



## Driver Improvement Schools

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Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Many courts use driver improvement schools as an alternative to requiring a defendant to pay a fine. A judge may actually require a defendant to attend traffic school in addition to or in lieu of any other punishment. In most cases, a judge will dismiss the charge upon completion of a traffic school. The court should still submit a Court Action Report. The report should be clearly marked as dismissed, with the "Traffic School" box checked. Submitting the Court Action Report will allow the courts to see if a defendant has previously had a case dismissed as a result of completing a driver improvement class.

It is noted that first-time offenders of the texting law are required to attend a driver improvement course, in addition to a fine. T.C.A. § 55-8-199(d)(2).

Also, a clerk should provide defendants a list of approved traffic schools in the county. TCA. § 55-10-301 (b)(4). See <https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/driverimprovement/defensivedri...> [1]

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### Links:

[1] <https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/driverimprovement/defensivedriving.html>

*DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.*

**Source URL (retrieved on 10/26/2020 - 6:30pm):** <https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/reference/driver-improvement-schools>



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