

## Driving Evaluation Resources

Sometimes students and/or parents are uncertain about whether or not they are safe to drive. To help students feel more confident in making decisions about whether driving is right for them, a driving evaluation may be helpful. Driving evaluations help to determine whether processing speed, reaction time, etc. impact the safety of the driver and others.

These evaluations are **not** required, nor are they part of the typical Driver's Ed and permit testing that occurs for all youth. These are different services entirely - not part of what driving schools and RMVs offer.

These driving evaluations are an additional safety measure that are offered by rehab agencies and others and cost extra outside of the driver's ed and permit testing experience. They are for people with physical and/or cognitive challenges due to developmental disabilities, stroke, brain injuries, aging or other to help people have more information about whether they are safe to drive. This is an optional 'extra' if people want that comfort of having additional information to support their decision-making about whether to pursue or continue driving.

The list below is not comprehensive, nor is it intended as recommendations for these or other vendors. This list was compiled simply to support you in making informed decisions regarding driving safety for your son/daughter:

1. Central Mass Safety Council, Milford: 508-835-2333 x127 Don Sampson cell phone for driving eval: 603-545-1567. [CentralMASafety.org](http://CentralMASafety.org).
2. Spaulding Rehab, Boston. Assesses vision, spatial awareness, ability to shift attention, problem solving, sequencing, and awareness of others on the road. They also will assess your own strengths and weaknesses, ability to read traffic signs, ability to identify and safely respond to hazards, gas/brake/steering reaction time, and other physical and cognitive abilities. This evaluation may also examine the need for adaptive equipment to make driving easier. Call: 617-952-6200. The cost for the pre-evaluation is \$230 and the on-road assessment costs an additional \$375.
3. Fairlawn Rehabilitation in Worcester: 508-791-6351. Through their outpatient department, they assess vision, motor skills and cognition as it relates to driving. An Occupational Therapist does an in-clinic assessment of reaction time, attention, switching attention, and problem solving through a computer program called, Drive Able. The cost for this 2-hour assessment is \$240. The individual will be alone with the OT during assessment time.