



## Current trends and issues:

- Distractions
- Speeding
- Road rage
- Anti-lock brakes
- New vehicle technology
- Fatigue
- Occupant protection
- Following distance
- Rollover crashes

## Learn safe driving with:

- Classroom instruction
- Simulation
- Range exercise
- Skid control exercises



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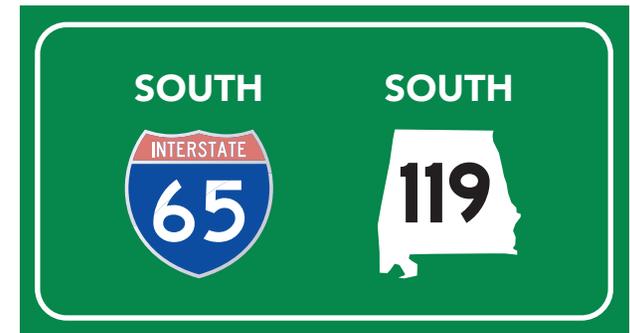
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Current schedule available online.



## Young Driver Risk Reduction Course

*Ages 16-19 years old*  
*Valid driver's license required*



Hands-On  
Behind-the-Wheel Training

[montevallo.edu/altsc](http://montevallo.edu/altsc)

## Why should young drivers want to improve their driving skills?

- Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for persons ages 16 to 20. Motor vehicle crashes account for **more than one-third** of all deaths of 16- to 19-year-olds.
- People ages 16 to 20 make up only 6% of American drivers and drive only 3% of all miles driven, yet they are involved in **15% of traffic deaths**.
- Traffic crashes are the **leading cause** of disability and spinal cord injury among youth.
- A 16-year-old driver is **20 times as likely** to have a traffic crash as the general population.
- A 16-year-old with three or more passengers faces **nearly three times the risk** of a fatal wreck as driving alone.
- Young drivers are much **more likely to engage in dangerous activities** — drinking or using drugs, speeding, swerving, running red lights — when in the presence of their peers.
- Teenagers are generally **less likely to wear safety belts**.



One study found that it takes as many as 30,000 miles or as long as seven years to mature as a driver. In other words, the odds are not in favor of young drivers, in particular those who may not have received any type of formal driver training.

The **Young Driver Risk Reduction Course** is designed to address many of the problem areas encountered by younger, less experienced drivers. Crash avoidance, skid control, defensive driving and visual scanning techniques are a few of the topics covered. In addition, professional instructors attempt to identify and reduce bad habits which often exist in less experienced drivers. Time is divided between interactive classroom activities and hands-on, in-car range driving experiences.

This is an advanced driving course. Participants must be competent in all basic driving skills including lane placement, steering, stopping and decision making. This is not a basic driver education course and is not designed to replace that training for young drivers. All course participants will receive a certificate of completion.

The ability to successfully execute a proper evasive maneuver in an emergency is often the difference between a simple scare and a crash. In order to accomplish this task, a driver must not only have the knowledge of what should be done but the ability to perform the maneuver as a reflex.

The Alabama Traffic Safety Center is one of the only facilities in the Southeast that provides hands-on driving exercises that must be practiced outside of the classroom in order for a driver to develop a feel for how a vehicle will respond in an emergency evasive maneuver.

### The following driving exercises will be utilized to facilitate the development of proper, quick and effective evasive driving techniques:

#### SERPENTINE

The purpose of the serpentine is to develop timing and steering skills. Coordination between hand, eye and foot are stressed. Drivers will also develop the ability to judge the vehicle's placement with respect to fixed objects.

#### EVASIVE MANEUVERS

The purpose of this exercise is to teach the driver the evasive capabilities of an automobile and how to maximize the capabilities. Emphasis is placed on steering, hard braking and braking and steering at the same time. This exercise will show that braking alone is not always the best option.

#### CONTROLLED BRAKING

This exercise is designed to develop the driver's ability to get the maximum braking capability from the automobile without losing the ability to steer. Correct use of anti-lock brakes and conventional brakes is taught.

#### PRECISION COURSE

This activity acquaints drivers with the cornering ability of a vehicle. Smooth acceleration, rhythmical steering and vision are stressed.

#### SKID CONTROL

This exercise acquaints drivers with how skids occur and the proper steering input to correct the skid.

Each exercise is designed to develop hand, eye and foot coordination, driving skills needed to control an automobile and automatic responses to emergency driving situations.