

Driving Safety Course(DSC) Procedures

(Do not take the driving safety course before authorized by the court)

You qualify to take a driving safety course for dismissal of your ticket if you meet the following criteria:

- You have not taken a driving safety course for the dismissal of a ticket within the past twelve(12) months,
- You have a valid Texas drivers license,
- You can provide valid proof of Financial Responsibility (auto liability insurance),
- If speeding, you were not charged with doing 25 miles or more over the speed limit.
- Must request DSC no later than your initial appearance date on the citation
- Enter a plea (no contest or guilty)

You **cannot** take a driving safety course for the following:

- Passing a School Bus
- Reckless Driving
- Eluding a Peace Officer
- Hit and Run offenses
- Failure to Render Aid
- Serious Traffic Violations
- Hold A Commercial Drivers License
- Violation in Construction or Work Zone with workers present
- Violation committed while operating a commercial vehicle

All defendants must submit a DSC Request, sworn affidavit & plea form attached with a copy of valid TX Drivers License & Current Proof of Insurance with the court. The forms can be found on the court website in the court forms section. DSC can be requested in person or by certified mail and payment of the court costs of \$144.00 or \$169.00 for school zone violations, you have 90 days to complete the course and supply to the court the "court" copy of the Texas Education Agency certificate of completion signed **plus** a certified copy of your driving record which is required by statute and will cost \$10.00 by mail. The court or any Department of Public Safety driver's license office can supply you with the form to request the record. You may also obtain your driving record by going Online to www.texas.gov. You will go to drivers records and obtain form 3A for \$12.00. Please understand that you do not receive your defensive driving certificate until two to three weeks **after** you complete the course if mail option is selected and it may take approximately three to four weeks to obtain the driving record from Austin by mail.

Important: make sure to complete the course within the allotted 90 days. Excuses of not having time or forgetting to take the course will not be accepted as reasons for an extension to complete the course.

Finding a Course

Whatever course you take must be Texas Education Agency (TEA) certified. The court is not allowed to provide you with names of the schools. If you need help in finding a school, you can locate several by using an Online search engine("google") search under "Texas driving safety course" "Texas defensive driving." All the aforementioned courses will cost anywhere from \$25.00 to \$40.00, the average price being \$40.

The "insurance" copy of the certificate of completion that you receive can be given to your insurance company for a possible discount on your auto insurance premium.

If you have any questions, contact the court at (210) 698-0983.