

Michigan Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association

March 19, 2011

Basic Driver Improvement Course

2008 PA 568

2010 PA 289

Presentation Outline

- What is a Basic Driver Improvement Course?
- Who is eligible/not eligible?
- What are the time/cost considerations?
- Who can provide a BDIC? What is involved in becoming a course provider?
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What is a Basic Driver Improvement Course?

Effective December 31, 2010 - 2008 PA 568 and PA 289

A course that allows good drivers who receive a minor moving violation a **one-time** opportunity to avoid points on their driving records and the ticket information from being available to insurance companies.

MCL 257.3a states *"Basic driver improvement course"* means a course of study that satisfies all of the following conditions:

- a) It meets or exceeds the curriculum standards set forth in the defensive driving course instructor manual, eighth edition, published by the National Safety Council.
- b) It provides documented evidence from a federal, state, or local agency of course effectiveness in reducing **collisions**, moving **violations**, or both.
- c) It contains such other information as is approved by the secretary of state and that is offered over the internet or through classroom instruction.

Who is eligible/not eligible to take the course?

Eligible if conviction received on or after December 31, 2010 and:

- Currently have 2 or less points on driving record
- Violation was not a criminal offense
- Ticket received is eligible (e.g., conviction is 3 or fewer points, not for careless or negligent driving). List of eligible tickets is available at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/sos/Civil_infractions_eligible_BDIC_336024_7.pdf

Disqualified if any of the following are true:

- You are in the 60-day period of BDIC eligibility for a previous ticket
- You have already avoided points under this program
- License is restricted, suspended, or revoked or never issued a Michigan license
- You hold a CDL or were operating a CMV at the time of the ticket

What are the time/cost considerations for taking a course?

- Eligible drivers have 60 days to arrange for and successfully complete the course.
- The fee for the course is determined by the course provider, but must not exceed \$100.

Who can provide a BDIC?

What is involved in becoming a course provider?

- The Michigan Department of State approves BDIC course providers.
- Course providers must submit an application and provide proof of a curriculum that meets or exceeds NSC Defensive Driving Course Eighth Edition.
- Course providers must also provide documented evidence from a federal, state or local governmental agency of course effectiveness in reducing collisions, moving violations, or both.

How does a candidate know they are eligible? What happens if the course is passed/not passed?

The Secretary of State (SOS) will determine and notify eligible drivers and provide them with a list of approved course providers. Course providers will notify the SOS of course results.

Unsuccessful Course Completion: The SOS will add points on the driving record and insurance companies will have access to ticket information.

Successful Course Completion:

- The SOS will not add points to the driving record and the ticket information will not be available to insurance companies.
- Ticket information will be posted to the driving record and may be used for other purposes. (e.g., a court can still see it, and probationary drivers may still be subject to a driver assessment re-examination and license sanctions.)

5-year Study Requirement

Every five years course providers must conduct a study of the effect that successful completion of the Basic Driver Improvement Course has on reducing collisions, moving violations, or both, among their students.

Where to find more information

www.Michigan.gov/sos