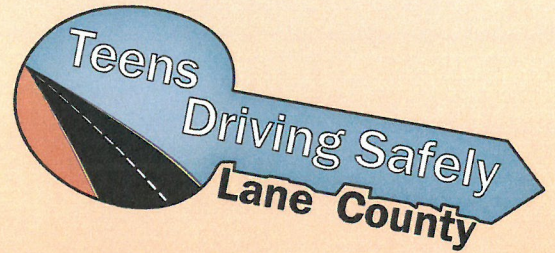




IMPROVING DRIVER EDUCATION ACCESS TO RURAL LANE COUNTY





Lane County is excited to introduce a new countywide initiative, Teens Driving Safely! Teens Driving Safely is a driver training program aimed at increasing educational access for rural Lane County high school students.

Since driver education classes are no longer offered in public school, and private driver education programs cost upwards of \$300 per student, educational opportunities in rural Lane County have become insufficient. The lack of available driver education for rural high school students is a rising public health issue since a majority of fatal collisions occur in rural areas.

 Teen drivers who have not completed Driver Ed are **75%** more likely to get a traffic ticket, **24%** more likely to be involved in a fatal or injury crash, and **16%** more likely to have a non-fatal crash than those who did complete a formal driver education program.

 In 2015, drivers aged 15-19, who are 6.8% of Lane County's population, were involved in 14.5% of Lane County crashes. **57%** percent of those crashes resulted in injury and three in fatality.

 In Lane County, **roadway fatalities are the leading cause of death** for ages 1 to 24. Lane County led Oregon counties in traffic fatalities in 2014 and 2015. Most fatalities were in rural areas, outside city limits.

 **54%** of fatalities are occurring in rural Lane County (2.4 times higher than the fatality rate in the urban/MPO area). Between 2007 and 2014, 168 people died in rural Lane County; during that same time period, 72 people died in the urban/MPO area.



Donate to the Teens Driving Safely Scholarship Fund!

Help make it possible for all Lane County 15-year olds take the ODOT-approved driver education course by donating to this scholarship fund! Presently, the cost to teens for this course is \$300, which is a barrier that stops many families from signing up for a course. Your donation will help families overcome this barrier. Please visit www.laneeducationfoundation.org, click on "DONATE NOW" and then on the Teen Driver Education button to donate. Feel free to share this link with your friends and colleagues. Together, we can make our teens safe drivers!

