

## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

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February 11, 2019

## **Notice**

## **Driving Safety Law Updates**

On September 1, 2017 the 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature implemented, with immediate effect, changes to driving safety laws (Texas Education Code 1001) that allow Driving Safety Course Providers to issue Uniform Certificates of Completion electronically. Driving Safety Course Providers were still prohibited from electronic issuance of Uniform Certificates of Completion through Administrative Rule.

On September 25, 2018 TDLR's Commission adopted new Administrative Rules that allowed Driving Safety Course Providers to electronically issue Uniform Certificates of Completion effective November 1, 2018.

TDLR has launched a verification system that allows courts to verify the authenticity of a certificate for the first time ever via our website at: <a href="www.tdlr.texas.gov/DESsearch">www.tdlr.texas.gov/DESsearch</a> TDLR is committed to enhancing this feature and will be reaching out to courts, clerks and all other interested parties in developing systems and communication that are of the best interest of the courts, Course Providers and citizens of the state alike.

Additionally, TDLR has mandated that all Course Providers will adopt a single standardized certificate design developed by the Department. Previously each Driving Safety Course Provider had their own design, resulting in 82 different certificates that were in circulation. Effective February 1, 2019 all Course Providers were required to issue Uniform Certificates of Completion on the new format enclosed, bringing the number of designs in circulation to one. Whether mailed through traditional means or issued electronically, these certificates will no longer be on security paper.

If you have any questions, please contact TDLR's Driver Education and Traffic Safety group at DES@tdlr.texas.gov

Respectfully,

Michael Strawn Education and Examination Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation