

## **Driver's Safety Course**

**For all citations, you must appear in person or email by the "Appearance Date" printed on your citation. Phone call(s) do NOT constitute an appearance.**

**Note: Do not take the course or pay online before obtaining court approval. Please see below to be sure you qualify for the driver's safety course option.**

If charged with a traffic offense/moving violation under the Transportation Code, a request may be made to take a driving safety course. This option will result in a dismissal once you have complied with all the terms.

On or before your Appearance Date on your citation, you may be able to request that your citation for a moving violation be dismissed by complying with the terms and conditions of the driver's safety course option. You will lose that right if you do not provide written notice to the court of your desire to do so on or before your Appearance Date. A written notice is an attestation of eligibility or sworn request.

- Attestation request for Driver Safety Course (DSC) (found online)

### **Who is eligible to take a Driving Safety Course (DSC) for their case:**

- You do not possess a Commercial driver's license (CDL).
- You have not completed a Driving Safety Course for ticket dismissal in the previous 12 months (calculated from date of previous completion date to the violation date of your current citation).
- You have a valid Texas driver's license which is not suspended.
- You have valid proof of insurance showing you as a covered driver on the policy.
- Your violation was not in a construction / work zone with workers present.
- Your violation was not "Passing a School Bus"
- Your citation was for a moving violation.
- Your alleged speed must be less than 25 mph over the speed limit (if cited for speeding).

### **How do I request the Driving Safety Course dismissal program:**

You must submit the following required items to the court on or before your initial appearance date:

If you are eligible, you may sign up for a Driving Safety Course by sending the following four items to the court or appearing at the court on or before your appearance date:

1. A current copy of your valid insurance showing you as a covered driver on the policy
2. A copy of your valid Texas driver's license
3. The required fee in the amount of \$144.00
4. The Driving Safety Course request Form

## **Application Process**

**You may submit your request for Driver's Safety one of two ways:**

**In- Person-** You may appear at the Court window between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and speak with the clerk. You will need to bring your valid Texas driver's license and your valid insurance showing you are a listed driver on the policy so that clerk can process your request and provide the correct forms and process your payment of \$144.00. We accept cash, money order or cashier's check (we do NOT accept personal checks) made out to Cross Roads Municipal Court. We also accept credit and debit cards but there will be a processing fee in addition to the court fee.

**By Email:** You **MUST** fill out the Driver's Safety Request form, provide a copy of your driver's license, a copy of your current insurance listing you as a driver on the policy, and email it to [court@crossroadstx.gov](mailto:court@crossroadstx.gov). The court will email you stating when you need to make the payment of the \$144.00. All requests must be on or before your initial appearance date on your citation. Failure to do so could possibly result in the request being denied.

**\*\*NOTE: DO NOT TAKE THE DSC COURSE PRIOR TO RECEIVING APPROVAL BY THE COURT.\*\***

#### **What do I do once I am approved for the DSC program:**

Once you have obtained approval from the court and paid your fees, you must:

- Take a state approved, 6-hour driving safety course and return the course completion certificate within 90 days. Most people choose to take this course online.
- Obtain a certified copy of your driving record from the Texas Department of Public Safety in Austin. **FORM 3A** from [WWW.TEXAS.GOV](http://WWW.TEXAS.GOV)
- Submit both the certificate of completion and the certified copy of your driving record by your 90-day deadline.

#### **Where You Can Take a Driving Safety Course:**

The 6-hour Driving Safety Course must be approved by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR). Court personnel cannot recommend a driving safety school. You can find more information about Driving Safety Courses through the [TDLR's Website](#). Most people choose to take an online course for convenience.

#### **What happens if I successfully complete the DSC Program:**

If you successfully complete the program and you turn in the DSC certificate of completion and your driving record on or before your 90<sup>th</sup> day deadline, then the Court will dismiss your case. It will not be reported as a conviction on your driving record or for purposes of your insurance.

#### **What happens if I FAIL to complete the DSC Program:**

If you fail to comply with any of the requirements of the Driving Safety Course program, your case will be set for a Show Cause Hearing. The hearing is your opportunity to speak with the Judge regarding why you failed to comply. If you appear at the hearing, the Judge may choose to accept your documents late, but is not required to. If you fail to appear at your hearing, a judgment of conviction will be entered and reported to the Texas Department of Public Safety, and the remaining balance of \$200.00 will become due within 30 days of conviction. Failure to pay the remaining balance in full, or to request

payment plans or other options, could result in the issuance of a warrant of arrest according to state law.

You may choose to avoid the hearing by waiving the show cause hearing and paying the fine or arranging for a payment plan for your fine prior to the show cause hearing date.