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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Schools across Michigan participating in teen safe driving program

Students at 57 Michigan high schools will benefit from efforts to make teenagers better drivers by participating in the *Strive for a Safer Drive* (S4SD) program. S4SD is a public-private partnership between Ford Driving Skills for Life and the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning. The peer-led traffic safety campaign seeks to reduce traffic crashes, which are the leading cause of death for teens nationwide.

In Michigan, teens and young adults age 15-20 years old, accounted for 7.6 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2018, with 55.4 percent of those deaths being the teen driver. In addition, 9,637 teenagers and young adults were injured in motor vehicle crashes in the same year, representing 12.7 percent of all people injured in a crash.

The S4SD high schools for the 2019-2020 school year are:

Allegan County:	Otsego
Barry County:	Lakewood
Bay County:	Bay City Western
Benzie County:	Benzie Central
Berrien County:	Benton Harbor
Branch County:	Coldwater
Calhoun County:	Harper Creek
Clare-Gladwin Counties:	Clare-Gladwin Career and Technical Education Center
Delta County:	Escanaba
Eaton County:	Grand Ledge and Potterville
Genesee County:	Grand Blanc
Grand Traverse County:	Traverse City West Senior High School
Macomb County:	Chippewa Valley, Dakota, Dakota Ninth Grade Center, DiAnne M. Pellerin Center, Lake Shore, New Haven, and Paul K. Cousino
Mason County:	West Shore ESD Career and Technical Education Center
Midland County:	Meridian Early College High School
Monroe County:	Bedford Senior High School, Dundee, Monroe, and St. Mary Catholic Central
Newaygo County:	Newaygo
Oakland County:	Ernest W. Seaholm, Holly, Lake Orion, Lakeland, Lamphere, Milford, Rochester Adams, Troy Athens, and University High School-Ferndale
Ontonagon County:	Ontonagon
Presque Isle County:	Posen
Saginaw County:	Freeland, Midland, and Swan Valley





Sanilac County:	Croswell-Lexington
St. Clair County:	Anchor Bay, Memphis Senior High School, and Port Huron Northern
Tuscola County:	Vassar
Washtenaw County:	Dexter, Skyline, and Ypsilanti Community High School
Wayne County:	Ecorse, Fordson, John J. Pershing, John Glenn, Oscar A. Carlson, Plymouth, Riverview Community, and Woodhaven

As part of the S4SD program, each school receives \$1,000 for students to create a teen-led traffic safety campaign to educate their fellow classmates and the community about various topics including distracted driving, seat belt use, speeding, underage drinking/impaired driving, and winter driving. Schools will submit a video or PowerPoint outlining their campaign. Those schools with the top five winning campaigns will receive a cash prize ranging from \$500-\$1,500.

Following their activities, all schools who participated in the S4SD program will have the opportunity to send students to a free hands-on driving clinic with professional driving instructors sponsored by Ford Driving Skills for Life in the spring.

For more information about S4SD, please visit [Michigan.gov/s4sd](http://Michigan.gov/s4sd).

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