



**State of Illinois**  
Pat Quinn, Governor

**Illinois Department of Transportation**  
Gary Hannig, Secretary

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## **IDOT Secretary and Partners Unveil List of Selected Schools for 2010-2011 Operation Teen Safe Driving Program**

### *Participating Schools Will Receive Grant to Create/Implement Student-Led Program*

**SPRINGFIELD** - Illinois Transportation Secretary Gary Hannig, state and corporate partners today announced the high schools selected to participate in the 2010-2011 Operation Teen Safe Driving (OTSD) program. This statewide safety initiative is designed for teens to educate their peers about driving responsibly in an effort to decrease the number of fatalities and injuries involving teenagers in Illinois.

In total, 105 high schools statewide were selected to participate in this innovative program, which utilizes Ford Motor Company Fund's nationally recognized *Ford Driving Skills for Life* program. The selected high schools are equally distributed in seven regions across the state.

"We congratulate the selected schools for their dedication and commitment to traffic safety and look forward to the innovative campaigns students will create in the 2010-2011 OTSD program," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Gary Hannig. "We commend the efforts and hard work of these students and have full confidence they will continue to positively inspire their peers to make better driving decisions."

"Ford Driving Skills for Life is pleased to continue to support this lifesaving program for the fourth straight year. Teens are facing an increased number of hazards on the road, including distractions, and it is imperative that resources are provided in aiding safe driving choices. Ford Motor Company Fund is committed to providing free ongoing training to not only teens, but drivers of all ages," said Jim Graham, Manager, Ford Driving Skills for Life program.

Additional teen safe driving programs contributing to the reduction in teen motor vehicle fatalities include the latest sweeping changes to Illinois' teen driving laws initiated by Secretary of State Jesse White. Effective January 1, 2008, these changes gave Illinois one of the best graduated driver license programs in the nation. Graduated licensing gives teens more time to obtain valuable driving

experience while under the watchful eye of a parent or guardian (doubling the practice time that young drivers must spend with a parent or guardian from 25 to 50 hours before the teen can obtain an Illinois driver’s license), limits in-car distractions and requires the teens to earn their way from one stage to the next by avoiding traffic convictions. Leading national traffic safety experts have lauded Illinois’ graduated driver license program one that will save lives.

The selection process for the Operation Teen Safe Driving program requires students to identify issues relating to traffic safety in their community (i.e., underage drinking, driving unbuckled, impaired and distracted). Students are required to provide information explaining how they would combat the traffic safety problem and implement a teen awareness program in their school and community.

All of the selected schools will receive \$2000 in grant funding from IDOT’s Division of Traffic Safety and The Allstate Foundation. The selected schools develop and implement a peer-to-peer based program and present a report at the conclusion of the program. Winners are selected from each region and each winning school will receive prize money to host a post-prom party.

The top five schools from each region will be invited to send students to a “Driving Skills for Life, Ride and Drive” event which is sponsored by the Ford Motor Company Fund. Students will observe professional drivers on two separate courses demonstrating critical driving skills. Teens will then have the opportunity to drive the same courses with the professional driver sitting in the passenger seat to provide tips and assistance.

“Saving lives and preventing injuries among teen drivers is a priority for The Allstate Foundation and our teen safe driving signature program. We congratulate the winning schools and look forward to the great results from their campaigns,” said Bill McGrath, Regional Sales Leader for the Midwest Region of Allstate Insurance.

“The strengthened graduated driver licensing (GDL) law that resulted from the recommendations of the Teen Driver Safety Task Force makes Illinois' teen driver program one of the strongest in the nation and, more importantly, is saving lives," said Secretary of State Jesse White. “I am encouraged that teen driving deaths have decreased by 56 percent since the law took effect in 2008. This law, in conjunction with the extremely effective and successful Operation Teen Safe Driving initiative, is having the intended impact on teen driving safety. My congratulations to the schools selected to participate in this important program. Working together, we can save more lives and make Illinois roads safer for all of us.”

The Office of the Governor, the Illinois Secretary of State, IDOT’s Division of Traffic Safety, the Illinois State Police, the Illinois State Board of Education, in partnership with the Ford Motor Company Fund and The Allstate Foundation are all supporting the *Operation Teen Safe Driving* program. Also supporting the Illinois campaign are the Governors Highway Safety Association and SADD (“Students Against Destructive Decisions”).

The schools selected in each region are as follows:

Region One		Region Two		
Dwight D. Eisenhower High School	Blue Island		Bolingbrook High School	Bolingbrook
Oak Forest High School	Oak Forest		Lincoln-Way West High School	New Lenox

AQSA High School	Bridgeview		Marian Central Catholic High School	Woodstock
William Fremd High School	Palatine		Crystal Lake Central High School	Crystal Lake
Roberto Clementa Community Academy	Chicago		Gardner South Wilmington H.S. Dist 73	Gardner
Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School	Chicago		McHenry East High School	McHenry
Evergreen Park Community High School	Evergreen Park		Dundee-Crown High School	Carpentersville
Bremen High School	Midlothian		Johnsburg High School	Johnsburg
Notre Dame College Prep	Niles		Lincoln-Way Central High School	New Lenox
Alan B. Shepard High School	Heights		Glenbard East High School	Lombard
Antonia Pantoja Alternative High School	Chicago		Zion Benton High School	Zion
Prosser Career Academy	Chicago		Vernon Hills High School	Vernon Hills
John Hersey High School	Arlington Heights		Glenbard West High School	Glen Ellyn
Tinley Park High School	Tinley Park		Glenbard South High School	Glen Ellyn
Wells Community Academy High School	Chicago		H.D. Jacobs High School	Algonquin
<b>Region Three</b>			<b>Region Four</b>	
Al Wood High School	Woodhull		Beardstown High School	Beardstown
Erie High School	Erie		ROWVA High School	Oneida
Ottawa Township High School	Ottawa		Fieldcrest High School	Minonk
La Salle Peru High School	LaSalle		Triopia Junior-Senior High School	Concord
Byron High School	Byron		Avon High School	Avon
Winnebago High School	Winnebago		Farmington Central High School	Farmington
Alleman Catholic High School	Rock Island		Tri-City High School Dist #1	Buffalo
La Moille High School	La Moille		Williamsville High School	Williamsville
Pearl City High School	Pearl City		Pawnee High School	Pawnee
Galena High School	Galena		Southeast High School	Springfield
Pecatonica High School	Pecatonica		Riverton High School	Riverton
Sandwich High School	Sandwich		Pekin Community High School	Pekin
West Carroll CUSD #314 High School	Savanna		Eureka High School	Eureka
Sterling High School	Sterling		Griggsville-Perry High School	Griggsville
Chadwick/Milledgeville High Schools Dist. 399	Milledgeville		Quincy Senior High School	Quincy

<b>Region Five</b>			<b>Region Six</b>	
Central High School	Clifton		Trico Unit District # 176	Campbell Hill
Manteno High School	Manteno		Belleville West High School	Belleville
Warrensburg-Lathem High School	Warrensburg		Murphysboro High School	Murphysboro
Oakland High School	Oakland		Elverado High School	Elkville
Donovan High School	Donavan		Roxana High School	Roxanna
Heyworth High School	Heyworth		Mascoutah High School	Mascoutah

Cissna Park School	Cissna Park		Cairo High School	Cairo
Champaign Central High School	Champaign		Waterloo High School	Waterloo
Saint Joseph Ogden High School	Saint Joseph		Mulberry Grove High School	Mulberry Grove
Tri-Valley High School	Downs		Red Bud High School	Red Bud
Tuscola Community High School	Tuscola		Althoff Catholic High School	Belleville
Centennial High School	Champaign		Civic Memorial High School	Bethalto
Hillside Bethel Christian High School	Decatur		Granite City High School	Granite City
Watseka High School	Watseka		Marquette Catholic High School	Alton
Herscher High School	Herscher		Alton High School	Alton
<b>Region Seven</b>				
Herrin High School	Herrin			
Robinson High School	Robinson			
Fairfield Community High School	Fairfield			
Salem Community High School	Salem			
Wayne City High School	Wayne City			
NCOE High School	Norris City			
Gillespie High School	Gillespie			
DuQuion High School	DuQuoin			
Benton Consolidated H.S. # 103	Benton			
Patoka High School	Patoka			
Cisne High School	Cisne			
Hamilton County Senior High School	McLeansboro			
Newton Community High School	Newton			
Johnston City High School	Johnston City			
Joppa High School	Joppa			

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