

University of Kentucky Human Development Institute Driver Rehabilitation Program

University of Kentucky Human Development Institute (UKHDI) provides Car and Van Assessments and Driver Training to individuals who have experienced an injury, illness, or disability which may affect their ability to drive because of physical, cognitive, visual, or perceptual limitations. In addition, we also provide assessment and training for aging drivers. Passenger van assessments are completed for those individuals who need to obtain a modified van for use as a passenger rather than as a driver.

Who is eligible?

Anyone with a valid Driver's License or Learner Permit can request an assessment.

How do I apply?

Application materials can be mailed, emailed, or downloaded from hdi.uky.edu/project/driver-rehabilitation. The application consists of three forms:

1. Intake Questionnaire Form to be completed by applicant.
2. Physician Consent to be completed by physician.
3. Vision form to be completed by vision specialist upon request.
4. Consent Form to be completed by applicant, which will allow the evaluator to communicate with your physician and the KY medical review board as necessary.

After you complete these forms, please email, fax or mail them to the UKHDI Driver Rehabilitation Program. Once we receive the completed packet, you will be contacted and scheduled for an assessment.

How long does it take to get scheduled?

The wait varies. Our goal is to schedule you within 1-4 weeks of receiving your application.

How long will the evaluation take?

Car assessments take approximately 2.5-3 hours. Van assessments are scheduled for 3 hours but may require additional time depending on the complexity of your driving needs. Please be sure to arrive fifteen minutes before your scheduled assessment to complete any additional paperwork.

Please allow 15-30 minutes after the vehicle assessment to discuss evaluation results and recommendations.

What is the evaluation like?

The evaluation is divided into two sections: Clinical and behind the wheel. The clinical portion is completed by an Occupational Therapist with specialized training in evaluating driving skills. It consists of an assessment of your visual and perceptual skills, ability to follow written and verbal directions, judgment, upper and lower extremity strength, and reaction time.

The behind-the-wheel portion is completed by the Occupational Therapist and/or Certified Driving Rehabilitation Specialist. It is an evaluation of your actual driving skills in a variety of traffic conditions. The driver will drive a UKHDI vehicle, which has an instructor brake to enable the

instructor to control the vehicle when necessary. These vehicles have been modified to meet the adaptive needs of most individuals.

What type of vehicle will I be driving?

UKHDI Driver Rehabilitation has several vehicles: two Chevrolet Impala's and mini-Van. Our vehicles are equipped with hand controls and a variety of other assistive devices to assess your physical ability to drive. You will be evaluated in either a car or a van depending on which type of vehicle you are able to use and plan to drive. The van allows assessment when driving from either the driver's seat or your wheelchair (electric or manual). If you plan to drive from your wheelchair, you must be evaluated in the wheelchair that you will be using. Please bring your wheelchair with you to the evaluation.

What should I bring with me to the evaluation?

- Driver's License or Learner's Permit.
- Eyeglasses and any adaptive equipment you need for writing or for mobility.
- The wheelchair you plan to use in your own vehicle.
- Any vehicle you own that you wish to modify.

Does insurance cover this service?

MediCare and Private insurance companies MAY cover the cost of the evaluation if they cover Occupational Therapy on an outpatient basis. Although insurance companies will cover "medically necessary" services, they do not always consider driving a medical necessity. Coverage is subject to the insurance reviewer's interpretation.

Most HMO and PPO insurance policies do not cover Driving Assessment. You are responsible for seeking reimbursement from your insurance company.

How much does it cost?

Evaluation - \$600 for up to 3 hours; \$125 for each additional hour (\$200 discount paid by day of service)

Training - \$125/hour

Travel - \$65 per hour for travel outside of Fayette County

What will happen if I need additional training?

If, based on the results of the evaluation, it is demonstrated that you may benefit from training, we will make that recommendation and estimate the length of time required.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, or to request an application, please contact:

hdi.uky.edu/project/driver-rehabilitation

HDIDriverRehab@l.uky.edu

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