

NEWS from the Public Relations Office

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Teen Driver's Education Class to be Offered During School Holiday Break

East Central Tech will offer a Teen Driver's Education course during the school holiday break. This course will allow teen drivers to meet the classroom and individual driving instruction requirements set forth in Joshua's Law. The classes will be December 29th and 30th and January 5th and 6th from 8:30a.m. until 5:00p.m. The classes will be held at East Central Tech's Coffee Campus located at 706 West Baker Highway.

New teen drivers have to meet additional training requirements before they get behind the wheel now that the Georgia law has taken effect. Senate Bill 226, also known as Joshua's Law, was passed during the 2005 session of the Georgia General Assembly. Beginning January 1, 2007, all 16-year olds applying for a Georgia driver's license must complete an approved driver education course. Any Georgia teen who has not completed an approved driver education course must wait until age 17 to be eligible for a drivers license. Additionally, teen drivers must complete a total of 40 hours of supervised driving, 6 hours of which must be at night, with a parent or guardian's sworn statement that these driving requirements have been met.

The program consists of thirty hours of classroom training and six hours of training behind the wheel. The program is designed to meet the training requirements of Joshua's Law as well as provide 6 of the 40 hours of supervised driving that teens must have before getting their drivers license.

For more information regarding Joshua's Law and the training options available, please visit the Department of Driver Services website at <http://www.dds.ga.gov/teens/index.aspx>.

The class is \$275 per teen. Parents should be mindful of the \$150 state tax credit that is available and the significant impact completing the course can make on reducing insurance coverage costs. To register for the information session or for the first classes, contact Gail Giddens at 229-468-2074 or ggiddens@eastcentraltech.edu.

LOCATION: East Central Technical College-Coffee Campus, 706 West Baker Highway, Douglas