

BEHIND-THE-WHEEL DRIVER EDUCATION PERMISSION LETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Your son/daughter is requesting enrollment in the behind-the-wheel (in-car) driver education course with Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS). This seven-day course consists of approximately two hours a day of range and on-road instruction, and a final road skills examination. State-certified teachers teach the course with an endorsement in driver's education. The driver education vehicles have dual brakes, restraint systems, extra rearview mirrors, cameras, and other safety devices.

To be eligible for in-car instruction, the student must have a Virginia learner's permit, completed an approved classroom driver education course (or currently enrolled with a minimum of 10 hours of instruction), and completed a minimum of two hours of driving with a parent. Parental involvement with 10 hours of driving instruction is recommended by following sessions 1-7 in the [45-hour Parent/Teen Guide](#) before beginning in-car instruction.

Upon successful completion of classroom driver education, in-car instruction, 45-hours of supervised driving with fifteen of those hours after sunset (conducted before, during, and after program), and the road test, students may be issued a 180-day temporary driver's license. The 180-day temporary driver's license will become valid on the day the student turns 16 years three months, and only if the student has held a learner's permit for at least nine months. This 180-day temporary license, accompanied by a valid Virginia learner's permit, allows the student to operate a motor vehicle with no adult supervision.

A parent's insurance policy usually covers students driving with a learner's permit; however, we recommend parents obtain confirmation with their insurance company. Students will need additional coverage once they receive their 180-day temporary license. Virginia law requires that a student be adequately insured when the 180-day provisional license is issued.

It should be emphasized that successful completion of in-car instruction does not always qualify your student as a safe, accomplished driver. As the parent, you must make the final decision to determine if your student is ready to handle the responsibility of operating a motor vehicle unchaperoned; and therefore, the student's 180-day temporary license is provided to the parent at the completion of in-car instruction.

All high schools in Prince William County Public Schools will charge a \$240.00 fee to each student taking the behind-the-wheel program. Payment can be made [online](#). Checks or money orders should be made payable to PWCS with the student's name in the memo line. Please reach out to your school's driver education coordinator for scheduling information.

Please complete the next section and return this information to your student's behind-the-wheel instructor

I hereby request that my son/daughter _____ be enrolled in a state-approved behind-the-wheel program. I understand that completing this course does not signify that his/her driving skills are proficient enough to operate a motor vehicle without adult supervision. I understand that signing the [VA PPF-16 permission form](#), I certify that my child is mentally, physically, and otherwise able to operate a motor vehicle safely. Please provide us with the information below regarding any additional support or accommodations your student may need during behind-the-wheel classes. Parent Comments: _____

Signed

(Parent/Guardian)

Date: _____

I hereby allow the school to issue my child a 180-day temporary license when the student is at least 16 years three months and held a learner's permit for a minimum of 9 months with submission of all required documentation.

Signed

(Parent/Guardian)

Date: _____