



# Eligibility and Requirements for Defensive Driving

Defendants have a right to be granted a driving safety course or a motorcycle operator course if the defendant:

- has not have completed an approved driving safety course or motorcycle operator training course, as appropriate, within the 12 months preceding the date of the offense;
- enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere on or before the answer date on the citation a request to take the course;
- presents a valid Texas driver's license or permit;
- provides evidence of financial responsibility;
- pay \$144 or \$169 (in offense occurred in a school zone); and
- offense involves the operation of a motor vehicle as defined by Sec. 472.022, T.C.; Subtitle C, Title 7, T.C.; and Sec. 729.001(a)(3), T.C.

## Exceptions

Exceptions to the application of Article 45.0511, C.C.P., include the following:

- persons with a commercial driver's license (if they held a CDL at the time of the offense or if they hold a CDL at the time of the request for DSC) even when the person is driving his or her own personal vehicle;
- an offense committed in a construction or maintenance zone when workers are present;
- persons who are alleged to have been speeding 25 mph or more over the speed limit;
- persons who are alleged to have been speeding more than 95 mph;
- persons charged with passing a school bus loading or unloading children;
- persons charged with leaving the scene of an accident after causing damage to a vehicle that is driven or attended; and
- persons charged with leaving the scene of an accident who fail to give information and/or render aid.