

## Glossary of Terms

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**½ Second** – The maximum amount time a driver has to divide attention from the path of travel that should reduce risk of missing critical information needed to change speed or position.

**2-Second Following Interval** – Designed for use if there is an alternate path to steer the vehicle into on the roadway. Stopping in this time frame is usually not possible unless the driver is searching well ahead for clues. Therefore, a 3-4 second following distance is required.

**3-Second Following Interval** – Permits a driver time to steer out of problem areas at all listed speeds on dry surface and braking out of problems at speeds to 45 mph.

**4-Second Following Interval** – Permits a driver to steer out of problems at all listed speeds on dry surface and braking out of problems at speeds to legal limit of 65 mph.

**4 - 8 Seconds Ahead (Searching)** – Stopping zone and following interval

**8 - 12 Seconds Ahead (Searching)** – Identify alternate paths of travel and stopping zone

**12 - 15 Seconds Ahead (Searching)** – Identify objects that require a change in speed or direction

**20 - 30 Seconds Ahead (Searching)** – Identify potential problems - awareness

### - A -

**A-Pillar** – The first, or most forward, roof support pillar located on either side of the windshield. Also known as "windshield pillar" or "A-post".

**Acceleration Lane** – Lane that permits drivers entering an expressway to accelerate to the speed of expressway traffic.

**Accelerator Failure** – Failure could be caused by either a broken spring or the pedal getting stuck in the down position.

**Accelerator Pedal** – Usually a foot-operated pedal is suspended from the firewall on the right side of the driver's position. Speed is controlled by adjusting pressure on the pedal. The driver regulates speed by how much pressure is applied to the accelerator pedal.

**Active Occupant Protection Systems** – Occupant protection devices that a driver actively has to engage it to be effective.

**Active Restraint Device** – Any restraint device that you actively have to engage to make it effective.

**Actual Risk** – The accurate portrayal of the risk.

**Administrative License Revocation (ALR)** – This law relates to license suspension of a driver who fails (.08 BAC or greater over 21 but any amount under 21) or refuses to submit a breath or blood test. It is a civil action, apart from any possible criminal DWI case [Texas Transportation Code, Chapters 524 and 724].

**Administrative License Revocation for Minors** – Minors qualify for Administrative License Revocation when breath or blood test indicates ANY detectable amount of alcohol (.00) in their system or refusal to provide a specimen of the minor's breath or blood for analysis; police officer detects alcohol use; possible arrest and conviction for DUI by minor, DWI, or Intoxication Assault/ Manslaughter. This law is commonly referred to as the Zero Tolerance Law [Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 524].

**Advanced Technology** – Technology that has improved and made safer our vehicles and roadways.

**Adverse Conditions** – Conditions that present a negative effect on the driving task.

**Advisory Speed Limit** – Speed limit set for special conditions such as sharp curves.

**Aggressive Driving** – Driving behavior exhibited in driving in a combative, forceful, or competitive manner usually caused by frustration with other drivers.

**Air Bags** – A passive (idle) restraint system that automatically deploys during a crash to act as a cushion for the occupant. It creates a broad surface on which to spread the forces of the crash, to reduce head and chest injury. It is considered “supplementary” to the lap/shoulder belts because it enhances the protection the belt system offers in frontal crashes.

**Alcohol Content** – Amount of alcohol consumed.

**Alcohol Eliminated by the Body** – The majority (90%) of the alcohol detoxified is oxidized (burned up) by the liver. Only time can lower alcohol concentration in the blood and it takes much more time for the body to metabolize and eliminate alcohol than it takes to drink it.

**Alcohol-Related Crash Problem** – Crashes with alcohol as contributing factor to the cause of the crash.

**Alert Symbol or Light** – Instrument panel lighted symbol that indicates a system is functioning and turns off after a short period of time.

**Alley** – A street that is not used primarily for through traffic and provides access to rear entrances of buildings or lots along a street.

**Anatomical Gift** – Are gifts of organs and tissues that can be used in transplantation such as an eye, tissue, or organ donation.

**Angle Parking** – Process of using reference points to position a vehicle diagonally to the curb with the bumper 3-6 inches from the curb (parking the vehicle diagonally to the curb).

**Animal-Drawn Vehicle** – A person riding an animal on a roadway or operating a vehicle drawn by an animal on a roadway has the rights and duties applicable to the operator of a vehicle under this subtitle, except a right or duty that by its nature cannot apply to a person riding an animal or operating a vehicle drawn by an animal.

**Antilock Brake System (ABS)** – Helps maintain control by preventing any of the wheels from locking while applying a hard brake. The pedal vibrates when pushed, but steering control can be maintained with the rolling traction. Computer-controlled braking system that keeps the wheels from locking when the driver brakes hard. It allows for steering and braking actions to occur at the same time.

**Appropriate Communication** – Informing other drivers of your intentions prior to turning, slowing, stopping, changing lane position, etc. using a mechanical or hand/arm signals, headlights, horn, lane position, etc.

**Appropriate Practice** – Practice that enhances experiences and creates acceptable habits and judgments.

**Attention** – Person’s ability to concentrate on several sources of incoming information more than to concentrate on just one source of information. Since the driving task requires attention to a large number of items, this is an important concept. The act or state of attending especially through applying the mind to an object of sense or thought and a condition of readiness for such attention involving especially a selective narrowing or focusing of consciousness and receptivity.

**- B -**

**B-Pillar** – The center roof support that divides the front and rear doors on 4-door and wagon models. On 2-door models, the B-pillar separates the door and rear quarter window/panel. On vans and Club Wagons, the B-pillar is behind the front doors.

**Backing** – Vehicle movement moving the vehicle to the rear.

**Balance of Vehicle** – Vehicle suspension configurations that control the size of the tire patches as they contact the roadway for ideal vehicle traction and control. Changes to the suspension configuration (and therefore the tire patches affecting traction) are initiated by driver actions of steering, braking, and/or accelerating the vehicle. The vehicle suspension is in the ideal state of balance and tire traction when it is parked on a level surface.

**Basic Areas Around Vehicle** – There are seven basic areas of operating space around the vehicle. There are six zones, areas, or spaces surrounding the car that are visible to the driver. The vehicle occupies the seventh area that is called the central area, which includes the driver and the space occupied by the vehicle that is not visible to the driver.

**Basic Speed Law** – Law stating that you may not drive faster than is safe and prudent for existing conditions, regardless of posted speed limits.

**Behind-the-Wheel Instruction**- That portion of the driver education laboratory instruction where the novice driver is actually seated behind the wheel of a vehicle or simulated vehicle, operating it either in real or simulated traffic situations, through the direct guidance of a driver education teacher.

**Being Passed** – Being overtaken and proceeded by another vehicle moving in the same direction or the attempt of the maneuver.

**Bicycle** – A device that a person may ride and that is propelled by human power and as two tandem wheels at least one of which is more than 14 inches in diameter [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201(2)].

**Blackout Concept** – The inability of the mind to store and retain information.

**Blindspot (Blindzone)** – Areas to the sides and rear of the vehicle that rearview mirrors cannot show.

Blindzone Glare Elimination (BGE) Mirror Setting – **This mirror setting the inside rear view mirror becomes the primary mirror, and the left and right side view mirrors become directed to side view use only. The driver can move the head toward the window to get a right and left side view when pulling from the curb. The mirror setting that reduces the mirror blind-zone and eliminates night glare from a following vehicle to the left or right. Mirrors are set 15 degrees to the outside for viewing side positions rather than rear corner of vehicle. Mirror setting does not completely eliminate making a visual check to the left or right when searching for open zones or space.**

**Block Program** – In a “Block” driver education program, the entire Classroom instruction is taught before the In-Car Instruction begins. The Classroom instruction begins and continues on a schedule until the student successfully completes and masters each of the 12 classroom modules. The student in a block program is eligible to apply for and obtain an Instruction Permit from the Department of Public Safety at age 15 or older and upon successful completion and mastery of Modules One through Twelve. The In-Car instruction begins as soon as the student obtains an Instruction Permit and continues on a schedule until the student successfully completes and masters each of the Twelve In-Car modules.

**Blood-Alcohol Concentration (BAC)** – Amount of alcohol in the blood expressed as a percentage of ethyl alcohol related to the volume of fluids in the bloodstream. The ratio between the alcohol consumed and the blood in the body.

**Blowout** – Sudden loss of tire air pressure while driving.

**Brake Failure** – Failure of the vehicle's brakes to stop the vehicle properly.

**Brake Pedal** – Pedal that enables the driver to slow or stop a vehicle (regulates speed).

**Braking Distance** – Distance your vehicle travels from the time you apply the brake until your vehicle stops.

**Bus** – A motor vehicle used to transport persons and designed to accommodate more than ten passengers including the operator of a motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, designed and used to transport persons for compensation [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201(3)].

**Business district** - The territory adjacent to and including a highway if buildings used for business or industrial purposes, including a building used as a hotel, bank, office building, public building, or railroad station: (A) are located within a 600-foot segment along the highway; and (B) within that segment the buildings occupy at least 300 feet of frontage: (i) on one side of the highway; or (ii) collectively on both sides of the highway.

- C -

**“C” Pillar** – The rear roof-supporting member on most vehicles. On station wagons, this pillar separates the rear doors and quarter panel glass.

**Cancellation of Driver’s License** – The withdrawal of a driver’s license or driving privilege until the driver is able to requalify.

**Carbon Monoxide** – Colorless, odorless, tasteless gas contained in the exhaust fumes of gasoline engines.

**Car Catches on Fire** – Failure where the vehicle is on fire.

**Car Seat** – Common term for a specially designed device that secures a child (a child under 5 years of age and 36 inches in height regardless of age must be secured in a child passenger safety seat) in a motor vehicle, meets federal safety standards, and increases child safety in a crash.

**Center Lane Placement** – Placing the vehicle in the center of the traffic lane. Lane placement to the center of the lane will be used for the majority of driving situation. Your line of sight through the driver’s side left fender to the centerline. Your line of sight through the center of passenger’s side right half of the hood to the edge or edge line of the roadway.

**Center of Gravity** – The point at which the entire weight of a body is considered concentrated so that, if supported at this point, the body would remain in equilibrium in any position. A point around which the vehicle’s weight is evenly distributed.

**Central Vision** – The field of vision around your focal vision in which you can see clearly while looking straight ahead that aids in determining vehicle position to the roadway.

**Child Safety Seat/Child Restraint** – A crash tested device that is specially designed to provide infant/child crash protection. A general term for all sorts of devices including those that are infant/child vests or infant car beds restrained with a motor vehicle safety belt rather than seats.

**Classroom Instruction**- That portion of the driver education program, occurring in a classroom environment, under the direct guidance of a driver education teacher, that enables student learning to occur through varied instructional methodology.

**Closed Zone or Area** – A space not open to you because of a restriction in your line of sight or intended path of travel.

**Cloverleaf Interchange** - Allows for interchange of two expressways with minimal disruption of speed or movement.

**Clutch Pedal** – Pedal in a manual transmission vehicle that enables a driver to shift gears.

**Coastal Flood** – Winds generated from tropical storms and hurricanes or intense offshore low-pressure systems can drive ocean water inland and cause significant flooding.

**Coasting** – An operator moving on a downgrade may not coast with the gears or transmission of the vehicle in neutral or the clutch disengaged [Texas Transportation Code, Section 545.406].

**Collision** – Contact between two or more objects, as when two vehicles collide into each other.

**Collision Insurance** – Pays cost of fixing or replacing owner’s vehicle after a crash—regardless of who was driving or who was to blame.

**Commentary Drive** – System of thinking aloud as you practice the searching process of the SEE IT system. The driver verbalizes the reasons for speed and roadway position adjustments.

**Commercial Motor Vehicle** – truck tractors, trailers, or semitrailers or vehicles designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver, or vehicles transporting hazardous materials requiring to be placarded (49 C. F. R. Part 172, Subpart F) as defined in the Texas Transportation Code 522.003(5).

**Common Speed** – Speed used by the 80th percentile of drivers on an expressway.

**Communication Devices** – Devices that the driver uses to communicate with other roadway users such as mechanical or hand/arm signals, headlights, horn, lane position, etc.

**Complex Risk Environment** – A complex risk environment is limited to speeds under 70 mph, having controlled or limited access interchanges or intersections in urban, suburban, and rural settings. Traffic flow is heavy and many times unpredictable, which does not allow excessive time for the novice driver to identify risks through changes to line of sight or path of travel. Two-way, one-way, access lanes, and multi-lane roadways are recommended for use in complex risk environments.

**Comprehensive Insurance** – Pays to replace or fix owner's car if it is stolen or if it is damaged by causes other than a collision, such as fire, vandalism, or hail. Also pays for a rental car or other temporary transportation if the owner's vehicle is stolen.

**Concurrent Program** – In a "Concurrent" driver education program, the Classroom instruction begins and continues on a schedule until the student successfully completes and masters each of the Twelve Modules. Students age 15 or older are eligible to apply for, obtain an Instruction Permit from the Texas Department of Public Safety after they successfully complete, and master the Classroom Instructional Phase of Module One. The In-Car instruction begins as soon as the student obtains an Instruction Permit and continues on a schedule until the student successfully completes and masters each of the twelve modules. The "Concurrent" program requires the instructor to schedule the Classroom lessons and the In-Car lessons back to back or very close together. The In-Car lessons are paced to match what was recently taught in the classroom.

**Conserving Energy** – To avoid wasteful or destructive use of energy.

**Construction Sign** – A sign used in construction or maintenance work areas to direct drivers or pedestrians safety through the work zone and to provide for the safety of the highway workers.

**Contemporary Mirror Setting (Blindzone/Glare Setting)** – In this mirror setting the inside rear view mirror becomes the primary mirror. The left and right side view mirrors become directed to side view use only.

**Control Devices** – Devices that the driver uses to control the vehicle.

**Controlled-Access Highway** – Highway that vehicles can enter and exit only at interchanges. Access by persons to enter or exit the highway or roadway is restricted under law except at a place or in the manner determined by the authority that has jurisdiction over the highway or roadway (person, including owners or occupants of abutting real property, have no right of access.)

**Controlled Braking** – Reducing speed by firmly stepping on and pressing brake pedal and maintaining steering control of the vehicle.

**Controlled Environment** – A controlled risk environment reduces the incidence or severity of harmful incidents. The traffic speed and traffic flow volume in controlled risk environments should be at a minimal allowing time for novice driver to identify risks through changes to line of sight or path of travel.

**Controlled Intersection** – Intersection at which signals or signs determine the right of way.

**Controlled Railroad Crossing** – Railroad crossing controlled by flashing red lights and/or crossing gates.

**Controlling Consequences** – Lessening the results of an impending crash.

**Convenience and Comfort System devices** – Devices that offer the driver convenience and comfort, such as radio; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; seat adjustment; etc.

**Cost of the Trip** – The basic expenses anticipated for any trip including fuel, lodging, meals, and in many cases tolls.

**Countermeasures** – Safety measure that helps respond to an adverse condition.

**Cover the Accelerator** – Take your foot off the brake or accelerator and hold it over the accelerator pedal to reduce response time and to maintain speed of vehicle.

**Cover the Brake** – Take your foot off the accelerator hold it over the brake pedal to reduce response time for brake application and maintain speed of vehicle.

**Crossbuck** – Large white X-shaped sign located prior to a railroad crossing.

**Crash Involvement** – Association with a conflict or collision with an object or other roadway user.

**Crosswalk** - The portion of a roadway, including an intersection, designated as a pedestrian crossing by surface markings, including lines or the portion of a roadway at an intersection that is within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway.

**Crumple Zones and Side Impact Panels** – Protect occupants by allowing structures to collapse at different rates, reducing the risk of penetration into the passenger compartment, or spreading forces over a wider area. Sections of a vehicle body and/or frame engineered to deform in a progressive manner in a collision, thereby absorbing impact forces instead of transferring them to the passenger compartment. Also known as, crush zones.

**Cruise/Speed Control** – Device that lets you maintain your speed without keeping your foot on the accelerator.

- D -

**Danger to Self or Others** – May cause harm to himself or someone else.

**DE-964** – The official state driver education document certifying completion of an approved driver education course.

**Dead Pedal** – **The footrest found to the left of the left most pedal (the accelerator, parking brake or clutch pedal, depending on model) where the driver can rest their foot and brace themselves during hard cornering.**

**Decayable Waste** – From a public or private establishment, residence, or restaurant, includes animal and vegetable material.

**Deceleration Lane** – **Area where speed can be reduced to exit safely. Expressway lane used to slow your vehicle without blocking vehicles behind you.**

**Defensive Driving** – **A driver should stay alert and keep the eyes moving to keep track of what is happening; look for trouble spots developing all around; have a plan of action if another driver does the wrong thing; and know that the law requires drivers to protect each other from their own mistakes. Protecting yourself and others from dangerous and unexpected driving situations by using a space management system.**

**Delayed Green Light** – Indicates that one side of intersection has a green light while the light for oncoming traffic remains red.

**Denial of Driver's License** – The withholding of a driver's license or driving privilege because the person is ineligible for a license. A driver's license may be issued when eligibility requirements are met.

**Depressant** – Drug that slows the response of the central nervous system.

**Depth Perception** – Ability to judge distance between yourself and other objects.

**Designated Driver** – Person who decides ahead of time not to drink alcoholic beverages and volunteers to drive others who do drink.

**Destination Driving** – The process of giving the student a specific location he/she will drive to, without assistance, using the most direct, efficient, and safe route.

**Diamond Interchange** – Allows for interchange of a major roadway with a secondary dual or multiple lane roadways.

**Distraction** – When a driver is delayed in the recognition of information needed to accomplish the driving task safely because some event, activity, object, or person within or outside the vehicle compelled or tended to induce the driver's shifting attention away from the driving task. The act of distracting or the state of being distracted, especially: mental confusion, to draw or direct one's attention to a different object or in different directions at the same time

**Divided Attention** – Changing attention from the path of travel to traffic, roadway, weather, vehicle, passengers, gauges, etc. Failure to complete multi-task performances correctly to compensate for divided attention produces unsafe driving.

**Donation** – Is the act of giving one's organs or tissue to someone else.

**Donor** – Person that gives one's organs or tissue to someone else.

**Donor Recipient** – A person who receives an organ or tissue transplant.

**Donor Education, Awareness, and Registry Program (DEAR)** – A statewide program with the goal of educating Texas residents about anatomical gifts.

**Don't Mess With Texas** – The tough-talking litter prevention campaign sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The campaign reminds Texans to keep their trash in the car and off our road.

**Drag Race** - The operation of a two or more vehicles from a point side by side at accelerating speeds in a competitive attempt to outdistance each other or one or more vehicles over a common selected course, from the same place to the same place, for the purpose of comparing the relative speeds or power of acceleration of the vehicle or vehicles in a specified distance or time.

**Driver Education and Traffic Safety Program** – In Texas, the Driver Education and Traffic Safety Program provides novice drivers the foundation of knowledge, understanding, skills, and experiences necessary for the novice driver and parent, guardian, or adult mentor to launch and continue the life-long learning process of legal and responsible reduced-risk driving practices in the Highway Transportation System (HTS). Teachers instruct students in this program through a combination of culturally responsive classroom and actual or simulated in-car instruction techniques that include modeling, knowledge assessment, skill assessment, guided observation, and parental/mentor involvement.

**Driver Inattention** – The driver is distracted, asleep or fatigued, or otherwise “lost in thought”.

**Driver Preparation Procedures** – The procedures the driver performs to prepare the vehicle for operating on the roadway, such as pre-drive checks including outside checks, inside check, engine starting procedures, etc.

**Driver Readiness** – To prepare the driver mentally, emotionally, and physically to operate a vehicle within HTS.

**Driver Readiness Techniques** – Good habits that prepare the driver mentally, emotionally, and physically to operate a vehicle in the HTS including driving on a habit level; driving on a judgment level; avoiding driving while fatigued; managing the driving task for conditions including weather, visibility, traffic, roadway, and vehicle; and managing distractions.

**Driver Responsibility** – A driver's moral, legal, and mental accountability to the driving task.

**Driver/Vehicle Control Sequence** – Vision control (visual targeting), motion control (accelerator or brake), then steering control (steering wheel).

**Driving as a Privilege** – An opportunity granted to a person to drive within the HTS.

**Driving at the Common Speed** – Driving at the speed of traffic to establish and maintain a safe space around your vehicle. A driver must avoid the possibility of exceeding the legal posted speed.

**Driving Conditions** – When making the decision whether to drive or the appropriate speed that is safe/reasonable, the driver must take in consideration the condition of the weather, visibility, traffic, roadway, and vehicle.

**Driving Environments** – Low, moderate, complex risk driving environments.

**Driving on the Right Side of Roadway** – An operator on a roadway of sufficient width shall drive on the right half of the roadway, unless: the operator is passing another vehicle; an obstruction necessitates moving the vehicle left of the center of the roadway and the operator yields the right-of-way to other vehicles moving in the proper direction or is an immediate hazard; the operator is on a roadway divided into three marked lanes of traffic; or the operator is on a roadway restricted to one-way traffic [Transportation Code, Section 545.051]

**Driving Plan** – Formulation of a plan that incorporates the knowledge and skills that provides the foundation to launch and continue the lifelong learning process of legal and responsible reduced-risk driving practices.

**Driving Practices** – Legal and responsible implementation of the Traffic Laws, Driver Preparation, Vehicle Movements, Driver Readiness, Risk Reduction, Environmental Factors, Distractions, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Adverse Conditions, Vehicle Requirements, Consumer Responsibility, and Personal Responsibility reduced-risk driving practices to sustain the lifelong learning process of reduced risk driving practices in the Highway Transportation System.

**Driving Task** – All social, physical, legal, and mental skills required to drive.

**Driving Under the Influence (DUI)** – An offense for which a driver can be charged even if blood alcohol level is below 0.08%. Driving Under the Influence can include driving while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, drug, medication, etc. [Texas Transportation Code, Section 524.001 (3)(A)(ii)(iii). Commercial vehicles Texas Transportation Code, Section 524.101].

**Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol by a Minor** – It is illegal for a minor (those under 21 years of age) while having any detectable amount of alcohol in the minor's system to operating a motor vehicle in a public place [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.071].

**Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)** – A person commits an offense for which a driver can be charged in all states if the person is intoxicated while driving or operating a motor vehicle in a public place [Texas Transportation Code, Section 524.001(3)(A)(i)].

**Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Penalties** – Fines, loss of driver's license or driving privilege and/or jail/penitentiary time that may be assessed when an individual is convicted of a DWI.

- E -

**Engine Failure** – Vehicle failure that occurs when the engine quits running completely because the engine becomes flooded, overheats, etc.

**Enhanced Technology** – Aids the driver in maintaining balance control when performing avoidance maneuvers and increased protection should a crash occur.

**Emergency** – An unforeseen combination of circumstances or the resulting state that calls for immediate action.

**Emergency Equipment** – Equipment that is necessary to manage an emergency including vehicle failure, crash, weather conditions, etc.

**Emergency Vehicle** – A fire department, police vehicle, a public or private ambulance operated by a person who has been issued a license by the Texas Department of Health [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201(1)].

**Emissions** – Substances discharged into the air (as by a smokestack or an automobile gasoline engine).

**Emotions** – Feelings that include anger, anxiety, joy, happiness, fear, hate, grief, care, and/or love.

**Emotional Behaviors** – Includes affections, feelings, motives, needs, and everything that pertains to the goal-directedness of people's actions.

**Energy of Motion** – Kinetic energy or the energy an object has because it is moving.

**Engine-Management System** – Computerized system that monitors and adjusts the fuel, ignition, and emission systems.

**Engine Starting Procedures** – Check parking brake; foot on brake; key in ignition; gear in “Park or Neutral”; check for fuel injection or automatic choke; turn key to “on” position; check alert lights and gauges; turn key to start engine; adjust Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC); set accessories (headlights or daylight running lights are recommended); check warning lights and gauges.

**Entrance Ramp** – The ramp to enter the expressway. This area gives the driver time to evaluate traffic conditions. It can be level with the expressway or on an uphill or downhill grade.

**Environmental Protection** – Protecting our natural resources and environment from unnecessary destruction.

**Establish Vehicle Speed** – Obeying the speed limit or the flow of traffic, whichever is slower.

**Euphoria** – False sense of well-being developed as a result of alcohol or drug consumption.

**Evaluate** – The second step of the “SEE IT” space management system which allows the driver to make decisions to adjust speed or position and communicate based on risk, habits, judgment, and experience.

**Evasive Steering** – Emergency steering technique used to steer quickly around an object in your path. Without removing hands from the steering wheel, turn the wheel so that the forearms touch each other, then turn the wheel in the opposite direction until the forearms touch again. Return the wheel to center position. This is the maximum steer input for lane change and activated ABS. Less input may be used to perform maneuvers for emergency lane adjustment to the left or right.

**Execute** – The third step of the “SEE IT” space management system in which a driver performs proper vehicle control responses to avoid possible conflicts.

**Exhaust Emission System** - A motor vehicle engine modification designed to control or reduce the emission of substances from a motor vehicle or motor vehicle engine, of a model year of 1968 or later, and installed on or incorporated in a motor vehicle or motor vehicle engine in compliance with requirements imposed by the Motor Vehicle Air Pollution Control Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1857 et seq.) or other applicable law.

**Exit ramp** – This is the ramp to leave the expressway. Ramps may be level or sharply curved, uphill or downhill. Be sure to adjust speed for ramp speed sign.

**Experienced Driver** – Practical knowledge, skill, and practice derived from direct observation of or participation in driving. A driver with more than five years experience in operating the motor vehicle in Texas.

## - F -

**Factors that Influence Underage Drinking** – Factors that say or encourage underage individuals to make the choice to drink alcohol.

**Farm Tractor** – A motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement to draw an implement of husbandry, including a plow or a mowing machine.

**Fatigue** – Physical or mental weariness resulting from exertion or other effect.

**Feet Per Second a Vehicle Travels** – Speed +  $\frac{1}{2}$  speed X # seconds = feet/second.

**Field of Vision** – All the area a person can see while looking straight ahead.

**Field Sobriety Test** – Series of on the spot, roadside tests that help an officer detect impairment of a driver suspected of DUI or DWI.

**Financial Responsibility** - The ability to respond in damages for liability for an accident that occurs after the effective date of the document evidencing the establishment of the financial responsibility and arises out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle.

**Financial Responsibility Law** – Law that requires you to prove that you can pay for collision damages you cause that result in death, injury, or property damage.

**Flash Flood** – Sudden flooding caused by slow-moving thunderstorms, thunderstorms repeatedly moving over the same area, or heavy rains from hurricanes and tropical storms.

**Flashing Yellow Light** – Slow down and proceed with caution.

**Flashing Red Light** – Stop completely before entering the crosswalk or intersection, then proceed when you can do so safely

**Flashing Signal** – Traffic signal that alerts drivers to dangerous conditions or tells them to stop.

**Focus Vision (Fovial)** – That part of the vision field that allows the driver to read signs and make distinctions between vehicles and objects often measured as visual acuity.

**Following Interval** – The amount of time/space recommended between vehicles when following another vehicle in the intended path of travel to avoid conflict. To set a following interval a driver must select an object near the road surface. When the vehicle ahead passes that object, the driver should start counting “one thousand-one”, “one thousand-two,” etc., until the front of his/her vehicle reaches that object. For speeds above 30 mph, maintain 4 seconds (more for adverse conditions) of following time. Developing a 4-second following interval is the best practice for a novice driver.

**Force of Impact** – Force with which one moving object hits another object; varies according to speed, weight, and distance between impact and stop and is based on forces of inertia and momentum.

**Forward-Facing Child Restraint** – A restraint that is intended for use only in the forward-facing position for a child at least age one and at least 20 pounds up to 40 pounds.

**Four-Lane Road** – A roadway that is divided into at least four clearly marked lanes for vehicular travel.

**Freeway** – A divided, controlled access highway for through traffic [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.302(3)].

**Freeway Hypnosis** – Drowsy or trancelike condition caused by concentration on the roadway ahead and monotony of driving.

**Freeway Main Lane** – A freeway lane having an uninterrupted flow of through traffic.

**Friction** – Force that creates heat and helps each tire to maintain traction on the road, unless too much heat is generated which may cause traction loss due to melting of tire rubber on the roadway.

**Frontage Road Interchanges** – Allows for interchange of vehicles using parallel secondary two-way or one-way roadways and a major multiple lane roadway.

**Front Turning Point** – The front turning point is located where the “A” pillar joins the fender on the vehicle. The edge of the intersection will appear in this location when targeting the center of the path of travel.

**- G -**

**"g"** – The unit of measure for lateral acceleration or "road-holding" ability. One g is equivalent to 32.2 feet per second; the rate at which an object accelerates when dropped at sea level.

**Gap** – Time or distance interval between vehicles on roadway.

**Gear Selector** – Device in vehicles used to select gears. In an automatic transmissions the gears usually are “P” – park, “R” – reverse, “N” – neutral, “D” – drive, “2” and “1” – lower drive gears. In a manual transmission the gears are usually “1<sup>st</sup>” – low drive gear, “2<sup>nd</sup>”, “3<sup>rd</sup>”, “4<sup>th</sup>”, “R” – reverse.

**Glare** – A brightness that reflects and reduces a driver’s ability to see.

**Glare Recovery Time** – Time your eyes need to regain clear vision after being affected by glare.

**Glare Resistance** – Ability to continue seeing when looking at bright lights.

**Global Benefits** – Something that promotes well-being to the entire world.

**Good Driving** – Loosely defined term that many drivers assume includes themselves when each reaches the point of skilled vehicle operation.

**Good Samaritan Law** – Liability for emergency care: a person in good faith administers emergency care, including using an automated defibrillator, at the scene of an emergency (not in a hospital or other health care facility or means of medical transport) is not liable in civil damages for an act performed during the emergency unless the act is willful or wantonly negligent [Civil Practices and Remedies Code, Section 74.001].

**Graduated Driver Licensing Program** – A program that requires young drivers to progress through a series of licensing stages with various restrictions as to accompany drivers, times permitted to drive, allowable passengers, and the use of electronic communications devices [Texas Transportation Code, Section 545.424].

**Gravity** – Force that pulls all things to earth.

**Green Arrow with Red Light** – Proceed carefully in the direction of the arrow after yielding the right-of-way to other vehicles and pedestrians.

**Green Light** – Check traffic, and proceed if safe to do so.

**Ground Viewing** – Making quick glances to the roadway in front of your vehicle, similar to view patterns of mirror and dashboard.

**Guide Sign** – Sign that gives directions, distance, services, points of interest, and other information.

**Guided Observation (In-Car)** – Refers to that time during which a student is riding in the back seat of a dual-controlled training vehicle observing and listening to instructions of the driver instructor related to procedures and techniques of the student driver who is behind the wheel. It involves observations of the actions and behavior of the student driver and other road users.

**- H -**

**Hallucinogen** – Mind-altering drug that tends to distort a person’s perceptions of direction, distance, and time.

**Hand-over-Hand Steering** – Pulling the steering wheel down with one hand while the other hand crosses over to pull the wheel farther down. Used for quick turns at speeds below air bag deployment speed.

**Hand Position** – Placement of the hands at 9 and 3 or 8 and 4 o'clock for best balance based on the vehicle steering wheel and input.

**Hand-to-Hand Steering** – Pushing with one hand on the side of the wheel while pulling with the other hand on the opposite side of the wheel using positions at 10 to 7 on left side and 2 to 5 o'clock on the right side of steering wheel. Used to maintain stability in cornering and avoid poor hand and arm position with impending air bag deployment. Most commonly used international steering technique on rack and pinion steering mechanism vehicles.

**Hazard Flasher** – Device that flashes front turn signal lights and taillights to warn others the vehicle is a hazard.

**Headlights** – Lighted lamp displayed on each side of the front of the vehicle [Texas Transportation Code, Section 547.302].

**Head Restraints** – Specially designed air bag or padded devices on the backs of front seats that help reduce whiplash injuries in a side or rear impact collision.

**Hidden Areas Around Vehicle** – Areas around the vehicle that are not visible to the driver.

**High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)** – Lanes that have restrictions on the number of passengers in the vehicle that is traveling in this lane.

**High Risk Drivers** – A driver proven to be a financial risk for an insurance company due to negative motor vehicle report or owning a vehicle built for speed. Usually, a driver rated as "high risk" will pay a higher premium for insurance.

**Highway** - The width between the boundary lines of a publicly maintained way any part of which is open to the public for vehicular travel. The entire width between property lines of a road, street, or way in this state that is not privately owned or controlled and some part of which is open to the public for vehicular traffic and over which the state has legislative jurisdiction under its police power.

**Highway Hypnosis** – Drowsy or trancelike condition caused by concentration on the roadway ahead and monotony of driving.

**Highway Transportation System** – The highway transportation system (HTS) is a complex system including a consortium of federal, state, local, and individual systems functioning together to provide a reduced-risk and lawful driving Highway Transportation System environment) made up of people, vehicles, and roadways.

**Hydroplaning** – Traction loss on water. Occurs when a tire patch loses roadway contact by rising up on top of water.

- | -

**Ignition Switch** – Switch that locks the steering wheel and gear selector, and enables the driver to start and turn-off the engine or use the accessories.

**Illegal Use of License** – False name to get a license; possess more than one license; use a canceled or revoked license; use another person's license; lend your license to someone else; or display or possess a false license [Texas Transportation Code, Section 521.451].

**Immediate Risk** – High priority possibility of having a conflict that results in a crash or collision needing a driver visual attention.

**Implied Consent Law** – This law relates to license suspension for refusing to take a legally requested breath or blood test. As with the AIR law, it is a civil action apart from a DWI criminal case [Texas Transportation Code, Section 724.011].

**Implied Consent Law for Minors** – This law provides that a minor (a person under age 21) may not drive a motor vehicle with a detectable amount of alcohol (.00) in their system. This law is commonly

referred to as the Zero Tolerance Law.

**Improved Shoulder** – A paved shoulder [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.302 (6)].

**Information Devices** – Devices that provide information about the vehicle to the driver.

**Information Processing** – The brain's ability to interpret information provided by the human senses and to employ critical-thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving skills in performing legal and responsible reduced-risk driving practices in the Highway Transportation System (HTS).

**Information Sign** – Inform of local regulations and practices.

**Inherent Risk** – Risk that is built in or normal to a situation.

**Inhibitions** – Inner forces of personality that restrain or hold back impulsive behavior.

**Inside Checks** – Procedures for checking and preparing the inside of the vehicle and driver prior to operating in vehicle.

**Instruction Hour** – Instructional time equal to sixty (60) minutes. Schools are allowed five minutes of break per instructional hour for all phases. No more than ten minutes of break time may be accumulated for each two hours of instruction.

**Insurance** – Pays other people's expenses for accidents caused by drivers covered under owner's policy.

**Insurance Responsibility Act** – Was enacted to ensure all drivers are financially responsible for the death, injury, or property damage they may cause while operating a motor vehicle.

**International Symbols** – Symbols used on traffic signs that give a message without using words.

**Intersection** – A place where two or more roadway users meet and cross at a point.

**Intoxication** – (a) Not having the normal use of mental or physical faculties by reason of the introduction of alcohol, a controlled substance, a drug, a dangerous drug, or a combination of two or more of those substances or any other substance into the body; or... (b) Having an alcohol concentration of .08 or more [Texas Transportation Code, Section 724.001(9), and Penal Code 49.01 (2)].

**Intoxication Assault** – Commits an offense if the person operates a motor vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, or amusement ride, or assembles a mobile amusement ride in a public place while intoxicated. By reason of intoxication causes the injury of another person by accident or mistake [Penal Code, Section 49.07].

**Intoxication Manslaughter** – Commits an offense if the person operates a motor vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, amusement ride, or assembles a mobile amusement ride in a public place while intoxicated. By reason of intoxication causes the death of another person by accident or mistake [Penal Code, Section 49.08].

**Intoxilyzer** – Breath-test instrument most commonly used for determining blood-alcohol content.

- J -

**Jack** – Hand-operated device used to lift and hold one corner or side of the vehicle.

**Joining Traffic** – Turning right or left into lanes of other vehicles.

**Judgment/Reasoning** – These psychological functions are the first ones affected by alcohol. A person's ability to judge right from wrong, good from bad or their ability to reason is affected.

## - L -

**Lane Change** – Lateral movement of the vehicle from one lane to another using proper space management procedures.

**Lane Change Device** – Use of the turn signal by hooking thumb on wheel and pushing signal halfway just to activate signal so that release of lever will release the signal.

**Lane Placement** – A vehicle's place in the traffic lane without changing lanes. Vehicle location in a traffic lane include five options for lane placement without making a lane change: center, left, right, straddle left, or straddle right.

**Laned Roadway** – A roadway that is divided into at least two clearly marked lanes for vehicular travel.

**Lane Usage Signal** – A traffic signal that indicates which lanes are open, closing, or closed for travel. Signal, usually overhead, that tells whether a lane can or cannot be used at a specific time.

**Lap Belt** – Restraining belt to protect the driver and passengers that fastens across the hips.

**Large Trucks** – A motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily to transport property [Transportation Code, Section 541.201].

**Lateral Maneuver** – Vehicle movements to the side (swerve, pulling to and from the curb, lane change, merging, exiting).

**Left Lane** – Lane on the expressway used for faster traffic and vehicles passing.

**Left Lane Placement** – Placing the vehicle to the left side of the traffic lane. Your line of sight reference is about 1 foot from left side or may be the crack line between your left fender and hood of your vehicle to the curb.

**Left Turn Yield on Green Sign** – Yield the right-of-way if other traffic is approaching from the opposite direction, if safe to do so, you may turn left on a light that is green.

**Legally and Responsibly** – A driver's legal, moral, dutiful, and mental accountability to driving practices that utilize the knowledge, understanding, skills, and experiences. A driver has the duty of driving a vehicle in the Highway Transportation System within the law and without conflict with other roadway users or the roadway.

**Legal Reduced-Risk Driving Practices** – Driving practices that utilize the knowledge, understanding, skills, and experiences to drive legally and responsibly.

**Liability Insurance** – Provides compensation for damages, which the insured is legally obligated to pay; cover other when you are at fault.

**License** – An authorization to operate a motor vehicle that is issued under or granted by the laws of this state. The term includes: (A) a driver's license; (B) the privilege of a person to operate a motor vehicle regardless of whether the person hold a driver's license; and (C) a nonresident's operating privilege [Texas Transportation Code, Section 521.001 (6)].

**Life-Long Health Promoting Decision Regarding the Use of Alcohol and Other Drugs** – Making personal decisions regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs in the most advantageous life-long health stance based on legal, ethical, and moral reasons.

**Life-long Learning Process of Legal and Responsible Reduced-risk Driving Practices in the HTS** – Plan developed to continue to utilize the legal reduced-risk driving practices for a lifetime.

**Lifelong Plan for Reduce-Risk Driving** – A plan developed to continue to utilize the legal reduced-risk driving practices for a lifetime.

**Light Truck** – A truck, including a pickup truck, panel delivery truck, or carryall truck, that has a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of 2,000 pounds or less.

**Limited-Access or Controlled-Access Highway** – A highway or roadway to which persons, including owners or occupants of abutting real property, have no right of access and access by persons to enter or exit the highway or roadway is restricted under law except at a place and in the manner determined by the authority that has jurisdiction over the highway or roadway.

**Limit and Manage Distractions** – A driver maintains attention to the driving task and utilizing risk reduction techniques.

**Limited Use** – Determining the use and restricted use of the family vehicle for the novice driver. Usually involves a written contract to be signed by both student and parent/legal guardian.

**Limited Use Lanes** – Traffic flow lanes posted and designed to accommodate special vehicles or carpools.

**Line of Sight (LOS)** – Distance from the driver's eyes to the target at the end of the intended path of travel you can see ahead.

**Litter** – Defines vast range of materials such as grease or leftover food from restaurants, building materials abandoned at construction sites, and packaging materials from stores.

**Litter Prevention** – To keep litter from happening or existing. Deterrence of disposing, allowing, or permitting the disposal of litter or other solid waste at a place that is not an approved solid waste site, including a place on or within 300 feet of a public highway, on a right-of-way, on other public or private property, or into inland or coastal water of the state.

**Living Donors** – Are persons who donate a kidney, part of a lung or part of a liver while they are still alive.

**Loading Considerations** – Distributing the weight evenly throughout vehicle. Do Not Overload.

**Low Risk Environment** – A low risk environment is usually limited to speeds under 40 mph, having uncontrolled and controlled intersections in urban, suburban, and rural settings. Traffic flow volume in low risk environments should be at a minimal allowing time for novice driver to identify risks through changes to line of sight or path of travel.

**Low Water Crossing** – Roadways that may have been covered with water or even washed away during flooding, creating unsafe driving condition. Drivers who repeatedly drive through flooded low-water crossings often do not recognize the dangers of a small increase in the water level.

**- M -**

**Maintenance Checks** – Checks and routine maintenance performed to ensure that a vehicle operates properly.

**Mass Transportation** – Involves using vehicles or devices that move large numbers of people from place to place at the same time.

**Mastery** – Achieving a grade of 70% or above on all evaluations.

**Mechanical Service** – Safeguarding the vehicle's motorized parts by servicing and performing necessary repairs utilizing the vehicle's owners manual as a resource.

**Median** – Area of ground separating traffic moving in opposite directions.

**Medical Insurance** – Pays medical and/or funeral bills arising from motor vehicle accidents, including those in which the victim was a pedestrian or a bicyclist.

**Mental Behaviors** – Includes cognitions, thoughts, reasoning, and everything that pertains to the decision-making and evaluating characteristic of people's actions.

**Merging Area** – This is the area to move onto the expressway. Stretch of roadway at the end of an acceleration lane on an expressway where vehicles join the flow of traffic.

**Metropolitan Area** – An area that contains at least one municipality with a population of at least 100,000 and includes the adjacent municipalities and unincorporated urban districts.

**Minimize a Hazard** – Reduce the possibility of conflict by putting more space between your vehicle and the hazard.

**Minimum Speed Limit** – Speed limit to keep traffic moving safely by not allowing drivers to drive slower than a certain speed.

**Minor Attempting to Purchase** – A minor commits an offense if with specific intent to purchase an alcoholic beverage even if the sale is not actually made [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.025 (a)].

**Minor's Consumption Law** – A minor commits an offense if he/she consumes and alcoholic beverage [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.04 (a)].

**Minor in Possession** – A minor commits an offense if he possesses an alcoholic beverage [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.05 (a)].

**Minor's Purchase of Alcohol** – A minor commits an offense if the minor purchases an alcoholic beverage [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.02 (a)].

**Mirrors** – Detection devices and should be checked prior to and after any speed or position change.

**Misrepresentation of Age** – A minor commits an offense if he/she falsely states that he/she is 21 years of age or older or presents any document that indicates he/she is 21 years of age or older to a person engaged in selling or serving alcoholic beverages [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.07 (a)].

**Modeling** – The demonstration of a way of behaving to somebody, especially a child, in order for that behavior to be imitated.

**Moderate Risk Environment** – A moderate risk environment is usually limited to speeds under 40 mph, having uncontrolled and controlled intersections in urban, suburban, and rural settings. Traffic flow volume in moderate risk environments should be at a minimal allowing time for novice driver to identify risks through changes to line of sight or path of travel. Two-way, one way, and multi-lane roadways are recommended for use in moderate risk environments depending on the traffic conditions.

**Moped** – Two-wheeled vehicle that can be driven with either a motor or pedal.

**Motorcycle** – A motor vehicle, other than a tractor that is equipped with a rider's saddle, and designed to have when propelled not more than three wheels on the ground [Transportation Code, Section 541.201 (9)].

**Motor-Driven Cycle** - A motorcycle equipped with a motor that has an engine piston displacement of 250 cubic centimeters or less. The term does not include an electric bicycle.

**Motor Scooter** – (No Texas definition) A low-powered, two-wheeled vehicle that is more powerful than a moped.

**Motor Vehicle** – A vehicle that is self-propelled.

**Moving Forward** – Vehicle movement moving the vehicle to the front.

**Muffler** – Device that reduces the noise from combustion sounds in the engine.

**Multi-car Range Instruction-** That portion of the driver education laboratory instruction that enables the driver education teacher, positioned outside multiple cars and using electronic or oral communication, to teach and supervise several students simultaneously, each of who is operating a car on an off-street driving range designed specifically for such instruction.

**Multi-Lane Road** – A roadway that is divided into more than four clearly marked lanes for vehicular travel.

**Multi-Task Performances** – Performances that are necessary for the safe vehicle operation in the Highway Transportation System (HTS) including signaling, changing gears, checking gauges, checking mirrors, checking blindspot, etc.

**Multi-Task Performances Time Management** – Technique utilized to execute multi-task performances tasks. It is so critical never to look away from the path of travel for more than ½ second at a time. Then the visual and mental attention must be moved back to the path of travel.

- N -

**Night Blindness** – Not being able to see well at night.

**Night Driving** – Operating a vehicle during the hours of darkness.

**Night Time** – The period beginning one-half hour after sunset and ending one-half hour before sunrise.

**Nondecayable Waste** – Solid waste, except ashes.

**Non-Traditional Intersections** – A non-traditional place where two or more roadway users meet and cross at a point, such as a railroad crossing or turnabout.

**Novice Driver** – Satisfies one or more of the following criteria: (1) a person with limited or no exposure to operating the motor vehicle; (2) a person with vehicle operating experience, but limited experience with the motor vehicle; (3) a driver with less than one year experience in operating the motor vehicle in Texas.

**No-Zones** – Large mirror blind-zones where truck drivers cannot see other vehicles to the front, side, or rear where truck drivers cannot see other vehicles and where most collisions occur. These no zones are in front beside the truck, to the sides of the truck, and to the rear of every large truck.

**Nystagmus** – Involuntary jerking of the eyes as a person gazes to the side. Part of the field sobriety tests is called gaze nystagmus.

- O -

**Obligations of a Driver** – If a driver encounters conflict with other roadway users or the roadway and consequences occur, the driver has the obligation of driving to accept the consequences and be morally and financially responsible.

**Occupant Protection Systems** – Protection incorporating technological advances in vehicle integrity in the event of a crash and response capability, such as safety belts, airbags, padded dash, padded sun visors, crunch zones, etc. For most persons the term “occupant protection” refers to safety belts, child restraints, driver, and passenger side air bags. In the context of this lesson, the term “occupant protection” is much more inclusive, incorporating technological advances in vehicle integrity in the event of a crash and response capability. Advances in roadway and off road design and re-engineering of crash barriers to meet changes in motor vehicle weight and size have added substantially to crash survival.

**Odometer** – Device on the instrument panel indicating the total number of miles the vehicle has been driven.

**Off-Road Crash** – A collision that occurs off the main highways and city streets.

**Off-Road Recovery** – Regaining lane placement after going off-roadway.

**Off-Street Driving** – Driving that occurs off the main highways and city streets.

**One-Hand Steering** – Movement of the steering wheel with one hand is recommended only for backing maneuvers which do not require full left or right turns or when operating information, safety, or comfort devices.

**On-Street Instruction** – That portion of the driver education in-car instruction where the student is driving the vehicle on local streets and highways, in real and varied traffic situations, under the direct guidance of a driver education teacher seated in the vehicle directly beside the student.

**Open Container Law** – It is illegal for a driver or passenger to knowingly possess in the passenger area of a vehicle that is stopped or moving on a public highway an alcoholic beverage container that has been opened, had the seal broken, or contents partially removed [Penal Code, Section 49.031].

**Open Container Enhancement Law** – A driver commits this offense, if he is arrested for driving while intoxicated, convicted, and in immediate possession of alcohol. The offense is a Class B misdemeanor, with a minimum term of confinement of six days. Adds three (3) days to the minimum jail term [Penal Code, Section 49.04].

**Open Zone** – Zone or space ahead, to side, or rear where the driver can move without a restriction to the line of sight (LOS) or intended path of travel (POT).

**Operator** – The person in actual physical control of a motor vehicle.

**Orderly Visual Search Pattern** – Process of searching critical areas in a regular sequence from the intended path of travel.

**Organ Procurement Organizations (OPO)** – Organizations that coordinate activities relating to organ retrieval (procurement) in a designated area. OPO activities include evaluating potential donors, discussing donation with surviving family members, arranging for the surgical removal and transport of donated organs, and educating the public about the need for donations.

**Other Drugs** – Legal and illegal drugs other than alcohol.

**Other Roadway Users** – People who use the HTS by walking, driving, or riding (including other cars, vans, pick-up trucks, motorcycles, commercial vehicles, semi-trucks, pedestrians, animals, etc.).

**Outside Checks** – Procedures for checking for problems that might impede the vehicles movement.

**Overdriving Headlights** – Driving at a speed that makes your stopping distance longer than the distance lighted by your headlights. Low beams are limited to 45 mph and high beams are limited to 65 mph from stopping purposes.

**Over-Involvement** – Being over-represented in statistical analysis relating to alcohol. Young drivers are over-represented in alcohol-related crashes.

**Oversteer** – When the rear tire patches lose varying degrees of traction and the front tire patches have more traction causing a spinning effect (yaw) around the vehicle's center of gravity. The vehicle has a tendency to spin to the left or right even though the driver is not turning the steering wheel.

**Overtake** – Pass the vehicle ahead.

**Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications** – Medications that can be purchase without a prescription.

**Owner** – The person who holds legal title to a motor vehicle; the purchaser or lessee of a motor vehicle subject to an agreement for the conditional sale or lease of the vehicle, if the person has: (i) the right to purchase the vehicle on performing conditions stated in the agreement; and (ii) an immediate right to possess the vehicle; or a mortgagor of a motor vehicle who is entitled to possession of the vehicle.

- P -

**Parallel Parking** – Parking where the vehicle lines up parallel or going the same direction as the curb. When parallel parking, the vehicle must be at least six (6) inches but not more than 18 inches from the curb.

**Parent, Guardian, or Adult Mentor Involvement** – The parent/guardian/mentor active participation in their teenager’s driver education and traffic safety education to launch and continue the life-long learning process of legal and responsible reduced-risk driving practices in the Highway Transportation System (HTS).

**Park or Parking** – To stand an occupied or unoccupied vehicle, other than temporarily while loading or unloading merchandise or passengers. Examples of parking are angle, perpendicular, curb, and parallel parking [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.401 (6)].

**Parking Brake** – Mechanical brake that holds a vehicle in place when it is parked and to protect the transaxle, constant velocity joints, or transmission.

**Pass or Passing** – Overtake and proceed passed another vehicle moving in the same direction as the passing vehicle or to attempt the maneuver.

**Passenger-Air Bag** - An air bag that is in the right front part of the passenger compartment. It is larger than the driver bag and would restrain either center or right-front occupants. Air bags are a supplement to the use of seat belts and designed to protect adult occupants in frontal crashes.

**Passenger Car** - A motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, used to transport persons and designed to accommodate 10 or fewer passengers, including the operator.

**Passenger Vehicle** - A passenger car, light truck, sport utility vehicle, truck, or truck tractor.

**Passing on the Left** – An operator may drive on the left side of the center of the roadway in passing another vehicle if the left side is clearly visible and free of approaching traffic for a distance sufficient to permit passing without interfering with the operation of the passed vehicle or vehicle approaching from the opposition direction. The operator passing another vehicle shall return to an authorized lane of travel before coming within 200 feet of an approaching vehicle from the opposite direction or otherwise as soon as practical [Texas Transportation Code, Section 545.054].

**Passing on the Right** – An operator may pass to the right of another vehicle only if conditions permit safely passing to the right side: the vehicle being passed is making or about to make a left turn and the operator is on a highway having unobstructed pavement not occupied by parked vehicles and sufficient width for two or more lines of moving vehicles in each direction; or on an one-way street [Texas Transportation Code, Section 545.057].

**Passive Restraint Device** – Restraint device, such as an air bag or an automatic seat belt, that works without the passenger or driver initiating the device. Systems designed to protect the occupants of a vehicle without any further actions on the occupant's part. Passive restraint systems, energy-absorbing crumple zones, energy-absorbing steering columns, driver and passenger airbags, side airbags, padded dash panel, padded sun visor, safety glass, padded head restraints are all examples of passive safety features.

**Path of Travel (POT)** – Space to the target ahead that your vehicle will occupy as you travel on the roadway.

**Paved Road** – Road that is surfaced.

**Pavement Marking** – A marking on the pavement to warn or direct drivers and to regulate traffic.

**Pedestrian** – Highway user on foot.

**Peer Education** – Process in which young people help other young people make decisions and determine goals.

**Peer Pressure** – Mental and social influence of others of a similar age on decision-making skills.

**Penalties for Minors** – Fines; a court ordered period of community service; a court imposed loss of driver’s license; a court imposed satisfactory completion of a state approved alcohol awareness course; possible loss of license or delay of obtaining license [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.041].

**Perceived Risk** – What a person “thinks” is the risk. It is usually different from what is the actual risk.

**Perception Distance** – Distance your vehicle travels during perception time.

**Perception Time** – Length of time it takes the driver to make a risk-reduction decision.

**Peripheral Vision** – Area a person can see that is around the central field of vision. It is conical in shape around the other vision fields. It functions to notice changes in color and object movement.

**Perpendicular Parking** – Parking the vehicle at a right angle to a curb or parking stripe using visual reference points for entering and leaving.

**Personal Needs Assessment** – Appraisal of an individual's necessary requirements and wishes in a vehicle.

**Personal Injury Protection** – Pays medical and/or funeral bills arising from motor vehicle accidents, including those in which the victim was a pedestrian or a bicyclist.

**Personal Reference Point** – Adapting the standard reference point to the vehicle used by the driver.

**Personal Preparation** – Preparing self for the trip including route planning, number of hours to be driven in a day, getting sleep, having money to cover expenses, letting someone know your route, being prepared to pay a repair cost if vehicle breaks down, etc.

**Physical Behavior** – Includes all actions of a driver. For example, signaling before changing lanes is in the mental, emotional, and physical behavior.

**Physiological Effects** – Deal with movement and coordination of the body (i.e., legs, arms, hands, feet, balance, etc.).

**Pitch of Vehicle** – A vehicle suspension change to the front or rear that affects the size of the tire patches' contact with the roadway surface, initiated by driver actions of braking or accelerating the vehicle. An abrupt or sudden brake or acceleration may cause a traction loss due to the vehicle's inability to balance the traction quickly enough to maintain the tire patch and therefore traction.

**Point of Decision** – Driver of the passing vehicle has entered the passing lane and is in the left rear zone of the vehicle being passed. At this point, the driver of the passing vehicle has better visibility and has time to reevaluate and make a decision whether to complete the pass or abort it.

**Point-of-No Return** – Point beyond which a driver can no longer stop safely without entering the intersection.

**Pole trailer** - A vehicle without motive power: designed to be drawn by another vehicle and secured to the other vehicle by pole, reach, boom, or other security device; and ordinarily used to transport a long or irregularly shaped load, including poles, pipes, or structural members, generally capable of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

**Pollution** – The action of making impure or unclean especially by environmental contamination with man-made waste.

**Pollutants** – Something that makes impure or unclean.

**Possession of Alcohol by a Minor** – Except as provided by law, a minor commits an offense if he possess and alcoholic beverage. The exceptions for when a minor may possess an alcoholic beverage are; (1) while in the course and scope of the minor's employment if the minor is an employee of an Alcoholic Beverage Code licensee or permittee and the employment is not prohibited by the Alcoholic Beverage Code; (2) if the minor is in the visible presence of his adult parent, guardian, or spouse, or other adult to whom the minor has been committed by a court; or (3) if the minor is under the immediate supervision of a commissioned peace officer engaged in enforcing the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Code [Alcohol Beverage Code, Section 106.05].

**Post-Drive Procedures** – Procedures used to safely shut down, exit, and secure the vehicle: stop within a legal, secure parking space; set parking brake; place shift selector in (P)ark; turn off any accessories used; turn ignition switch to "off"; "lock" ignition and remove key; remove occupant restraints; check traffic prior to exiting vehicle; secure doors and windows.

**Potential Emergency** – Unforeseen combination of circumstances or the resulting state that may need action.

**Potential Risk** – Probable possibility of having a conflict that results in a crash or collision.

**Power Brake Failure** – Failure is usually the loss of power that helps you brake. Braking power stops if the engine stops.

**Power Steering** – System that uses a hydraulic pump and fluid to make steering easier.

**Power Steering Failure** – Failure of the power steering to help the driver steer. With difficulty, a driver can still steer the vehicle.

**Pre-drive Procedures** – Pre-drive procedures involves all the procedures necessary to place the vehicle in motion in the HTS including procedures used to safely enter, inside checks, start engine, move the vehicle, and secure the vehicle.

**Preparing the Vehicle – Checking** and, if necessary, servicing the vehicle's mechanical and tire functions.

**Pre-Purchase/Lease Inspection** – An examination of a vehicle before purchase or lease.

**Prescription Medicine** – Drug that can be purchased legally only when ordered by a doctor.

**Preventive Maintenance** – Routine care and attention to your vehicle.

**Principal Driver** – Person who will drive a certain vehicle most often.

**Private Road/Driveway** – Means a privately owned way or place used for vehicular travel and used only by the owner and persons who have the owner's express or implied permission.

**Procurement** – The process of retrieving organs and/or tissue from a donor.

**Professional Service** – Vehicle service performed by a qualified individual at a service department or repair shop.

**Proof** – Means twice the actual alcohol content and is expressed with a small circle above and to the right of the number.

**Protected Left Turn** – Left turn made on a left-turn light, green arrow, or delayed green light while oncoming traffic is stopped.

**Protective Gear** – Items a motorcyclist wears to protect head, eyes, and body.

**Psychological Effects** – Deals with the mental aspects of driving such as judgment, reason, inhibitions, mood, etc.

**Public Intoxication** – A person commits an offense if the person appears in a public place while intoxicated to the degree that the person may be a danger to the person or others [Penal Code, 49.02].

**Public Place** – Any place to which the public or a substantial group of the public has access and includes, but is not limited to, streets, highways, and common areas of schools, hospitals, apartment houses, office buildings, transport facilities, and shops.

**Pullout Area** – Additional right lane on narrow mountain roadways for slower-moving vehicles.

**Push-Pull Steering** – Using the hand-to-hand steering technique (see hand-to-hand).

- R -

**Race** – The use of one or more vehicles in an attempt to: out gain or outdistance another vehicle or prevent another vehicle from passing; arrive at a given destination ahead of another vehicle or vehicles; or test the physical stamina or endurance of an operator over a long-distance driving route.

**Racing on Highway** – A person may not participate in any manner in: a race; a vehicle speed competition or contest; a drag race or acceleration contest; a test of physical endurance of the operator of a vehicle; or in connection with a drag race, an exhibition of vehicle speed or acceleration or to make a vehicle speed record.

**Railroad** – A carrier that operates cars, other than streetcars, on stationary rails to transport persons or property.

**Railroad Crossbuck** – Sign posted at every railroad, highway road, or street grade crossing to show the location of the railroad tracks. It will also display the number of tracks.

**Railroad Crossing Sign** – Advance warning sign for a railroad grade crossing.

**Railroad Grade Crossing** – An intersection of a through street and a railroad crossing.

**Railroad Train** – A steam engine or electric or other motor with or without an attached car operated on rails, other than a streetcar.

**Ramp** - An interconnecting roadway of a traffic interchange, or a connecting roadway between highways at different levels or between parallel highways, that allows a vehicle to enter or exit a roadway.

**Ramp Metering** – System of lights and sensors that allows only one car at a time to enter a limited access highway.

**Reaction Distance** – Distance the vehicle travels from the point where the driver perceives the need to act and the point where the driver takes that action through braking, steering, or acceleration to change speed or position.

**Reaction Time** – The time the vehicle travels from the point where the driver perceives the need to act and the point where the driver takes the action through braking, steering, or acceleration to change speed or position.

**Rear Door Child-Safety Locks** – Rear door child-safety locks disable the interior door handles when activated, preventing the rear doors from being opened from the inside.

**Rear-Facing Infant Seat** – Type of child restraint system that is specifically meant for use by children from birth up to approximately 20 pounds used in the rear-facing mode only.

**Rear Turning Point** – The rear turning point is located where the “C” pillar joins the top of the door to the right rear or in the middle of the left rear window. It allows the driver to steer efficiently around a corner and to start the parallel park maneuver.

**Recreational Vehicle** – Large vehicle such as a van, motor home, camper, travel trailer, pickup truck, or sport utility vehicle, used mainly for pleasure and travel.

**Reckless Driving** – A person commits an offense if the person drives a vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.

**Recycling** – The act of making ready for reuse or to adapt to a new use.

**Red Traffic Light** – Stop before the stop line, entering the crosswalk or intersection. Wait for green light to proceed.

**Reduced-Risk Driving Practices** – Applying knowledge, understanding, and skills from the Texas Driver Education and Traffic Safety Program including traffic laws including right-of-way laws and occupant restraints, driver preparation, vehicle movements, driver readiness, risk reduction including a space management system, environmental factors, distractions, alcohol and other drugs, adverse conditions, vehicle requirements, consumer responsibilities, and driver responsibilities.

**Reduced-Visibility** – A driver inability to see clearly. Limitations on gathering and processing information due to reduced illumination. Sight limitations may be due to weather, light, roadway, vehicle, traffic, or driver conditions.

**Reducing Pollution** – Decreasing the disposal of or allow someone else to dispose of litter at a place that is not a legal landfill.

**Reference Point** – Part of the outside or inside of the vehicle, as viewed from the driver's seat, which relates to some part of the roadway, which allows the driver to estimate position on the roadway. The roadway positions (points of reference) of the vehicle assist the driver in determining when to start turning, vehicle limitations, or where the vehicle is actually located.

**Regulatory Sign** – Regulates the speed and movement of traffic.

**Rental Reimbursement** – Pays actual expenses up to the policy limits if owner's car is being fixed because of damage covered by owner's auto policy.

**Responsibility of a Driver** – A driver's moral, legal, and mental accountability to driving practices that utilize the knowledge, understanding, skills, and experiences. A driver has the responsibility of driving a vehicle in the Highway Transportation System without conflict with other roadway users or the roadway.

**Restraint Device** – Any part of a vehicle that holds an occupant in the seat during a collision.

**Restriction** – For good cause, the department may impose a limitation or endorsement suitable to the driver's license holder's driving ability [Texas Transportation Code, Section 521.221].

**Revocation** – The termination of a driver's license or driving privilege for an indefinite period of time. May be restored when all the requirements for the revocation have been satisfied.

**Right Lane Placement** – Placing the vehicle to the right of the traffic lane. Line of sight reference is aligning the middle of your vehicle to the curb or the edge line of roadway. Align your sight through the center of your hood to the right edge or edge line of the roadway.

**Right-of-Way** – The privilege of having immediate use of a certain part of a roadway. The right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian that is approaching from a direction, at a speed, and within a proximity that could cause a collision unless one grants precedence to the other.

**Right-Turn-on-Red** – Turning right when the red signal is on, after stopping behind the intersection guides, unless specifically prohibited to turn.

**Risk** – Chance of injury, damage, or loss. In driving, risk (potential or immediate) is the possibility of having a conflict that results in a crash or collision.

**Risk Reduction (Management)** – Reducing or managing the possibility of having a conflict (potential or immediate) that results in a non-incident, crash, or collision.

**Risk Reduction Techniques** – Applying knowledge and understanding of Texas traffic laws; utilizing driver preparation procedures; utilizing occupant protection and having passengers utilize occupant protection; utilizing vehicle operation and control techniques; utilizing attention techniques; targeting line of sight and path of travel; utilizing vehicle movements procedures; utilizing reference points; maintaining vehicle balance; utilizing driver readiness techniques; timing divided attention tasks; managing distraction; and utilizing a space management system that includes information processing.

**Risk-Taking** – Taking a chance of injury, damage, or loss. In driving, risk-taking (potential or immediate) is chancing the possibility of having a conflict that results in a crash or collision.

**River Flood** – Flooding along rivers is a natural and inevitable part of life.

**Road Handling Characteristics** – How a vehicle maneuvers on the roadway. Vehicles handle differently based on weight, center of gravity, load, wheelbase, engine size, tire size, etc.

**Road Rage** – Popular term for aggressive driving.

**Road Tractor** – A motor vehicle designed and used to draw another vehicle but not constructed to carry a load independently or a part of the weight of the other vehicle or its load.

**Roadway** – The portion of a highway, other than the berm or shoulder that is improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel. If a highway includes at least two separate roadways, the term applies to each roadway separately.

**Roadway Marking** – Markings and lane delineators (reflectors) that give warning or direction.

**Roadway Users** – People who use the HTS by walking, driving, or riding (including automobiles, vans, pick-up trucks, motorcycles, commercial vehicles, semi-trucks, pedestrians, animals, horse-drawn vehicles, bicycles, etc.).

**Roll of Vehicle** – Vehicle suspension changes to the left or right side that affect the size of the tire patches' contact with the roadway that are initiated by the driver action of steering the vehicle. Abrupt steering efforts (hand-over-hand) at higher speeds can cause traction loss due to the suspension's inability to keep the tire patches or traction in optimum traction positions.

**Route Planning** – Preparation for travel to familiar or unfamiliar areas. Knowing where you are going and planning, in advance, which roadways to take.

**Rumble Strips** – Sections of rough pavement intended to alert drivers of approaching roadway construction, tollbooth plaza, or other traffic conditions.

**Runaway Vehicle Ramp** – Place on mountain roads for vehicles to get safely out of traffic when their brakes are not effective.

**- S -**

**Safe and Reasonable Speed** – An operator may not drive a vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard for actual and potential hazards then existing shall control the speed of the vehicle as necessary to avoid colliding with another person or vehicle that is on or entering the highway in compliance with law and the duty of each person to use due care.

**Safe Distance (Following Interval)** – Safe amount of time and distance recommended to follow another vehicle in the intended path of travel to allow time to avoid conflict.

**Safety Belts** – Restraining belts to protect the driver and passengers.

**Safety Chains** – Back-up piece of equipment in case a trailer hitch fails. Used when one vehicle towing another, the drawbar, chain, rope, cable, or other connection must not be more than fifteen feet from one vehicle to another.

**Safety Zone** – The area in a roadway officially designated for exclusive pedestrian use and that is protected or so marked or indicated by adequate signs as to be plainly visible at all times while so designated.

**Scheduled Maintenance** – Vehicle service that is planned utilizing the vehicle's owners manual as a resource.

**School Bus** – A motor vehicle that was manufactured in compliance with the federal motor vehicle safety standards for school busses in effect on the date of manufacture and that is used to transport pre-primary, primary, or secondary students on the route to or from school or on a school-related activity trip other than on routes to and from school. [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.201(16)]

**School crosswalk** – A crosswalk designated on a street by a local authority to facilitate safe crossing of the street by children going to or leaving a public or private elementary or secondary school.

**School Crossing Zone** – A reduced-speed zone designated on a street by a local authority to facilitate safe crossing of the street by children going to or leaving a public or private elementary or secondary school during the time the reduced speed limit applies.

**School Zone** – Portion of a street or highway near a school that is subject to special speed limits.

**Searching** – Keep the eyes moving searching the path of travel, side to side, for line of sight restrictions, the rearview and sideview mirrors, vehicle reference to lane position, and the instrument panel, toward the target area. First step of the “SEE IT” space management system that allows a driver to look for high-risk situations and gain information in an organized pattern from the intended path of travel.

**Seating Position** – In order to establish vehicle balance and improve ability to see, drivers should sit in a comfortable, upright position squarely behind the steering wheel.

**Security Needs** – Procedures for safely approaching the vehicle.

**“SEE IT”** – Texas space management system which includes the process steps of Searching, Evaluating, Executing in Texas.

**Selective Seeing** – Searching only those clues and events that restrict your line of sight or can change your intended path of travel.

**Semitrailer** – A vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer: designed to be drawn by a motor vehicle and to transport persons or property and constructed so that part of the vehicle's weight and load rests on or is carried by another vehicle.

**Sensory Inputs** – Inputs to the brain from the senses. Vision and kinesthetic senses are the two senses used most in driving.

**Service Pedals** – Accelerator pedal, brake pedal, clutch pedal (manual transmission), and parking brake pedal.

**Shared Left-Turn Lane** – Lane on a busy street that helps drivers make safer mid-block left turns into business areas from a center lane.

**Shoulder** – Means the portion of a highway that is: adjacent to the roadway, designed or ordinarily used for parking, distinguished from the roadway by different design, construction, or marking, and not intended for normal vehicular travel.

**Shoulder Belt** – Restraining belt to protect the driver and passengers that fastens across the shoulder and chest.

**Shut-Down Procedures** – Properly shutting down the engine, exiting the vehicle including a visual check to ensure that all passengers especially children and animals are out of the vehicle, and securing the vehicle.

**Sidewalk** – The portion of a street that is: between a curb or lateral line of a roadway and the adjacent property line and intended for pedestrian use.

**Signaling** – Letting others know when you are going to stop or turn. Give signal by either signal lights or hand/arm extended out of car window.

**Simulated In-Car Instruction** – That portion of the driver education laboratory instruction, under the direct guidance of a driver education instructor, that uses a system of which includes vehicle simulator units with an instructor unit. The system includes multiple programs that present driving situations (scenarios) likely to occur in actual driving performance on the street and which require the student to evaluate risk and make decisions and responses applicable to the situation presented. A minimum of four periods of at least 55 minutes per hour of instruction in a simulator may be substituted for one hour of behind-the-wheel and one hour observation instruction.

**Single-Vehicle Crash** – A collision with only one vehicle involved.

**Skid** – A skid occurs when the tire patches lose part or all of their traction on the roadway surface due to abrupt suspension balance changes or roadway surface conditions.

**Skid Mark** – A mark on the road surface left there from a tire that is sliding due to a loss of traction from braking or abrupt steering.

**Slow-Moving Vehicle** – Vehicle unable to travel at highway speed.

**Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem** – Vehicles, which travel at 25 mph or less, must display this sign.

**Space (central)** – Space area around the vehicle that is not visible to the seated driver.

**Space Management Areas** – Designated or numbered positions around the car that identify relationships to the environment or objects.

**Space Management Process** – Critical-thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving in the Highway Transportation System (identifying, predicting, deciding, and executing).

**Space Management System** – The system a driver uses to perform the space management process. Texas has the SEE iT system: Search, Evaluate, and Execute, in Texas.

**Space Cushion** – Open area around a vehicle that consists of adequate following interval between it and the vehicles ahead and behind that allow the driver to stop, plus swerve paths to left and right.

**Speed** – The act or state of moving.

**Speed Limits** – The safe and reasonable speed declared by the Texas Transportation Commission for that part of the highway system [Texas Transportation Code, Section 545.353].

**Speed Smear** – Occurs when objects in your peripheral vision become blurred and distorted as your speed increases.

**Staggered Stop** – Stopping a vehicle when the white line disappears visually under the hood line allowing extra space for left-turning vehicles.

**Stale Green Light** – A traffic light that has been green for a long time.

**Stand or Standing** – To halt an occupied or unoccupied vehicle, other than temporarily while receiving or discharging passengers.

**Standard Sign Colors** – Red, stop or prohibition; Green, indicated movements permitted, direction, or guidance; Blue, motorist services; Yellow, general warning; Black, regulation; White, regulation; Orange, construction or maintenance warning; and Brown, public recreation and scenic guidance

**Standard Reference Point** – Point that allows for vehicle placement on roadway that is typical for most drivers.

**Standing a Vehicle** – To halt an occupied or unoccupied vehicle, other than temporarily while receiving or discharging passengers [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.401 (9)].

**“Static” Spark** – Static electricity build-up that potentially cause a flash fire or a small-sustained fire with gasoline refueling vapors.

**Straddle Left Lane Placement** – Placement that requires straddling the lane line to the left is only used sparingly to momentarily control two lanes.

**Straddle Right Lane Placement** – Placement that requires straddling the lane line to the right is only used sparingly to momentarily control two lanes.

**Steering Wheel** – Wheel that allows the driver to direct the vehicle. The wheel is always turned in the direction the driver wants the vehicle to move, whether moving forward or in reverse.

**Steering Wheel Adjustment** – A lever that allows a driver to change the angle the steering wheel by adjusting the steering column.

**Stimulant** – Drug that speeds up the central nervous system.

**Stopping a Vehicle** – Ceasing movement of a vehicle or momentarily halting a vehicle, occupied or unoccupied [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.401 (10)].

**Stop Sign** – Stop before entering the crosswalk or intersection. Stop means bring the vehicle to a complete stop.

**Stopping Position** – Stopping behind a vehicle in a position that allows the driver enough space to steer around the vehicle to avoid a stalled, turning, or backing vehicle. Allows space to the front, which will avoid carjacking problems in heavy volume of traffic.

**Street** – The width between the boundary lines of a publicly maintained way any part of which is open to the public for vehicular travel.

**Streetcar** – A car, other than a railroad train, used to transport persons or property and operated on rails located primarily within a municipality.

**Street Racing** – Illegal racing on the highways or city streets.

**Street Racing Crash** – A crash was defined as involving street racing when one or more drivers were coded as racing.

**Survival features** – The features incorporated into highway design to enhance occupant safety. A vehicle or roadway feature that allow you to continue to function.

**Suspension** – The temporary withdrawal of a driver's license or driving privilege for a definite period of time.

**Synergistic Effect** – Chemical reaction between two or more drugs, which may produce a reaction greater than either drug alone.

- T -

**Tailgate** – To follow another vehicle too closely.

**Target** – An object that appears in the in the center and the end of the visible intended path of travel.

**Target Area** – Section of roadway where the target is located and the area to the left and right of the target.

**Target Area Range** – Space from your vehicle out to target area, which encompasses the line of sight and path of travel.

**Tempered Glass** – In motor vehicles has literally eliminated the facial disfigurement associated with partial ejection through laminated plate glass formerly used in windshields.

**Texas Department of Public Safety** – State department whose duty is regulate the issuance of a Texas driver's license.

**Texas Driver Handbook** – This handbook has two main purposes: (1) to help you qualify for a Texas driver's license; and (2) to help you become a safer driver.

**Threshold Braking** – Maximum controlled braking efforts that provide for maximum deceleration without loss of tire traction.

**Things Gone Right (TGR)** – Features that are repeatedly praised by vehicle owners, identified through surveys and research.

**Things Gone Wrong (TGW)** – A ratio that measures the number of reported problems per 100 vehicles, identified through surveys and research.

**Thrust Acceleration** – To quickly push down on the accelerator pedal to increase speed to avoid a collision—used instead of braking or steering often causing the transmission or transaxle to change to a lower gear for acceleration.

**T-Intersection** – An intersection of a through street with a street that ends at the intersection.

**Tire Blowout** – Rapid deflation of air from the tire.

**Tire Failure** – Wearing out of the tires.

**Tire Service** – Safeguarding the vehicle's tires by servicing and performing necessary repairs utilizing the vehicle's owners manual as a resource.

**Tolerance** – Tolerance is defined as the need to consume more of a drug to reach a given effect or the body's ability to eliminate the drug faster.

**Total Steering Failure** – Failure where the driver has loss the ability to steer the vehicle. This is a serious emergency.

**Total Stopping Distance** – Distance your vehicle travels while you make a stop.

**Towing & Labor Insurance** – Pays towing charges when owner's car is disabled. Also pays labor charges, such as changing a tire, at the place where owner's car is disabled.

**Traction** – Friction or gripping power between the tire patches and the roadway surface. The grip between the tires and the road surface that allows a vehicle to start, stop, and/or change direction.

**Traction Control System** – Helps maintain control by preventing any of the wheels from spinning while applying a hard acceleration. The accelerator pedal may be pushed, but the vehicle does maintain steering control with rolling traction.

**Traction Loss** – Loss of the adhesion between the tires and the road surface.

**Tractor-Semitrailer** – Type of tractor-trailer that pulls one trailer; commonly called an "eighteen wheeler".

**Tractor Trailer** – Truck that has a powerful tractor that pulls a separate trailer.

**Traditional Intersection** – A place where two or more roadway users meet and cross at a point.

**Traditional Mirror Setting** – Side view mirror adjusted to view sides rather than rear view. This setting must be used if rear view mirror is blocked. Left side mirror setting: while seated in the driving position, adjust left side mirror to see behind the vehicle to the left, level to the road surface, and where you see a small portion of your vehicle. Right side mirror setting: while seated in the driving position, adjust right side mirror to see behind the vehicle and to the right, level to the road surface, and where you see a small portion of your vehicle. Mirror setting does not eliminate making a visual check to the left or right when searching for open zones or space.

**Traffic** – Means pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, and conveyances, including vehicles and streetcars, singly or together while using the highway for purposes of travel [Texas Transportation Code, Section 541.301].

**Traffic Circle** – Intersection that forms when several roadways meet at a circle.

**Traffic Control Devices** – Devices used to control the movement of traffic, such as, traffic signals, signs, and roadway markings.

**Traffic Flow** – Number and types of vehicles that occupy a roadway (may differ during times of day or with other conditions).

**Traffic Laws** – A traffic rule of conduct or action prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority.

**Traffic Signal** – Any signal used to control the movement of traffic.

**Traffic Sign Shapes** – Octagon, exclusively for Stop Signs; Horizontal rectangle, generally for guide signs; Equilateral triangle, exclusively for Yield signs; Pennant, advanced warning of No Passing Zones; Diamond, exclusively to warn existing or possible hazards on roadways or adjacent areas; Vertical rectangle, generally for regulatory signs; Pentagon, school advance and school crossing signs; and Round, railroad advance warning signs.

**Traffic Volume** – The quantity and type of motorized and non-motorized roadway users.

**Trail Braking** – A controlled braking pressure that does not change the speed, but maintains vehicle balance and control while turning.

**Transplant Centers** – Hospitals or medical centers that perform organ and/or tissue transplants.

**Transplantation** – the transfer of cells, tissues, or organs from an area of the body to another of from one organism to another.

**Trip Planning** – Planning an extended trip of several days, some of which will likely be over high-speed highways, that requires extra preparation.

**Truck** – A motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily to transport property including light trucks, semi-trailers, truck tractor, large trucks, etc.

**Truck tractor** – A motor vehicle designed and used primarily to draw another vehicle but not constructed to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the other vehicle and its load.

**Trumpet Interchange** – Allows for interchange of secondary two-way streets to a multiple lane roadway with minimal traffic mix.

**Tunnel Vision** – Being able to see in a narrow field of vision of 140° or less, with little effective peripheral vision.

**Turn** – Vehicle movement to change direction or lane position.

**Turnabout** –Turning in which the driver utilizes a series of maneuvers to reverse the vehicles direction. Vehicle maneuver for turning into or out of an alley or driveway using reference points for best positioning.

**Two-Lane Road** – A roadway that is divided into at least two clearly marked lanes for vehicular travel.

**Types of Texas Driver's Licenses** – Instruction permit, Provisional License, Classified Driver's License (Class A, Class B, Class C), Class M License, Classifications, Hardship License, and Essential Need.

**- U -**

**Urban District** – The territory adjacent to and including a highway, if the territory: is not in a municipality; and is improved with structures that are used for business, industry, or dwelling houses and located at intervals of less than 100 feet for a distance of at least one-quarter mile on either side of the highway.

**Uncontrolled Intersection** – Intersection that has no signs or signals to regulate traffic including railroad crossings that do not have flashing red lights or crossing gates.

**Understeer** – When the front tire patches lose varying degrees of traction and the rear tire patches have more traction causing a pushing effect on the vehicle due to momentum and inertia forces. The vehicle has a tendency to go straight even if the steering wheel is turned more dramatically.

**Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist** – Covers costs up to a certain amount if another vehicle whose driver is not insured strikes you.

**Unpaved Road** – A road that is un-surfaced, such as, dirt or gravel.

**Unprotected Left Turn** – Left turn made at a signal-controlled intersection without a special left-turn light.

**Unscheduled Maintenance** – Vehicle service that is unplanned utilizing the vehicle's owners manual as a resource.

**Useful Field of View** – The vision that a driver uses to see the traffic environment. The useful field of view includes the central vision and foveal vision fields.

## - V -

**Vehicle** – Every device, in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

**Vehicle Balance** – Vehicle suspension configurations that control the size of the tire patches as they contact the roadway for ideal vehicle traction and control. Changes to the suspension configuration (and therefore the tire patches affecting traction) are initiated by driver actions of steering, braking, and/or accelerating the vehicle. The vehicle suspension is in the ideal state of balance and tire traction when it is parked on a level surface.

**Vehicle Breakdown** – When the vehicle fails to operate normally.

**Vehicle Code** – Federal and state laws that regulate the Highway Transportation System (HTS).

**Vehicle Control Devices** – Devices that allow a driver to have power over a vehicle, such as gear selector, accelerator pedals, brake pedal, dead pedal, steering wheel, etc.

**Vehicle Control Techniques** – Techniques use to manage the vehicle control devices, such as hand to hand steering, hand over hand steering, one hand steering, etc.

**Vehicle Imbalance** – Loss of vehicle balance that causes traction loss.

**Vehicle Inspection** – Inspection of a vehicle at state inspection station or by an inspector to ensure the vehicle does not need adjustment, correction, or repair.

**Vehicle Malfunctions (Breakdown)** – When the vehicle fails to operate normally, such as brake failure, steering failure, accelerator failure, etc.

**Vehicle Maintenance** – Safeguarding the vehicle by servicing and performing necessary repairs on a vehicle utilizing the vehicle's owners manual as a resource. Vehicle upkeep (schedule or unscheduled.) A driver is able to use the vehicles owner's manual to locate schedule maintenance plan.

**Vehicle Maneuvers** – A procedure or method of vehicle movement including parking, turnabouts, etc.

**Vehicle Movements** – Moving forward, stopping, lateral maneuver, turning and backing. Changing a vehicles direction or lane position.

**Vehicle Operating Space** – The central area, which includes the driver and the space occupied by the vehicle, which is not visible to the driver.

**Vehicle Operation Devices** – Devices that perform the practical work of a vehicle, such as power train, suspension system, engine, transmission, steering, etc.

**Vehicle Operation Techniques** – Legal and responsible reduced-risk use of the gear selector, accelerator pedals, brake pedal, dead pedal, etc.

**Vehicle Owner's Manual** – Manual, supplied by manufacture that explains all aspects of the vehicle.

**Vehicle Performance** – How a vehicle functions on the roadway. Vehicles perform differently based on weight, center of gravity, load, wheelbase, engine size, tire size, etc.

**Vehicle Registration** – A Texas resident must register with the county tax-assessor every vehicle that that is owned.

**Vehicle Repair** – Fix a vehicle that has broken back to working order.

**Vehicle Requirements** – Items essential to the existence for using or owning a vehicle.

**Vehicle Steerability** – Refers to the ability to move the vehicle where the driver wants it to go.

**Vehicle Use and Ownership** – Operating or possessing a vehicle in the HTS. The fact or state of using a vehicle without ownership, such as borrowing, leasing, etc.

**Velocitation Effect** – The effect traveling a constant higher speed has on a driver that makes the driver feel like the reduced speed is way too slow and the driver does not slow down enough for exits or frontage roads.

**Vulnerable Roadway User** – Persons that are at greater risk than vehicle occupants and usually bear the greatest burden of injury, which include pedestrians including a runner, physically disabled person, child skater, highway construction and maintenance worker, utility worker, or other worker with legitimate business in or near the roadway or right of way, or stranded motorist or passenger, person on horseback, person operating equipment other than a motor vehicle including, bicycle, motorcycle, horse-driven conveyance, farm equipment, slow moving vehicles, etc.

**Verification of Enrollment and Attendance Form** – Verification of Enrollment and Attendance - school enrollment and attendance as a condition of licensing a student to operate a motor vehicle applies to persons under 18 years of age unless a high school diploma or its equivalent has been obtained.

**Visibility** – Capable of seeing and being seen.

**Vision** – the special sense by which the qualities of an object (as color, luminosity, shape and size) constituting its appearance are perceived and which is mediated by the eye.

**Visual Acuity** – Ability to see things clearly both near and far away.

**Visual Attention** – Directed attention, maintaining an open line of sight, searching skills, and targeting a line to maintain a safe path of travel.

**Visual Functions** – Focus vision, central vision, and peripheral vision.

**Visual Search** – Process can be described as an organized pattern of focused eye movements scanning the path of travel.

**Visual Targeting** – Sets up good sightlines for referencing and good peripheral fields for seeing changes and identifying alternate paths of travel.

**- W -**

**Warning Sign** – Sign that alerts you to possible hazards and road conditions.

**Warning Symbol or Light** – An instrument panel lighted symbol that warns of a system malfunction and usually stays on while the system is malfunctioning.

**Wear Bars** – Bar across the tread of a tire. When the wear bar appears across the tires, it is a sign that the tire needs replacing.

**Weather** – The state of the atmosphere with respect to heat or cold, wetness or dryness, calm or storm, clearness or cloudiness.

**Weather Conditions** – Atmospheric conditions including that fog, heavy rain, snow, wind, etc.

**Weave Lane** – Both an entrance and an exit lane for an expressway.

**Weekly Self-Check** – Vehicle checks made by the driver on a weekly basis utilizing the vehicle's owners manual as a resource.

**Wolf Pack** – Group of vehicles traveling together in a bunch on an expressway.

**- Y -**

**Yaw** – The spinning effect of a vehicle around its center of gravity. When a vehicle loses traction to the rear, the vehicle tends to move to the left or right around its center of gravity.

**Yellow Light** – Slow down to stop, as red light is next. Wait for green light to proceed.

**Yield** – To allow another vehicle or roadway user right of passage to proceed first.

**Yield Sign** – The road you are on joins with another road ahead. You should slow down or stop, if necessary, so that you can yield the right-of-way to vehicles on the other road.

**- Z -**

**Zero-Tolerance** – Legally and responsibly adopting non-use of alcohol and other drugs driving and lifestyle practices related to the use of alcohol and other drugs.

**Zero-Tolerance Law** – Law stating it is illegal for persons under the age of 21 to drive with any measurable amount of alcohol in the blood.

**Zero-Tolerance Lifestyle** – A choice to have “no” alcohol or other drugs in a lifestyle.

**Zone** – One of six areas of space around a vehicle that is at least the width of a lane and extends as far as the driver can see to the front, side, or rear.