (iii) Unless the individual submits, in accordance with the  
18 Administration's regulations, a completed skills log book signed by:

19 1. Each supervising driver who certifies that the individual  
20 has satisfactorily demonstrated a required skill and has completed the driving practice  
21 requirements of item (ii)2 of this paragraph; and

22 2. If a signature of a parent, guardian, or other person is  
23 required under § 16-107 of this subtitle, the parent, guardian, or other person who signs  
24 the individual's application under that section.

25 (3) An individual who holds a learner's instructional permit and who is 18  
26 years old and has a high school diploma or its equivalent or is at least 19 years old but  
27 under the age of 25 years may not take a driver skills examination or driver road  
28 examination for a provisional license:

29 (i) Sooner than the later of:

30 1. 3 months following the date that the individual first  
31 obtains the learner's instructional permit; or

1                                   2.     9 months following the most recent date the individual  
2 was convicted of, or granted probation before judgment for, a moving violation;

3                                   (ii)    Until after successful completion of:

4                                   1.     **A.**    A standard driver education program approved  
5 under Subtitle 5 of this title, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at  
6 least 6 hours of highway driving instruction; **OR**

7                                   **B.**    **FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD**  
8 **BUT UNDER THE AGE OF 25 YEARS, A STANDARD SELF-PACED, ONLINE DRIVER**  
9 **EDUCATION PROGRAM APPROVED UNDER SUBTITLE 5 OF THIS TITLE, CONSISTING**  
10 **OF AT LEAST 30 HOURS OF ONLINE INSTRUCTION AND AT LEAST 6 HOURS OF**  
11 **HIGHWAY DRIVING INSTRUCTION; and**

12                                  2.     At least 60 hours, 10 hours of which must occur during the  
13 period beginning 30 minutes before sunset and ending 30 minutes after sunrise, of  
14 behind-the-wheel driving practice supervised by an individual who:

15                                  A.     Holds a valid driver's license;

16                                  B.     Is at least 21 years old; and

17                                  C.     Has been licensed to drive for at least 3 years; and

18                                  (iii) Unless the individual submits, in accordance with the  
19 Administration's regulations, a completed skills log book signed by each supervising driver  
20 who certifies that the individual has satisfactorily demonstrated a required skill and has  
21 completed the driving practice requirements under this paragraph.

22                                  (4)    An individual at least 25 years old who holds a learner's instructional  
23 permit and has not been convicted of, or granted probation before judgment for, a moving  
24 violation may not take a driver skills examination or driver road examination for a  
25 provisional license:

26                                  (i)     Sooner than 45 days following the date that the individual first  
27 obtains the learner's instructional permit;

28                                  (ii)    Until after successful completion of:

29                                  1.     **A.**    A standard driver education program approved  
30 under Subtitle 5 of this title, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at  
31 least 6 hours of highway driving instruction; **OR**

32                                  **B.**    **A STANDARD SELF-PACED, ONLINE DRIVER**  
33 **EDUCATION PROGRAM APPROVED UNDER SUBTITLE 5 OF THIS TITLE, CONSISTING**

1 **OF AT LEAST 30 HOURS OF ONLINE INSTRUCTION AND AT LEAST 6 HOURS OF**  
2 **HIGHWAY DRIVING INSTRUCTION;** and

3                   2.     At least 14 hours, 3 hours of which must occur during the  
4 period beginning 30 minutes before sunset and ending 30 minutes after sunrise, of  
5 behind-the-wheel driving practice supervised by an individual who:

6                   A.     Holds a valid driver's license;

7                   B.     Is at least 21 years old; and

8                   C.     Has been licensed to drive for at least 3 years; and

9                   (iii) Unless the individual submits, in accordance with the  
10 Administration's regulations, a completed skills log book signed by each supervising driver  
11 who certifies that the individual has satisfactorily demonstrated a required skill and has  
12 completed the driving practice requirements under this paragraph.

13                 (5)     An individual at least 25 years old who holds a learner's instructional  
14 permit and has been convicted of, or granted probation before judgment for, at least one  
15 moving violation may not take a driver skills examination or driver road examination for a  
16 provisional license:

17                   (i)     Sooner than 9 months following the most recent date the  
18 individual was convicted of, or granted probation before judgment for, a moving violation;

19                   (ii)    Until after successful completion of:

20                   1.     **A.**    A standard driver education program approved  
21 under Subtitle 5 of this title, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at  
22 least 6 hours of highway driving instruction; **OR**

23                   **B.    A STANDARD SELF-PACED, ONLINE DRIVER**  
24 **EDUCATION PROGRAM APPROVED UNDER SUBTITLE 5 OF THIS TITLE, CONSISTING**  
25 **OF AT LEAST 30 HOURS OF ONLINE INSTRUCTION AND AT LEAST 6 HOURS OF**  
26 **HIGHWAY DRIVING INSTRUCTION;** and

27                   2.     At least 14 hours, 3 hours of which must occur during the  
28 period beginning 30 minutes before sunset and ending 30 minutes after sunrise, of  
29 behind-the-wheel driving practice supervised by an individual who:

30                   A.     Holds a valid driver's license;

31                   B.     Is at least 21 years old; and

32                   C.     Has been licensed to drive for at least 3 years; and

1 (iii) Unless the individual submits, in accordance with the  
2 Administration's regulations, a completed skills log book signed by each supervising driver  
3 who certifies that the individual has satisfactorily demonstrated a required skill and has  
4 completed the driving practice requirements under this paragraph.

5 16-505.

6 (a) The Administration shall, in consultation with the State Department of  
7 Education, adopt and enforce regulations not inconsistent with this subtitle to implement  
8 a standardized driver education program conducted by driver education schools under its  
9 jurisdiction.

10 (b) Regulations adopted under this section shall be administered by the  
11 Administration and shall include:

12 (1) Curriculum, equipment, and facility standards for classroom,  
13 laboratory, and on-road instruction phases;

14 (2) Minimum student performance standards for an approved driver  
15 education program based upon the standardized curriculum approved by the  
16 Administration, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom **OR SELF-PACED, ONLINE**  
17 instruction and at least 6 hours of highway driving instruction;

18 (3) Standards for the certification of schools and instructors;

19 (4) A system to evaluate the effectiveness of the driver education program;

20 (5) Standards governing the required offering of the driver education  
21 program, based on the capacity, enrollment, staff, and facilities of the schools; and

22 (6) Standards for the eligibility of individuals to enroll in the program.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 2022.