



Public Health Practice Information Sheet

2018 New Driver Perspectives and Behavior Survey

Introduction

You (or your student) are being invited to participate in the New Driver Perspectives and Behavior Survey because you (or your student) are currently enrolled in a driver's education course. This survey is being conducted by the Youth Safety Council of Vermont and medical students at the Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont.

Purpose

The safety of roads in Vermont is an important health concern for adolescents and new drivers, and vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the US. New drivers have an increased risk of crash when distracted compared to experienced drivers. Drivers who are 16-19 years old are three times more likely to be involved in fatal crashes than those 20 years and older. The purpose of this survey is to **identify new drivers' perspectives and behaviors** towards driving and risky driving behaviors (e.g. texting and driving, impaired driving, distracted driving, speeding, etc.). By better understanding new driver perspectives, we hope to help educators and other professionals in this field develop strategies to enhance new driver safety. This project will help to inform the development of future strategies to prevent motor vehicle crashes among this population.

Survey

- Students will be asked to fill out a questionnaire at school during their regularly scheduled Driver's Education course.
- The survey will take about **ten minutes** to complete.
- An example of the types of questions that will be asked in this survey are as follows:

3. How likely do you think someone would be to get pulled over if they frequently drove:

| | <i>Very Likely</i> | | | <i>Very Unlikely</i> | |
|--|--------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| Without wearing a seatbelt? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| While looking at their phone (texting, browsing, using apps, GPS, etc.)? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| After/while drinking alcohol? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Benefits

- As a participant in this project there may not be any direct benefit for you (or your student). However, information from this study may benefit new drivers in the future.

Confidentiality

- The survey has been designed to protect the student's privacy.
- Students will not put their names on the survey and their responses will not be attached to identifying information.

Voluntary Participation

- Student participation in this project is voluntary.
- Students may stop participating in the survey at any point without penalty.
- Students can skip any question that they do not wish to answer.



The Robert Larner, M.D.
College of Medicine

THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

- If you (or your student) DO NOT wish to participate in this survey, please contact _____ by _____

Questions

If you have any questions about this project, contact James Lockridge, Executive Director at the Youth Safety Council of Vermont, at (802) 881-9050 or Jan Carney, MD MPH, Public Health Course Director at the Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, at 802-656-8275.