

Kalani High School Driver Ed FAQs:
(Updated to include information about Covid-19)

- Q. How will driver ed be different during the covid-19 pandemic?
- A. Driver ed will be different in many ways as a result of covid-19 (and presumably any similar contagious affliction). The DOE has set up procedures that basically follow CDC guidelines for both classroom and behind the wheel lessons. Full in-person instruction has been allowed as of summer 2022, with social distancing of 3 feet. Face masks will be optional for in-person classroom and behind the wheel. Students will be required to answer screening questions about their health on a form that the parent will also sign before the start of a session, and temperature checks will be taken each time before a student goes on a driving lesson. Btw lessons may be rescheduled or cancelled if a student has a fever or other symptoms before driving, or has a positive covid test result. Furthermore, the instructor and students will wipe the interior before each lesson. If the instructor develops symptoms or a fever or has a positive test result anytime during a driver ed class or btw lessons, the class or lesson may be postponed or rescheduled.

For virtual classes, using Google Classroom and Meet, students will be required to leave their cameras on at all times during the class session. Students and their parents should ensure that they have dependable devices and internet connection, as well as have a "Plan B" if their main device or connection has an issue during class.

Another thing to keep in mind under covid restrictions is the availability of the City DMV to renew permits. Please go to the City website (honolulu.gov) to find out the latest on how covid is affecting the ability of the City to renew and extend permits. Usually appointments have to be made, and appointments may be booked far in advance.

- Q. My son/daughter will be on a trip on _____ and returning on _____. She might miss one class. Does she have to reschedule?
- A. Maybe he or she should think about the next session? For btw lessons, the instructor needs to be notified in advance.

- Q. Please let me know the schedule. Q. Please let me know the times. Q. How much is the course and who do I make a check to?
- A. Information will be sent to all applicants when a class is available. If interested in driver education, submit the application and wait for the information that will be sent to you (make sure you have a valid email address and phone number in your application.) Information will be sent to applicants only.

For regular classes: The dates and times, and payment information, are in the information sheet. Checks may be made out to "Kalani High School." In general, Kalani has three classes per year: summer, fall and spring. The summer class is like summer school, M-F in the afternoons (after regular summer school) usually in the month of June. The fall and spring classes are usually on a Tu-Th-Sat basis, in the late afternoon on Tu-Th, and in the afternoon on Sat. The fall class is usually Sept-Oct, while the spring class is usually Jan-Feb. Exact dates will be in the information.

For virtual classes: The instructor will set the class dates and times. Please note that since driver education at Kalani is an "after-school" course, even virtual classes will be scheduled for after-school hours during a school day. For non-school days, the instructor may set a time convenient for the class.

For in-person or virtual classes the tuition is \$10, which includes the classroom and the behind the wheel lessons. Tuition is usually collected on a day and time before the Parent Meeting, and at the same time students can sign out for the textbook.

- Q. If a student starts the class, and decides to drop out afterwards, then I think it's fair for that student to go to the bottom of the list, because they essentially wasted a spot, preventing another student from taking the class.
- A. That is the purpose of sending the information in advance. Fortunately, only a handful have withdrawn after being allowed into the class. Your suggestion about the voluntary dropouts will be considered.

- Q. If a student fails the classroom can he or she re-take the course?
- Q. If a student fails the behind the wheel lessons does he or she have to retake the course from the beginning?

- A. Those who fail the classroom are not allowed to take the behind the wheel lessons, and have preference to sign up for the next class. Those who fail the behind the wheel lessons are allowed to re-take the btw-only lessons in the next session.
- Q. Can a student make up some of the classes if they couldn't attend?
- A. Each class date is on the information sheet. Students should not take the course knowing they cannot attend a class.
- Q. What if on one of the class days there was a sudden emergency and you couldn't make it? How would you make up or would you just ask some classmate about the notes?
- A. For valid absences, you would have to retake the missed class at the next session (spring for the fall class, summer for the spring class, etc). See also next question.
- Q. So whatever class someone missed, they just have to take that same class in the following session?
- A. Yes. But a student cannot miss more than two classes with a valid excuse (and both would be made up in the next session).
- Q. I have a road test scheduled for _____. Will I be able to complete my driver ed requirements and get my certificates in time for my test?
- A. By law, the driver ed program (public or private) cannot be completed in fewer than six weeks, whether it's the classroom by itself or classroom and behind-the-wheel combined. You may consider the six weeks to begin on parent night and count six weeks from there. Please note also that for the behind the wheel lessons, we typically schedule the lessons with 3-4 days between lessons to allow the student to practice drive with parents, but from a practical point of view, certain driving lessons are better done on weekends than on weekdays with after-school rush hour traffic, especially where Kalani is located. Please note also that rescheduling a road test online is relatively simple (though of course availability of convenient dates and times may be an issue). Also remember that students need to complete their 50 hours of practice driving and have the acknowledgment of practice driving form notarized in order to receive the btw certificate. The btw certificate must be obtained first before the classroom certificate is issued.
- Q. I took the driver education classroom course with a private instructor who did not offer behind the wheel lessons. May I sign up only for the behind the wheel lessons?
- A. The DOE Driver Ed Program is composed of classroom and behind the wheel lessons. They are considered integral and part of the same course. Students may not take only the classroom or only the btw lessons from the DOE.
- Q. I will be 18 soon. Do I still need the certificates to take the road test?
- A. DOE drivers ed accepts students who are under 19 at the time of the first class. If you turn 19 during the course, you may still complete the course. Once you turn 18 you do not need the driver education certificates to take the driver license road exam. The question you should consider is whether you feel your current level of driving skill and knowledge is sufficient, and/or whether you feel you need to take driver education to become a better, safer driver. High school seniors who may be going away to the mainland for college and may not complete the course (e.g., the summer class) could also still take driver ed for as many classes or behind the wheel lessons (after or while completing the classroom portion) as they can before they leave. The final "grade" for the course in this instance would be "incomplete," and of course the student would not receive any certificates. Several 18-year-olds in previous classes have completed both the classroom and btw lessons, and their practice hours, in order to obtain the certificates even though they did not need them to take the license road test.
- Q. Does the student need to attend Parent Night (Parent Meeting)?
- A. Yes!! It counts toward classroom hours.
- Q. What is the deadline for submitting an application?
- A. There are no deadlines for applications. We fill each class on a rolling basis. Remember, you need to meet the requirements of the class and simply turning in an application does not guarantee you a spot in any given class. You will receive information about the requirements as each class approaches and you have to be able to commit to the requirements if selected for the class. On the other hand, we have had students who told us they could commit to the course, but then they drop out after one or a few class sessions. Of course these students possibly deprived other students who could commit from taking that class. It is advisable to submit an application as soon as possible if you are even thinking about taking driver's ed. We can always hold on to the application (as long as the information on it remains current) for the class session that suits your schedule.

- Q. Can a non-Kalani student take driver ed at Kalani?
A. DOE driver ed is open to any student under 19 who has a learner's permit.
- Q. Can you recommend a private driver ed instructor?
A. For current driver ed schools, public or private, use the internet link below:
[Highways | Driver Education \(hawaii.gov\)](#)

For information about permits, permit renewals and road test appointments, please use the following link:
[Department of Customer Services Home \(honolulu.gov\)](#)