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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 28, 2020

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Driver education programs can receive financial assistance

A new Driver Education Reimbursement Grant Program has been established to provide financial assistance to driver's education programs to help individuals who may not have been able to participate otherwise. The program is part of the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program (IKE) passed by the Kansas Legislature this spring.

"Young drivers are overrepresented in traffic crashes," said Secretary Julie Lorenz. "This new IKE program provides increased resources to driver education programs so they can train new Kansas drivers to navigate roadways in a safer manner."

The driver education provider will be reimbursed up to \$200 per eligible student who completes the program. Some of the eligibility requirements include - the provider must have an approved driver education program or driver training school, maintain records on students for at least five years and certify all students meet the guidelines.

Students must be between the age of 14 and 29 and a resident of Kansas, has not had their driving privilege suspended in any way, demonstrate financial need and can obtain a certificate of completion by the instructor.

"Driver's education has changed a lot over the years, and it is important for young drivers to be able to get to work and other places safely," said Senator Carolyn McGinn. "This program can help them gain driving experience and skills."

The deadline for driver education program providers to apply for the program is Oct. 9. Interested individual or student participants should contact their driver education program instructor for additional details. For more details on the reimbursement grant program and an application, go to <https://www.ksdot.org/burTrafficSaf/default.asp>.

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