opi.mt.gov Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent

Statewide Summary of Montana's 2023-24 Traffic Education Programs*

(From the period of July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

PROGRAM ENROLLMENT

184 public high school districts were **eligible** to offer a traffic education program.

- 118 high school districts offered a state-approved traffic education program.
 - public and private high school students were **eligible** to enroll in traffic education.
- 7142 students completed traffic education.

WHEN OFFERED

- 31 districts offered the program **before school hours**.
- 30 districts offered the program during regular school hours.
- 55 districts offered the program after school hours.
- 78 districts offered the program in the **summer**.

PROGRAM FEES

116 high school districts charged a **fee**. The mode fee was **\$200.00**.

The minimum fee was \$75.00. The maximum fee was \$600.00.

12 districts plan to increase the fee charged students for the upcoming school year and summer.

PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

118 Districts screened students' **vision** with an eye exam before behind-the-wheel instruction.

- 118 Districts emphasized and required the use of **seat belts**.
- 118 Districts required a Parent Meeting to review schedule, requirements and parent role in Graduated Driver Licensing.
- 117 Districts offered traffic education for students with disabilities.
- 43 Districts granted credit for successful completion of traffic education.
- 51 Districts offered **pedestrian** safety instruction in the elementary and middle schools.
- 56 Districts offered **school bus rider** safety instruction in the elementary and middle schools.
- 51 Districts offered **bicycle** safety instruction in the elementary and middle schools.
- 101 Districts taught an instructional unit on sharing the road with motorcycles.
- 118 Districts taught an instructional unit on the effects of **alcohol/drug** and encouraged students not to drive impaired.
- 111 Districts used the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Web site to obtain traffic education information.
- 117 Districts used Montana's current Traffic Education Curriculum Guide for its high school program.
- 85 Districts employed a traffic and safety education coordinator and/or supervisor.
- 25 Districts offered traffic education for **adult** beginners.
- 0 Districts participated in the Cooperative Driver Testing Program (CDTP).

NUMBER OF TEACHERS AND RATES OF PAY

- 71 full-time traffic education teachers were employed.
- 176 part-time traffic education teachers were employed.
- \$15.00 per hour is the **minimum** rate paid.
- \$78.75 per hour is the **maximum** rate paid.
- \$25.00 per hour is the **mode** minimum rate paid.
- \$25.00 per hour is the mode maximum rate paid.

VEHICLES

215 vehicles were used in the program.

- 6 districts obtained their vehicles on a **free loan** basis.
- 0 districts obtained their vehicles on a **daily fee** basis.
- 12 districts obtained their vehicles on a lease or rent basis.
- 105 districts owned their vehicles.
- 2 districts used **other** means to obtain vehicles.

CRASHES

14 traffic crashes occurred involving a student driver while in the traffic education vehicle.

- 0 persons were killed.
- 2 persons were injured.

\$64,925.36 property damage costs incurred.

COST PER PUPIL

\$506.99 is the average per pupil cost. (District costs were partially offset by state reimbursement amounting to #Error per pupil).

* This information was compiled from the 2023-24 Traffic Education year End Reports completed by all high school districts conducting state-approved traffic education programs during the summer of 2023 and the school year 2023-24. If you have questions, please contact LeAnn Haas by telephone at (406) 444-4432, or by e-mail at leann.haas@mt.gov