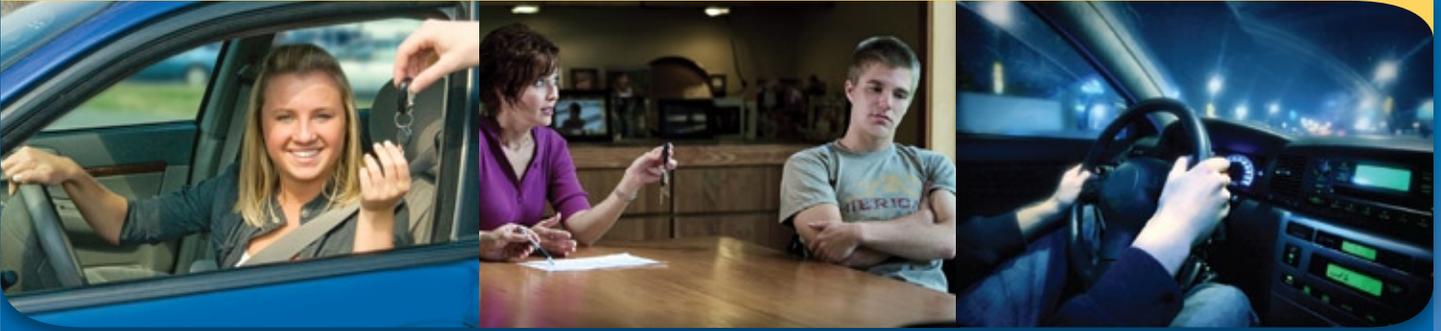


# Share the Keys



## Parent/Teen Safe Driving Orientation

***Share the Keys***, a parent/teen safe driving orientation developed by Kean University in partnership with the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, is a research based, data-driven program designed to reduce teen driver crash risks by increasing parental involvement.

***Share the Keys*** encourages parental involvement and works to support communication between parents and teens during this critical time. Parental involvement has a significant impact on teen driver safety. *Driving through the Eyes of Teens, A Closer Look*, a research report from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Research Institute, examined the impact parenting styles had on teen driver safety and found that teens whose parents set rules and paid attention to their teen driver's activities in a helpful, supportive way were half as likely to be involved in a crash.

***Share the Keys*** ensures that all parties fully understand the risks and responsibilities associated with driving and are equipped with the tools needed to build safe driving skills for life. Specifically, the objectives of the ***Share the Keys*** orientation are:

### ***Understanding the Graduated Driver License (GDL)***

The GDL is one of the most complex traffic laws and can be very confusing.

### ***Being a Good Role Model***

Research by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Center for Injury Research and Prevention (CHOP), Travelers Insurance and many others have found that teens mimic their parent's driving behaviors.

### ***Effectively Enforcing the GDL at Home***

The two elements of the GDL that have the most lifesaving potential are the curfew and passenger restrictions. Forty percent of all teen fatal crashes occur after 9:00 pm and teens with just one passenger have nearly twice the risk of being involved in a fatal crash.

### ***Increasing Practice Driving Hours***

During the first 12-24 months of driving, teens are at the greatest risk for being involved in a crash. This risk gradually decreases with driving experience.

### ***Controlling the Keys***

CHOP's research also revealed that teens who requested permission to use the car were fifty percent less likely to be involved in crashes when compared to teens that had primary access. Drivers whose parents controlled the keys were also less likely to violate the provisions of the GDL.

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## Orientation program format and participation:

*Share the Keys* is presented by facilitators in community based settings (i.e., schools, libraries) and is approximately sixty to ninety minutes in length. *Share the Keys* can be offered either as a voluntary or mandated program linked to parking permit requirements, classroom driver education programs and back-to-school nights. *Share the Keys* is designed ideally for parents and their teens during the pre-permit or permit stage of licensure. However, parents and young drivers already holding a probationary license will also benefit. The program includes a resource guide full of user friendly practical information and tools that support safe driving practices.

## Become a Facilitator

*Share the Keys* facilitator training is an engaging and interactive professional development workshop that provides each participant with the tools and resources needed to effectively deliver and administer a successful *Share the Keys* orientation. Training workshops are conducted throughout the state and include a comprehensive review of the research and theories used to build the evidence-based content and delivery style of the program. All participants who successfully complete the training will become certified *Share the Keys* facilitators and receive Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

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