

Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA)



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Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA)



In 1997, the Georgia General Assembly passed the Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (O.C.G.A 40-5-22) requiring local school systems to certify that a student's attendance pattern and discipline record permits him or her to have a learner's permit or driver's license.



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Why TAADRA?

- ✓ Incentive to keep students in school and reduce truancy rate
- ✓ Increase high school graduation rate
- ✓ Decrease high school dropout rate
- ✓ Improve student achievement



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TAADRA applies to all minors between the ages of 15-17 who wish to obtain a driver's license or learner's permit.



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All students who wish to obtain a driver's license or learner's permit must present proof that he or she satisfies one of the following conditions:



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- (1) Is enrolled in and not under expulsion from a public or private school and has not had ten or more school days of unexcused absences in the current academic year or ten or more school days of unexcused absences in the previous academic year;*
- (2) Is enrolled in a home education program that satisfies the reporting requirements of all state laws governing such program;*
- (3) Has received a high school diploma, a general educational development (GED) diploma, a special diploma, or a certificate of high school completion;*
- (4) Has terminated his or her secondary education and is enrolled in a postsecondary school or is pursuing a general educational development (GED) diploma.*



Local School System Responsibilities

Local school systems are responsible for certifying that students enrolled in a public school ~~and home school~~ in its district satisfy attendance and discipline requirements.



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TAADRA Coordinator

Local superintendents should appoint one or more persons to serve as the school system's TAADRA Coordinator.



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TAADRA Coordinator Responsibilities

- ✓ Inform all schools (including private schools) within the district about the provisions in the law.
 - Inform all students and parents that the consequences for excessive unexcused absences or disciplinary infractions will result in the student being ineligible for a learner's permit or driver's license. **This information should be inserted into the student code of conduct or parent handbook.**
- ✓ Design and implement guidelines and procedures for completing, notarizing, and distributing TAADRA documentation and for reporting noncompliance data to the GaDOE



TAADRA Coordinator Responsibilities

- ✓ Collect noncompliance data from all public and private schools within the district to submit to GaDOE
- ✓ Devise a system to keep noncompliance information, in paper format, on file until the student is 18 years old



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TAADRA Coordinator Responsibilities

- ✓ Inform students, parents/guardians, and school administrators that when a student transfers to another school, the sending school needs to know officially that the student has transferred and not dropped out.
- ✓ Serve as the liaison between local schools and the GaDOE regarding all TAADRA issues.



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What about Homeschoolers?

House Bills 39 and 706, passed during the 2012 legislative session and signed by Governor Deal, moves the responsibility of home school reporting from local school systems to the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) beginning July 1, 2012.

- The GaDOE will issue Certificates of Attendance for homeschool students that are eligible for a learner's permit or driver's license for the 2012-2013 school year and beyond.
- Local school systems are still responsible for issuing Certificates of Attendance for homeschool documentation submitted for the 2011-2012 school year because the GaDOE does not have access to those records.



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TAADRA Forms

1. Certificate of Attendance (DS-1)
2. Certificate of Non-Compliance
3. Certificate of Eligibility for Restoration of Driving Privileges (DS-3)
4. Petition for Hardship Exemption



Certificate of Attendance (DS-1)

The *Certificate of Attendance* (DS-1) is used to certify that a student is enrolled in school and satisfies the relevant attendance and discipline requirements. Each student who applies for a driver's license or learner's permit must submit a DS-1 to the driver's license examining station.



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Certificate of Attendance (DS-1)

- Always use the student's full legal name when completing the DS-1 and be careful to use the correct spelling.
- Schools may charge a fee for notarizing the DS-1 and other TAADRA forms. The fee should be no more than what is commonly charged for notarizing a similar form in the community.
- The DS-1 must be issued to any student who requests it if the student meets all of the conditions in the law.



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Certificate of Attendance

DS-1

- The DS-1 is good for 30 days after the date it is notarized. During the summer months, the Department of Driver Services (DDS) will accept DS-1 forms dated near the end of the school year.
- The Technical College System of Georgia is responsible for completing the DS-1 for students pursuing a GED.



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Certificate of Non-Compliance

The *Certificate of Non-Compliance* is both a paper form and an electronic form.

- The paper form should be completed by the public or private school to report noncompliance information to the local school system's TAADRA Coordinator.
- The electronic form should be completed by the TAADRA Coordinator to submit noncompliance information electronically to the GaDOE.



Certificate of Non-Compliance

- Local school systems are required by law to report noncompliance data to the state through an electronic web application developed jointly between the GaDOE and the Department of Driver Services (DDS).
- Local school systems must report noncompliance information from their public schools and private schools within their district.



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What is a non-compliant student?

- (A). A student who has dropped out of school without graduating and has remained out of school for ten consecutive school days;
- (B). A student who has ten or more school days of unexcused absences in the current academic year or ten or more school days of unexcused absences in the previous academic year; or



What is a non-compliant student?

(C) A student who has been **found in violation** by a hearing officer, panel, or tribunal of one of the following offenses, has **received a change in placement** for committing one of the following offenses, or has **waived his or her right to a hearing and pleaded guilty** to one of the following offenses:



TAADRA Discipline Offenses

- (i) Threatening, striking, or causing bodily harm to a teacher or other school personnel;
- (ii) Possession or sale of drugs or alcohol on school property or at a school sponsored event;
- (iii) Possession or use of a weapon on school property or at a school sponsored event. (For purposes of this division, the term “weapon” shall have the same meaning as in Code Section 16-11-127.1 but shall not include any part of an archeological or cultural exhibit brought to school in connection with a school project.)



TAADRA Discipline Offenses

- (iv) Any sexual offense prohibited under Chapter 6 of Title 16; or
- (v) Causing substantial physical or visible bodily harm to or seriously disfiguring another person, including another student. O.C.G.A. § 40-5-22 (a.1)



Important!

- Noncompliance information can only be submitted for the reasons specifically listed in the TAADRA law. **Chronic misbehavior is not grounds for submitting noncompliance.**
- School days missed as a result of out of school suspensions shall not count as unexcused days for the purpose of determining compliance with TAADRA.
- Always use the student's full legal name when completing the Certificate of Non-Compliance and be careful to use the correct spelling.
- The date of noncompliance should be the date the infraction occurred, not when the data was transmitted.



Certificate of Non-Compliance (CNC)

- If a student has multiple violations on the same date, submit only one CNC. Check all boxes that apply on the one form.
- If a student attending summer school is found in violation of one of the applicable offenses, the CNC must be submitted. It does not matter that the summer school may be voluntary or that the student pays tuition to attend.
- Students who are assigned to a Youth Detention Center (YDC) should not have a CNC submitted for reasons of attendance because the students are receiving instruction at the YDC.




TAADRA Electronic Web Application for reporting student noncompliance

Taadra - Windows Internet Explorer

https://portal.doe.k12.ga.us/taadraweb/Default.aspx

Taadra

 **TAADRA**
Administrative Technology
Georgia Department of Education

User Login

Login Name:

Login Password:

(NOTE: Login ID and password are case sensitive)

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How to obtain a username and password to submit noncompliance

Please contact GaDOE Information Technology Customer Support by email at dticket@doe.k12.ga.us requesting a username and password to submit TAADRA noncompliance using the TAADRA electronic web application. Your email must contain the following information:

- ✓ Full name of person requesting username and password
- ✓ School district name and ID #
- ✓ Title of person requesting username and password
- ✓ Mailing Address
- ✓ Phone Number
- ✓ Fax Number
- ✓ Email Address



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**DID YOU
KNOW**



- For the 2010-2011 school year, Georgia schools submitted a total of 15,961 noncompliant students. 81% was attendance related.
- For the 2011-2012 school year, Georgia schools submitted a total of 16,537 noncompliant students. 81% was attendance related.



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Suspensions and Reinstatements

- All TAADRA noncompliance data is submitted daily to the Department of Driver Services (DDS).
- Upon receipt of noncompliance data, the DDS will notify the licensee (student) by certified mail, return receipt requested, that noncompliance has been received, and that his or her driver's license or learner's permit is suspended.
- Upon receiving the letter of suspension, students have ten business days to appeal the suspension pursuant to the "Georgia Administrative Procedure Act."



Suspensions and Reinstatements

- Upon a student's request, the DDS is authorized to grant **hardship exemptions** if there is clear and convincing evidence that the suspension creates an undue hardship upon the student or the student's family or if there is clear and convincing evidence that the suspension would act as a detriment to the health and welfare of the student.
- The suspension of a student's driver's license or learner's permit shall be for a period of one year from the date of the infraction (date of noncompliance) or shall end upon the date of such minor's 18th birthday, whichever comes first.
- Students who have dropped out of school without graduating and have remained out of school for ten consecutive days are noncompliant.



Suspensions and Reinstatements

Students who have dropped out of school without graduating and have remained out of school for ten consecutive days are eligible for a learner's permit or driver's license if they show satisfactory proof that they are pursuing or have received their GED, high school diploma, special diploma, a certificate of high school completion, or has terminated his or her secondary education and is enrolled in a postsecondary school.*

***Please note:**

This provision does not include students with ten or more school days of unexcused absences in the current or previous academic year or students who are found in violation of one of the five disciplinary offenses identified in the TAADRA law.



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Certificate of Eligibility for Restoration of Driving Privileges (DS-3)

The *Certificate of Eligibility for Restoration of Driving Privileges* (DS-3) must be completed if noncompliance information is submitted by the school in error or if the student is eligible to have his or her license reinstated. The DS-3 should be completed by a school official and notarized.



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Certificate of Eligibility for Restoration of Driving Privileges (DS-3)

- Students are responsible for mailing or delivering the DS-3 to a driver's license reinstatement center. Upon receipt of the DS-3, the DDS will send the student a letter of reinstatement.
- Students who are pursuing a GED may have their license reinstated by the Technical College System of Georgia. Schools are not responsible for completing the DS-3 form for students who withdraw from school and are pursuing a GED.



Petition for Hardship Exemption

Students who want their driver's license reinstated may complete the *Petition for Hardship Exemption*. Hardship exemptions are granted by the Department of Driver Services if the student can prove that the suspension of his or her driver's license:

- ☐ Creates an undue hardship upon the minor;
- ☐ Creates an undue hardship upon the minor's family; or
- ☐ Acts as detriment to the health or welfare of the minor.



Important!!!

- Students have a legal right to appeal the suspension of their driver's license or learner's permit pursuant to the "Georgia Administrative Procedure Act."
- Schools may be asked to appear at a State Administrative Hearing regarding the noncompliance issue that resulted in the loss of a student's driver's license or learner's permit.
- Failure to attend a State Administrative Hearing may result in the reinstatement of a student's driver's license or learner's permit.



Questions and Answers



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Question: Today is September 10, 2012 and it is Billy's birthday. Billy comes to the office and requests a *Certificate of Attendance*. What should I do?

Answer: Review Billy's attendance and discipline records for the current school year (2012-2013) and the previous school year (2011-2012). Billy's discipline record is clean for both school years. According to his attendance record, he has 4 unexcused absences for the current school year but he had 10 unexcused absences in the previous school year. The date of the 10th unexcused absence was May 15, 2012 which means that May 15, 2012 is the date of non-compliance. There is a one year suspension period. Therefore, Billy will not be eligible for a Certificate of Attendance until May 15, 2013.



Question: Susan has 15 days of unexcused absences in the current school year (2012-2013) and she's angry because the school refuses to give her a *Certificate of Attendance*. Susan drops out of school without graduating but decides to re-enroll two weeks later. She wants the school to give her a *Certificate of Attendance* because she is "pursuing a high school diploma." What should I do?

Answer: Even though Susan has re-enrolled, she is still non-compliant based on her 15 days of unexcused absences. She will be eligible for a *Certificate of Attendance* one year from the date of noncompliance.



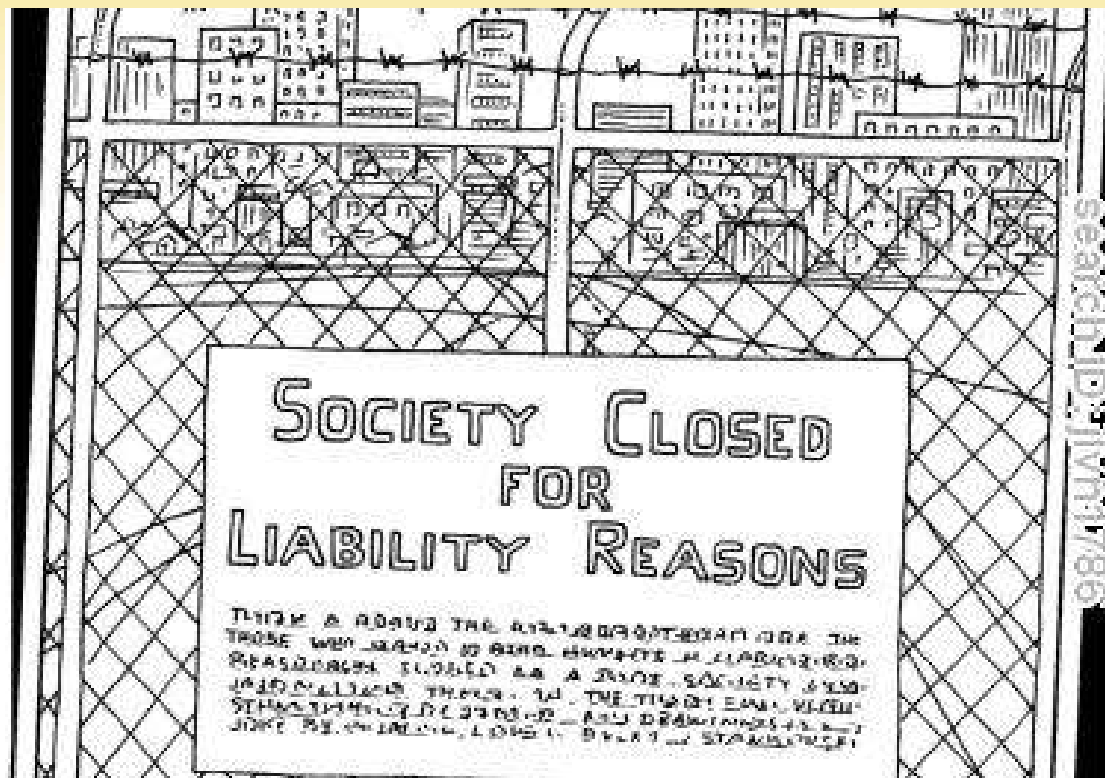
Question: Todd comes to the office requesting a *Certificate of Attendance*.

After reviewing his attendance and discipline record for the current and previous school year you discover that Todd was found guilty by a tribunal panel for bringing illegal drugs on campus on February 15, 2012. Today is March 5, 2013. What should I do?

Answer: The suspension of a student's driver's license or learner's permit shall be for a period of one year from the date of noncompliance or upon the student's 18th birthday, whichever comes first. Todd brought the drugs to school on February 15, 2012 which means that February 15, 2012 is the date of noncompliance. Assuming his attendance and discipline record are clean during the one-year suspension period, Todd should be eligible for a *Certificate of Attendance* on February 15, 2013.



Liability???



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Liability???

It is very important for schools to report non-compliant students in a timely manner because it is required by law and failure to do so could result in potential liability!



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Liability???

- If a school fails to submit noncompliance data for a student and that student is involved in an car accident, the question of whether or not the school official is liable has yet to be tested in court.
- The Georgia Department of Education has received several Open Records Requests from attorneys representing clients who were injured in car accidents. The attorneys are seeking documentation to confirm that the school submitted noncompliance data for a non-compliant student.



Liability???

- To comply with TAADRA and avoid potential liability it is important for schools and local school systems to have policies and procedures in place to comply with the TAADRA provisions and it is important for personnel to be trained in these policies and procedures.
- If your schools are not in compliance with the law, please notify your local superintendent or your local school board attorney so they can take whatever actions are necessary to comply.



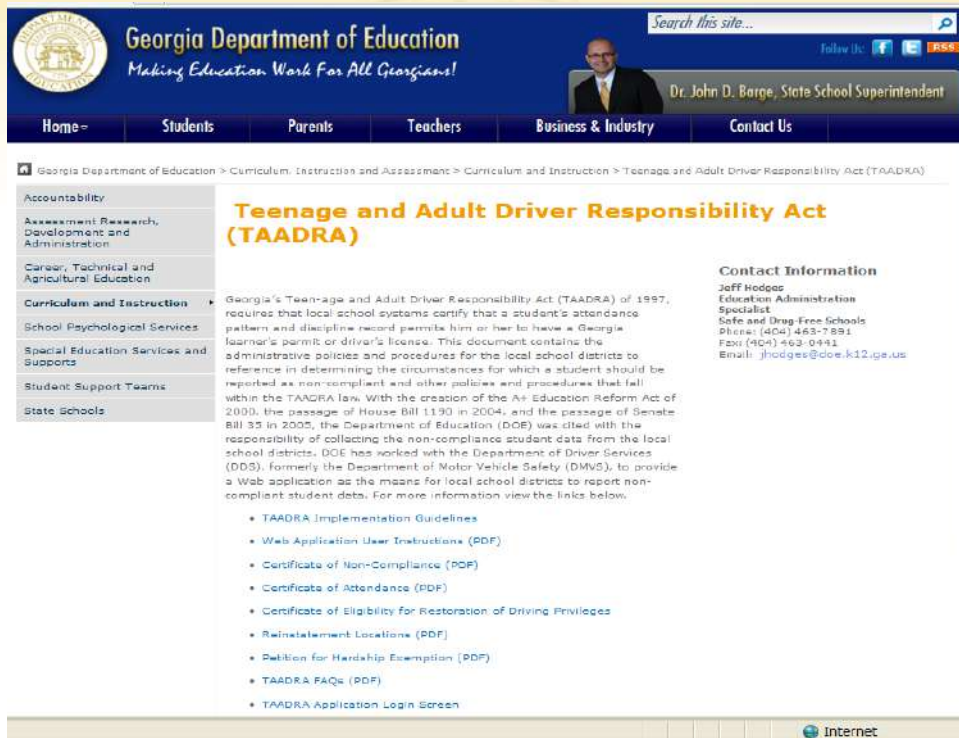
Miscellaneous

- The GaDOE will provide technical support to local school systems who have questions about TAADRA.
- The DDS is responsible for suspending and reinstating student driver's licenses and learner's permits.
- The State Board of Education is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to implement TAADRA provisions.
- The Technical College System of Georgia is responsible for monitoring the attendance requirements for students who withdraw from a public, private, or home school to pursue a GED.



TAADRA information is available online at:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/TAADRA.aspx>



The screenshot shows the Georgia Department of Education website. At the top is the state seal and the text "Georgia Department of Education Making Education Work For All Georgians!". Below this is a navigation bar with links: Home, Students, Parents, Teachers, Business & Industry, and Contact Us. A search bar is in the top right. A banner for Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent, is also present. The main content area is titled "Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA)". It includes a sidebar with a menu where "Curriculum and Instruction" is selected. The main text explains that the 1997 TAADRA law requires local school systems to certify a student's attendance and discipline record for a Georgia learner's permit or driver's license. It also mentions the 2004 Education Reform Act and the 2005 Department of Driver Services (DDS) takeover. A list of links for implementation guidelines, user instructions, certificates, and FAQs is provided. Contact information for Jeff Hodges is listed on the right. The footer includes the "Internet" logo.

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Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA)

Georgia's Teenage and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA) of 1997, requires that local school systems certify that a student's attendance pattern and discipline record permits him or her to have a Georgia learner's permit or driver's license. This document contains the administrative policies and procedures for the local school districts to reference in determining the circumstances for which a student should be reported as non-compliant and other policies and procedures that fall within the TAADRA law. With the creation of the A+ Education Reform Act of 2000, the passage of House Bill 1130 in 2004, and the passage of Senate Bill 35 in 2005, the Department of Education (DOE) was cited with the responsibility of collecting the non-compliance student data from the local school districts. DOE has worked with the Department of Driver Services (DDS), formerly the Department of Motor Vehicle Safety (DMVS), to provide a Web application as the means for local school districts to report non-compliant student data. For more information view the links below.

- TAADRA Implementation Guidelines
- Web Application User Instructions (PDF)
- Certificate of Non-Compliance (PDF)
- Certificate of Attendance (PDF)
- Certificate of Eligibility for Restoration of Driving Privileges
- Reinstatement Locations (PDF)
- Petition for Hardship Exemption (PDF)
- TAADRA FAQs (PDF)
- TAADRA Application Login Screen

Contact Information

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Internet



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Contact Information

- For general questions about TAADRA, please contact the GaDOE at (404) 463-7891, (404) 656-2800 or 1-800-311-3627.
- For questions pertaining to Hardship Exemptions, license reinstatements, or revoked/suspended licenses, please contact the Department of Driver Services by telephone at (678) 413-8400, (678) 413-8500 or (678) 413-8600.



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