

Utah Driver Education News

February 2023

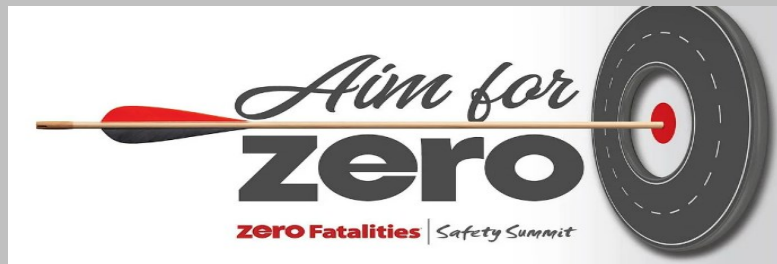


That's a fail, huh?

UDTSEA DRIVER EDUCATION CONFERENCE APRIL 24, 2023

The Driver Education Conference is scheduled for Monday April 24th at the Davis Conference Center. This is the first day of the Utah Highway Safety Summit. The 2023 conference will be in person only. You are also welcome to attend the other summit days for professional development credit.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Need Continuing Education Credits?

As an ADTSEA member, you can register for previously recorded presentations and workshops, view the recording, successfully answer questions related to the presentation, and receive a certificate for continuing education/professional development. For more information log into your [ADTSEA member account](#). Topics include: motorcyclist awareness, learning activities, virtual learning, tire safety, training drivers with disabilities, diagnosing Gen Z, cultural equity, advanced driver-assistance systems, behind-the-wheel and classroom teaching and learning theories, and more! See other training opportunities and other conferences by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Join us in New York City for #GHSA2023!

The [Governors Highway Safety Association's 2023 Annual Meeting](#) will be held in the heart of New York City, August 12-16. With traffic fatalities and dangerous driving at unprecedented levels, it is critical to bring together roadway safety, public health, community, law enforcement and business leaders from across the nation to address the ongoing traffic safety crisis. This year's theme, "Connecting Communities: Putting Vision Zero into Action," affirms the importance of involving communities of all sizes in implementing proven and innovative solutions for preventing crashes.

General sessions will cover critical roadway safety topics that will inspire, inform and excite. Senior government officials involved in advancing the *National Roadway Safety Strategy* that calls for a zero fatalities goal are invited to speak at the Monday Opening General Session. Additional general sessions will explore equity and engagement in traffic safety, progress toward implementing the Safe System approach and ensuring non-motorized road users have a right to the road.

Workshops will dive deep into a wide array of traffic safety topics, including speeding, impaired driving, distracted driving, bike and pedestrian safety, equity in traffic enforcement, how to reach and support underserved communities, highway safety criminal justice, auto safety technology, traffic safety culture, teen driver safety and the future of the Drug Recognition Expert program.

Be sure to register before July 3 to take advantage of the special State and Associate Member early bird rate of \$740. Not a GHSA Associate Member? Now is a great time to [join to take advantage of the discounted rates](#)

Courageous Persuaders Scholarship for the 2022-2023 school year.

Courageous Persuaders is a unique and influential video scholarship competition that was created to make a difference in tragic statistics related to the dangers of underage drinking and texting while driving. Students are encouraged to use their creative talents to create television commercials that stress these messages, turning students into teachers, positive role models, and community leaders for middle school students, who are the viewers and judges of the winning videos.

Objectives of the Courageous Persuaders Program: Raise awareness about the dangers of underage drinking and the dangers of texting while driving among high school and middle school students. Educating youth about the dangers of underage drinking and the dangers of texting while driving, inviting high school students to create a 30-second video, warning middle school students about these dangers. Each year, over \$28,000 in scholarships and awards are presented to participating students.

Check out past submissions at: www.CourageousPersuaders.com

Contact regarding submissions and scholarships is [Sophia Lorenzetti](mailto:Sophia.Lorenzetti@utah.gov) or 248-283-5129.

U.S. Traffic Deaths Remain Unacceptably High

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) [released](#) a preliminary [estimate](#) today finding that 31,785 people died in traffic crashes in the first nine months of 2022, 65 fewer deaths than the same period the year before.

A reduction in roadway fatalities is welcome, but the 0.2% decline announced by NHTSA follows an unprecedented two-year surge in roadway deaths and dangerous driving. Coupled with that is a continued rise in bicyclist and pedestrian deaths, underscoring the urgent need to ensure that road users not in vehicles enjoy the same protections as drivers and their passengers.

Today's news is a small step forward for safer roads. Crash fatalities rose 7.2% in 2020 despite a historic drop in driving and jumped another 10.5% in 2021. This giant backward slide is due in part to a spike in unsafe motorist behaviors that included speeding, impaired and distracted driving, and lack of seat belt use.

We cannot afford to inch our way to zero traffic deaths. We must act now – and quickly – to prevent crashes and save lives. Adoption and implementation of the Safe System approach outlined in the U.S. Department of Transportation's *National Roadway Safety Strategy* offers a proven roadmap for making meaningful gains in reducing traffic crashes, injuries and deaths. The approach calls for combining all effective countermeasures – equitable traffic enforcement, infrastructure that slows down drivers and protects non-motorized road users, community engagement campaigns developed with local input, vehicle technology that protects people both inside and outside the vehicle, and investments in post-crash care – to create a multi-layered traffic safety net that keeps everyone safe.

Driver Education Teacher of the Year Award

Take a moment to submit your nominations for this award, we would like to recognize how hard you work to make our roadways safer and celebrate your success.

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION](#)

UDTSEA BOARD– Next Meeting is January 17, 2023

The board is designed to represent you, and be a direct resource for current up to date information. If you have questions or would like assistance with your program, reach out to the board member in your area or attend a board meeting.

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