



A Message from the Solicitor:

Safer roads and highways through driving education is the primary objective of the Ninth Circuit Traffic Education Program (TEP). At some point in their lives, most drivers receive a minor traffic citation. TEP gives good drivers with no points against their license a chance to give back to the community, become a better driver and avoid increased insurance premiums by keeping their driving record clean. I encourage you to take advantage of this one-time opportunity to clear your driving record and hope you will help make Charleston and Berkeley County's roads safer for us all.

TRAFFIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

A Division of the Solicitor's
Intervention Programs

State of South Carolina

Ninth Judicial Circuit



Scarlett A. Wilson, Solicitor

Kat Connerty, Ninth Circuit PTI Director
Charleston and Berkeley Counties Traffic

Education Program Location:

Pre-Trial Intervention Office

101 Meeting Street, 2nd Floor

Charleston, SC 29401

Phone: (843) 958-2012



What is the Traffic Education Program?

The Traffic Education Program was established in South Carolina to educate drivers while giving them the opportunity to have *eligible* traffic tickets dismissed and keep their driving records clean.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must have;

- 4 points or less on their current driving record
- Ticket must be a 4 point or less violation

Requirements

- Complete four hours community service with an approved non-profit organization.
- Attend a TEP approved four hour defensive driving education class.

*TEP participants cannot have any new traffic citations for 6 months from the TEP ticket arrest date.

Length of Program

The participant must complete the community service and defensive driving course within 4 months of enrollment. Cases will not be eligible for successful completion of TEP until a clean driving record during the 6 month period has been verified.

Procedures for Local Participants

1. The Summary Court or Municipal Court Judge will grant the option of TEP. They will also give the deadline date for application to the Traffic Education Program..

2. Application Requirements:

Applications are accepted on **Fridays from 9:00 to 3:00** in the Charleston office **only**. (This is for both counties)

- Two money orders made payable to the TEP for \$140.00 each (total amount of \$280.00)
- Driver's license
- Social Security Card

3. A DMV driving record will be run by TEP at the time of application to verify the number of current points against the applicant's driver's license.
4. If eligible, each participant will be given dates and deadlines at the TEP application appointment for all requirement completion.

Out of AREA/SC Participants

The TEP office will mail an enrollment application to be completed and returned to the TEP office. If eligible, the applicant will be advised how to contact the TEP office in their local area for a date and time of the nearest defensive driving education class. Completion of community service hours in the area will also be required.

Out of State Participants

The TEP office will mail an application to be completed and returned to the TEP office. It is the participant's responsibility to locate and attend a defensive driving education class and community service in their local area. Successful completion of both will need to be documented and verified by 9th Circuit TEP staff.

Completion

Upon successful completion of the assigned requirements in TEP, the court will be notified to dismiss the ticket referred. Should the participant fail to complete the program, the ticket will be referred back to the original court for prosecution. The court will notify the *unsuccessful/rejected* applicant of their new trial date by mail.