

# Ford Fund and Governors Highway Safety Association Grants to Combat Teen Speeding, Announce Return of Hands-On Training

*Century Park Law Group supports these initiatives which helps to to improve teen driving skills and combat teen speeding using advertisements and other media.*

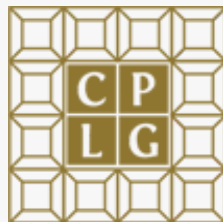
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, July 28, 2021

/EINPresswire.com/ -- Ford Motor Company Fund and the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) are awarding grants totaling \$135,000 to State Highway Safety Offices in Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, New York, Tennessee and Utah; Grants will be used to create and implement programs to help combat teen speeding in each state. Century Park Law Group supports GHSA and Ford Motor Company Fund programs and initiatives which helps to to improve teen driving skills, target and combat teen speeding using radio advertisements, press releases, and other media.

Ford Fund and GHSA resume their award-winning teen driver safety program – Ford Driving Skills for Life – with an eight-city tour featuring free, hands-on training clinics for newly licensed drivers; Tour kicks off Aug. 7-8 in Anaheim, California, with additional stops planned in Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, Nashville, Phoenix, Sacramento and San Diego through the remainder of this year.



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Despite fewer vehicles on the road during the COVID-19 pandemic, traffic crash fatalities are estimated to have reached a 13-year high in 2020.

Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford, and the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) are extending their 18-year commitment to improving teen driving skills by awarding grants totaling \$135,000 to six State Highway Safety Offices (SHSO) and announcing the return of Ford Driving Skills for Life hands-on driver training clinics.

Vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death for teen drivers and data from GHSA and Ford Fund's Teens & Speeding: Breaking the Deadly Cycle report released earlier this year found that more than 2,000 teen vehicle occupant deaths occur each year. When looking at data from fatal motor vehicle crashes between 2015 and 2019, 43% of teen driver and passenger fatalities involved speeding. By comparison, 30% of fatalities involving drivers and passengers ages 20+ were speeding-related.

Additionally, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Fatality Analysis Reporting System, traffic deaths are estimated to have reached a 13-year high in 2020, despite a decline in driving during the COVID-19 pandemic. A NHTSA report estimates that 38,680 people were killed on U.S. roadways in 2020 – the highest number since 2007 and an increase of 7.2% from 2019.

SHSOs in Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, New York, Tennessee and Utah are receiving grants ranging from \$18,000 to \$25,000 to create and implement programs to help combat teen speeding.

"Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for U.S. teens, and speeding is often a significant factor," said Jonathan Adkins, GHSA Executor Director. "We must remain steadfast in our commitment to combat traffic fatalities and equip teens with the skills they need to be safe drivers."

Ford Fund and GHSA also are resuming their award-winning teen driver safety program – Ford Driving Skills for Life – following a 15-month pause in hands-on training due to COVID-19.

An eight-city tour of free, safe-driving clinics kicks off Aug. 7-8, 2021, in Anaheim, California, with additional stops planned in Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, Nashville, Phoenix, Sacramento and San Diego through the remainder of this year. Newly licensed drivers or teens who hold a valid learner's permit can participate. One parent or guardian is encouraged to participate with their teen(s), given the significant role they play in shaping their child's driving habits. Parents can register their teen(s) or sign up to be among the first to get notified of this free training opportunity in their area at [drivingskillsforlife.com](https://drivingskillsforlife.com).

Now in its 18th year, Ford Driving Skills for Life pairs newly licensed drivers with professional driving instructors for next-level instruction. The program addresses issues and critical factors

that influence crashes, including: vehicle handling; hazard recognition; speed and space management; distracted and impaired driving. The hands-on training clinics focus on necessary skills for safe driving beyond what is learned in traditional driver education courses.

“Despite the pandemic and pause in our hands-on training for more than a year, the Driving Skills for Life team continued working to improve driving safety by offering virtual instructional activities and launching a new ‘Daily Drive’ podcast,” said Jim Graham, manager, Ford Motor Company Fund. “However, nothing can replace in-person, behind-the-wheel training, and we are looking forward to safely resuming our hands-on training clinics.”

Since 2003, Ford Fund has invested more than \$60 million in its Ford Driving Skills for Life program and provided free, advanced driver education to more than 1.25 million newly licensed teen drivers in all 50 U.S. states and 46 countries worldwide.

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About GHSA

The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) is a nonprofit association representing the highway safety offices of states, territories, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. GHSA provides leadership and representation for the states and territories to improve traffic safety, influence national policy, enhance program management and promote best practices. Its members are appointed by their Governors to administer federal and state highway safety funds and implement state highway safety plans.

About Ford Motor Company Fund

As the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company, Ford Fund’s mission is to strengthen communities and help make people’s lives better. Working with dealers and nonprofit partners in more than 50 countries. Since 1949, Ford Fund has invested more than \$2.1 billion in programs that support education, promote safe driving.

About Century Park Law Group

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