

# DMV-Travelers Teen Safe Driving Contest

Department of Motor Vehicles Center for Teen Safe Driving

*All participants must return this entire application with signature and video to DMV by February 3, 2025.*

State of Connecticut



## Official Rules and Entry Form

- Up to \$26,000 in Total Prizes for High Schools and Students of Winning Videos.
- High school with most videos submitted will win \$1,000.

### **1. Who Can Enter**

- To be eligible to participate in this contest, entrants must be students ages 14 to 18 who are enrolled in a public or private high school located in Connecticut, or students ages 14 to 18 who are receiving home-schooling in Connecticut and who designate a state Department of Education recognized public or private high school as recipient of a monetary prize.
- State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) employees or relatives of DMV employees, its prize sponsor(s) employees and their relatives, and judges of this contest and their relatives, are all **NOT ELIGIBLE** to participate. The term "relatives" includes spouses, grandparents, parents, siblings, children and grandchildren.

### **2. How to Enter**

*How to Approach Creating the Video*

- This year's theme is: "**Driving Safe Habits.**" The student director and the team **must demonstrate participants sharing the things that "drive" them to be safe. For example, family, friends, whatever is most important to them. Show viewers the reasons why you pledge to drive safely.**

Distractions and other unsafe behaviors behind the wheel can create dangerous situations for teen drivers and their passengers. This year's contest **focuses on what motivates the teen driver to ensure a safe driving experience.**

See details on laws here: <http://ct.gov/teendriving/laws>

**Each contestant may make ONLY one entry.** To submit an entry, each entrant must produce (write, shoot and edit to final production) his or her own public service announcement ("PSA") up to forty-five (:45) seconds in length. Students may participate either individually or in teams with **no more than five (5) students per team** producing the video. (However, there is no limit on the number of students who may appear in the video.) **One** person must be responsible for taking ownership of the entry.

**Bi-lingual/multi-cultural videos are welcomed and encouraged.** Quality standards and evaluation by judges will also include representing diverse ethnic and racial groups.

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## Summary of Video Requirements:

- The video must encourage teen drivers to be safe through motivation. Show viewers the reasons why you pledge to drive safely.
- PSA must be no longer than forty-five (:45) seconds in length.
- PSA must also **address one specific teen driving law** (See complete list at <http://ct.gov/teendriving/laws>).
- **No team of students can exceed five (5) participating teens, including the student director. Other teens, adults and persons can appear in the video, but will not be considered members of the original team that can qualify for contest entry and prizes awarded.**
- **Please read complete rules** to avoid video being disqualified.

## **BE CREATIVE. BE UNIQUE. STANDOUT. MAKE YOURS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST.**

- Students may artistically show a violation of a state law as part of the video's creative content. However, compliance with all federal, state and local laws must be followed when filming is done on a federal, state or local highway, road, thoroughfare, as well as in any parking lot used by the public unless specifically closed to the public by state or local police during the filming. For example, an operator of a vehicle must be a licensed driver.
- Each PSA will be counted as one individual entry, and cannot be entered more than once. Duplicate PSA entries will be disqualified, and the DMV reserves the right to disqualify the initial entry based on section "2g" below. Videos submitted from a previous year's contest will not be accepted.
- The contest will start Monday, October 21, 2024. The deadline for entrants to submit their videos to DMV is Monday, February 3, 2025. Entrants can submit their videos online through Dropbox by visiting <http://ct.gov/teendriving/contest> or by postmarked mail. If you have any questions, please call 860-263-5024.

Please see below the instructions to submit your video and entry forms.

## **To Submit Online:**

**First:** Be sure your video file name includes your last name and school. For example:

Smith\_EastHighSchool.mov

**Second:** Visit <http://ct.gov/teendriving/contest> -- Then, select the link "Submit My Video".

**Third:** Select the link to Dropbox. Within Dropbox, select the "choose" option to locate your video file and select the file you wish to send.

**Fourth:** Enter the required information (name and a valid e-mail address). DMV may use this e-mail address to contact you regarding your video.

**Fifth:** Select "Upload" to send your video file.

**Last:** Please send your completed entry forms to DMV. You may scan the documents and e-mail to [dmv.teencontest@ct.gov](mailto:dmv.teencontest@ct.gov)

## **To Submit by Mail:**

Mail your complete entry to the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles, Attn: Corporate and Public Relations Unit, "Teen Driving PSA Contest," 60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT, 06161. A complete entry consists of **1)** the completed entry form, **2)** a signed release form by entrant and his/her parent or legal guardian, **3)** appearance releases signed by anyone who appears or participates in the PSA and **4)** the PSA.

Entries must be postmarked or received by DMV Corporate and Public Relations Office by 4:30 p.m. EST on Monday, February 3, 2025. Any entries received, which were not received or postmarked by February 3, 2025, will be disqualified.

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- e. DMV is not responsible for lost, late, or misdirected mail or for printing errors, server unavailability, computer or any other electronic malfunction.
- f. All entries received that are duplicates, mutilated, tampered with, illegible, or from ineligible entrants will be void. All entries become the property of the State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles and will not be returned.
- g. By entering the contest entrants acknowledge that the PSA is their own original work. In addition:
- All entries must be entrants' original work and should not be/have been submitted to or published or broadcast by any other publication or media company.
  - The PSA may **not contain any copyrighted or trademarked material** including but not limited to: photograph likenesses of or references to celebrities or known persons alive or dead, recorded music, published works from books, magazines, newspapers, plays, song lyrics, scripts, essays, articles, web site content, or clips from television programs or movies, sports footage, official logos of any organization, existing artwork or graphic design. In addition, the PSA may not contain nudity or profanity of any kind, and may not portray anyone under the age of 21 drinking, or pretending to drink, alcohol. **NOTE: Students often use music in PSAs. Be reminded that only original or uncopyrighted music will be accepted in a PSA. Violation of this will result in rejection from the contest.**
  - Any supporting data used in your video, such as statistics, quotations and facts must be true, accurate and reliable.

*please  
initial*

### **3. Judging of the Entries**

- Entries will initially be judged to determine finalists based on the following weighted criteria:
  - Overall impact: dynamic/persuasive/informational/emotionally moving/content focused message (message must cover topics specified in the contest rules) (50%)
  - Originality: concepts/ideas/format (25%)
  - Cinematic Style: camera angles/editing/acting/direction/lighting (25%)
  - Please note: As part of the overall impact evaluation, the judges will consider the degree to which the PSA promotes inclusiveness and diversity, for example, by involving teens from diverse backgrounds, such as race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, culture, or by including multi-lingual content.
- The DMV may edit the entries to fit the confines of the 45-second limit of the PSA in order to accommodate an introduction and ending. The DMV reserves the right to edit, crop or alter the PSA without notification to or approval by the entrant.
- DMV will announce the winners by April 2025.
- The decisions of the DMV are final.

### **4. The Prize(s)**

- A monetary prize will be awarded by the Travelers Companies, Inc. to the high schools of the winning students. The prizes to high schools will come with the stipulation that the money must be used for an educational program on safety issues related to teen safe driving to benefit students in the winning high school or a nearby high school in the instance of a winning entry by a home-schooled student. The prizes will be awarded directly to the schools.**

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- b. The following monetary prizes will be awarded, courtesy of Travelers:
- For the Best Overall entry, \$5,000 will be awarded to the team's high school (as indicated on the entry form) and \$1250 in Visa Gift Cards will be divided equally among the team's members.
  - For the Best Runner-up entry, \$4,000 will be awarded to the team's high school (as indicated on the entry form) and \$1000 in Visa Gift Cards will be divided equally among the team's members.
  - The following special awards will be awarded: \$750 to the team's high school and \$200 to each student.
    - **Use of Inclusion.** For the entry that embraces diverse backgrounds, such as race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, culture, or by including multi-lingual content.
    - **Most Inspiring.** For the entry that is most persuasive and/or emotionally moving.
    - **Most Creative Concept.** For the entry that has the most original concepts, ideas and format.
    - **Use of Data.** For the entry that best utilizes statistics or other information.
    - **Use of Messaging.** For the entry with the best content focused message.
    - **Use of Special Effects.** For the entry that best uses technology, graphics and other effects to enhance the video.
- c. **The first-place team** will have its video professionally remade through the Connecticut Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office, and have the video shown in venues around the state.
- d. Additional prizes, depending on entries and the judgment of the DMV and the prize donors may be awarded.
- e. DMV and the Travelers Insurance Company reserve the right to award any other additional prizes as it deems necessary.
- f. There will be no substitutions or alternatives for prizes except at the sole discretion of DMV. DMV has the right to substitute a prize of similar value. No transfer or assignment of prizes is allowed.
- g. DMV shall have no liabilities of any kind arising directly or indirectly from the award or use of the prize, or any other matter in connection with this contest.
- h. In claiming a prize, entrants acknowledge that DMV has the right to publicize their names, characters, likenesses, photographs, voices and the fact that they are the finalist(s) and/or winner(s). Said publication will be done for promotional purposes without financial remuneration.
- i. The high schools awarded a monetary prize must submit a five-page report to the DMV and the Travelers Insurance Company by December 2025.
- j. . The report must describe the use of the contest prize money on the educational program required in Section "4a" and a description of the program.

## 5. Miscellaneous

- a. Contest rules can be downloaded on DMV's teen driving website at [www.ct.gov/teendriving/contest](http://www.ct.gov/teendriving/contest).
- b. This contest is subject to all applicable laws and regulations and is void where prohibited. You may not violate federal, state or municipal laws during the production of your entry. DMV and its sponsors accept no responsibility or liability in connection with any injuries, losses or damages of any kind caused by or resulting from the acceptance, possession or use of any prize awarded hereunder.

**PLEASE COMPLETE ENTRY FORM(S) ON FOLLOWING PAGES**

# DMV-Travelers Teen Safe Driving Contest

## Entry Form

I, the undersigned participant, hereby certify and represent that I have read the rules of this contest, DMV-Travelers Teen Safe Driving Video Contest, and fully understand the meaning and the effect thereof, and intending to be legally bound. I have signed this document on the date indicated below. **Please print legibly and fill out ALL sections of this form.**

### Student Director's Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Student Director's High School Information

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ School Program/Class: \_\_\_\_\_

### School Designation Information (if contestant is home-schooled)

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Video Information

Title of Video \_\_\_\_\_ Source of Music: \_\_\_\_\_

If you used music in your video, please site the name of the song, artist and source you obtained it from. Videos containing copyrighted music will be disqualified.

File Name of Video \_\_\_\_\_

Please include your last name and school in file name of video.  
For example: SMITH\_EASTHIGH SCHOOL.MOV

List a maximum of five (5) people, including the student director, who participated in creating the video and their role (example: writer, videographer, editor, actor, etc.)

Director- \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my video to be considered for the following award(s) – you may choose more than one:

#### **Most innovative approach using:**

Use of Inclusion  Most Inspiring  Creative Concept  Use of Data  Messaging  Special Effects

### Signatures

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Director's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*If you are under 18 years of age, your parent or legal guardian must also sign below.*

I \_\_\_\_\_ certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian printed name Student's printed name

and on behalf of him or her, as well as myself, have read this release and agree to all of its terms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature (if under 18 years old)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## Appearance/Participation Release

*Please duplicate this form as needed*

**A separate Appearance/Participation Release form is required for each person appearing or participating in the video. This includes: directors, writers, actors, videographers, editors, etc.**

In connection with my appearance/participation in a submitted video for the **DMV-Travelers Teen Safe Driving Video Contest**, I hereby grant to the State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Travelers Insurance Company, and the contest prize sponsors the right to use my name, likeness, portrait, biographical material, and voice, in order to broadcast, advertise, promote or publicize DMV and/or the Contest, in perpetuity, and in any and all forms of media.

I acknowledge that I shall not receive any compensation for this privilege and all video and other recordings shall be and remain the property of DMV.

I agree to INDEMNIFY, RELEASE, FOREVER DISCHARGE AND HOLD HARMLESS and COVENANT NOT TO MAKE A CLAIM OR SUE DMV, Travelers Insurance Company, the contest prize sponsors, or any of their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, sponsors, stockholders, directors, board of trustees, officers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, heirs and assigns and each and every person acting by, through, under or in concert with them, or any of them (hereinafter collectively and individually referred to as "Releasees") of and from all manner of action or actions, cause or causes of action, at law or in equity, suits, claims, demands, liability, loss, cost or expense, of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, fixed or contingent (hereinafter referred to as "Claims") which I may have or hereafter have against Releasees by reason of any injuries or damages that I may sustain, whether to my person, property or reputation, as a result of my participation in the Contest.

I agree that if I commence, join in, or in any way seek relief through any suit arising out of, based upon or relating to any of the Claims released hereunder, or in any way assert against Releasees any of the Claims released hereunder, then I will pay to Releasees, in addition to any other damages caused to Releasees thereby, all costs, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, incurred by Releasees in defending or otherwise responding to said suit, action or claims.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18 years old)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Name Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name Printed (if under 18 years old)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Role in Video (actor, writer, editor, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Driver's License #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date