

Rehabilitation Services

Driver Rehabilitation Program



Immanuel Rehabilitation Institute

6901 North 72nd Street
Omaha NE, 68122
(402)572-3055

Driver Rehabilitation Program

Our Goal

The Driver Rehabilitation Program was created to help individuals develop or relearn skills necessary to increase quality of life through independent driving. Whether it is a new driver with special needs, a seasoned driver after a change in medical status, or an older adult with age-related changes or concerns, our professionals evaluate and train drivers for safety on the road. Candidates must be at least 15 years of age and meet requirements necessary to obtain a state driver's license or learner's permit.

Our Team

Our Driver Rehabilitation Program team is led by two Occupational Therapists with extensive backgrounds in working with individuals of varying physical and cognitive abilities. They complete both evaluations and training sessions. Additionally, Nebraska Certified Driver Education Instructors provide behind the wheel training as well. Our team works closely with the each person, families, support system, physicians and other community resources to ensure the most appropriate services are provided to the individual.

Driver Evaluation

A thorough driving evaluation is completed to examine specific abilities required to operate a vehicle safely. Our program consists of both in-clinic and behind-the-wheel evaluations. Our in-clinic evaluation includes assessing; medical history, visual perceptual skills, basic driving rules, memory, cognition, ability to sustain attention and multi-task information, range of motion, strength, transfer ability and adaptive equipment needs. During the behind-the-wheel exam we continue to assess skills evaluated in the clinic as well as ability to comply with basic driving rules of the road, reaction time and overall safe driving practices.

Adaptive Equipment

Based on the initial driver evaluation, recommendations are made for vehicle selection and adaptive equipment that may be needed. We work closely with specialized equipment providers to assure needed vehicle modifications are made.

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Adaptive Equipment (cont'd)

Driving evaluations and training sessions are completed in a car or minivan. Our van is accessible and can be operated from a standard driver's seat or from wheelchair level by using hand controls. Available adaptive equipment includes push/right angle hand control system, push/pull hand control system, spinner knob for one handed driving, right side mounted blinker, and left side mounted gas pedal. A right side mounted push/pull hand control system is also available. Reduced effort steering is available on the minivan as well as ability to change the diameter of the steering wheel and extensions to bring it closer to your body. Referrals will be made if more complex adaptive equipment is required.

Payment

Driver Rehabilitation services are cash based fee-for-service. Payment is expected at the time of service and payment can be made in the form of cash or credit card. Fees are:

- \$220 for the clinical portion of the evaluation
- \$130 for the on-the-road evaluation.
- Additional training is available at \$80 per hour; if recommended.
- Outside funding such as Vocational Rehabilitation and Workers Compensation will be accepted with prior authorization.

The Immanuel Rehabilitation Institute is at the far east side of the main hospital building (entrance E). Parking is available directly in front of the entrance. A welcome desk is located inside the entrance for assistance.

Referral Process

A physician referral is required to participate in the Driver Rehabilitation Program. All referrals must include a medical diagnosis and demographic sheet from the physician.

This information can be **Faxed: (402)572-2829**. A team member will call the patient or identified contact person.

Thank you!

**We are dedicated to providing excellent service regarding this important issue.
And, we look forward to helping you make the best decisions regarding
independent driving.**