



**Mile-High Regional Emergency Medical and
Trauma Advisory Council**

Serving Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Elbert Counties

To: All Parties Interested in a Scholarship to Cover the Costs of Driver Education Program

From: The Mile-High Regional Emergency Medical & Trauma Advisory Council

RE: Scholarship Funds Available for Teen Driver Education!

To: Whom it may Concern:

The Mile-High RETAC (MHRETAC), in partnership with the AAA Auto Foundation, is excited to announce a scholarship program to cover the cost of Driver Education for teens! We are pleased to be able to provide funding through a grant made possible by the AAA (American Automobile Association) for the teens in our 6-county region.

About Us

The MHRETAC is a not-for-profit medical and trauma advisory council serving Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Elbert counties in Colorado. Created in 2000 by the Emergency Medical and Trauma System Act, the MHRETAC is one of 11 RETACs within Colorado. The MHRETAC's mission is to create, enhance, and promote a systematic approach to the care of the ill or injured through quality improvement, injury prevention, disaster planning, and coordination of partners in the healthcare continuum.

The Save a Life Injury Prevention Committee is tasked with addressing the major causes of injuries and deaths within our region. We currently focus on various injury prevention programs in schools and the community, participating in teen motor vehicle safety initiatives and engaging in fall prevention programs. We hope to begin a successful partnership with AAA this year following the success of the Foothills RETAC (FRETAC) in providing access to Driver Education programming in their region.

Need

According to the Colorado Department of Transportation & FARS, drivers between the ages of 15 and 20 in our six counties were involved in 8,034 crashes and 22 deaths in 2023. The CDOT 2022 Problem Identification Report noted drivers 15-20 years old in fatal crashes have increased 40.7% between 2016 and 2020. In addition, fatalities among this age group have increased by

7.3% from 2016 to 2020. The MHRETAC is committed to reducing the rate of unintentional injuries in teens from motor vehicle collisions. Through the establishment of a scholarship program the MHRETAC will help teens receive the education and experience they need to stay safe on the road.

Funding

The MHRETAC received a grant of \$15,000 from the AAA insurance Foundation. We have matched those funds with our own for a total of \$16,500 to be given out in scholarships between January 2025 and June 2025. All teens within Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Elbert Counties preparing to get a Driver License may apply.

Next Steps

This application packet contains this letter, a flyer about this program, the scholarship application, and the scoring tool.

Each applicant granted a scholarship can attend the Driver Education Program of their choice. For some students this may be a class provided by your high school, it may be a private company, or you can access many on-line classes that are available. This scholarship will pay **up to** \$629 per class. The Driver Education Program of choice must include 30 hours of classroom instruction (in-person or online) in addition to 6 hours of behind-the-wheel training. Please ensure that the program you choose meets the minimum criteria, as this will be verified prior to payment to your Driver Education program.

Please take into consideration the time allowed for you to enroll. All funds in the grant **MUST** be spent by June 1, 2025, so you must be enrolled by May 15, 2025, to allow for payment to the class.

Questions or concerns

Students, parents, and teachers may have questions about this grant and the process. For any questions you might have, please feel free to contact me. I will be happy to assist you. We're excited to offer this opportunity and help applicants through this process.

Shirley Terry BSN, RN
Executive Director, Mile-High RETAC





Mile-High RETAC
Teen Driver Education Scholarships
2025 Application Packet

Program Overview

Thank you for your interest in the Mile-High Regional Emergency and Trauma Advisory Council (MHRETAC) Teen Driver Education Scholarship Program. The scholarship will cover up to the cost of 30 hours of in-person class education, written permit test, and six hours of behind-the-wheel training. Standard virtual training is also acceptable. The maximum scholarship amount awarded is up to \$629.00. Scholarships are paid directly to the driving school or online program of choice that meets or exceeds these scholarship requirements. Please see the "Steps to Getting Your License" to understand Colorado's Graduated Drivers Licensing (GDL) requirements. You can enroll in whatever program meets your individual needs that meets the Colorado standard for obtaining a license.

Eligibility Criteria

- Be between the ages of 15-20
- Reside in Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas or Elbert counties
- Complete and submit the application by the due date
- Provide a letter of recommendation or complete the reference field in the application from a teacher, coach, or school counselor
- Submit the scholarship application between January 2025 –May 15, 2025
- Submit complete applications only, incomplete applications will not be considered
- Submitted applications will be reviewed monthly with notices of approval within 30 days of submission

Application Process

1. Submit a completed thorough application to Shirley Terry, Mile-High RETAC Executive Director, via email at shirleyterry@comcast.net. Take your time with the application. Details are appreciated. A teacher, coach, or school counselor may

complete the reference field in your application OR submit a letter of recommendation to that email. **Please do not submit paper copies.**

2. All applications will be reviewed by the Save a Life Injury Prevention Sub-Committee. A minimum of up to twenty-five scholarships will be awarded, and the process is competitive.
3. Scholarship awards will be sent to the email included in your application.
4. Once you receive your award notification, you must be enrolled in your preferred program by May 15, 2025. Submit an invoice to Shirley Terry at shirleyterry@comcast.net. Payment will be made directly to the driving school. We are unable to reimburse students or parents.
5. Student completes driving school.
6. If you have any questions about the application process, please email Shirley Terry at shirleyterry@comcast.net

Mile-High RETAC Teen Driver Education Scholarship Application

Student Information

Name	
Address	
County of Residence	
High School	
Grade Level	

Parent/Guardian Information

Name(s)	
Address (if different from above)	
Phone	
Email	
Primary language spoken at home?	
Please select all that apply:	<input type="checkbox"/> Primary Language other than English <input type="checkbox"/> Refugee/migrant <input type="checkbox"/> Un-homed or have unstable housing <input type="checkbox"/> Foster parent <input type="checkbox"/> Single parent household <input type="checkbox"/> Qualify for Medicaid <input type="checkbox"/> None

Teacher, Coach, or Counselor Reference

Outline why this student would be a good candidate for this scholarship.	
What is your relationship with this student?	
Signature	
Date	

Student Application

1. In detail, tell us about yourself and where you will be driving.	
---	--

<p>2. Why do you want to attend driving school? Please be thorough in your response- please be thorough in describing why you want to attend driving school</p>	
<p>3. Please explain in detail three ways you plan to be a safe driver.</p>	
<p>4. List three dangerous driving behaviors you have seen and explain how you, as a new driver, will avoid them.</p>	

5. What Driving School do you plan to attend?	
6. Will you be attending in-person or online?	
7. Have you planned for your training?	

Non-Discrimination Statement

- *The Mile-High RETAC does not discriminate against any person based on race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, creed, ancestry, sexual orientation, and marital status in participation in its programs, services, and activities, or in employment.*

Release of Liability Statement

- *The Mile-High RETAC will not be responsible for any liability incurred during this driver education. MHRETAC provides the funding only. The student and their education provider will sign any liability agreement between those parties. The Mile-High RETAC is not party to that agreement.*

Permissions

- *I have given my teen permission to apply for this scholarship and support their participation in a driver's education course. I understand the maximum scholarship amount is \$629, and I will be responsible for any additional costs to complete the driver's education program.*

Parent/Guardian Signature	
Date	