

WYOMING COUNTY TRAFFIC DIVERSION PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. How do I find additional information about the program?

-For any questions not answered here please review the program instructions on the District Attorney's web page by going to the County website at www.wyomingcountyny.gov or email our office at trafficdiversion@wyomingcountyny.gov

2. What do I do if I lost my application?

-Additional copies of the application can be found from the Wyoming County website at www.wyomingcountyny.gov under the District Attorney tab on the website

3. How will I know if I am accepted into the program?

-If you are accepted into the Traffic Diversion Program, you will be notified by mail. .

4. Do I qualify for the program if I have my permit?

-Yes. We accept applicants with permits and junior licenses, and as long as they have an automobile insurance policy in effect.

5. Does the \$200 application fee for the V&T program cover the cost of the required Defensive Driving Course?

-No. **The V&T application fee does not include the cost of the Defensive Driving Course. The applicant must pay to attend a course either in-person or on-line.** You can take ANY defensive driving course of your choice. You are responsible to make sure a copy of the certificate of completion is sent to the District Attorney's Office.

6. Does the \$350 or \$450 application fee for the AUO/Uninsured program cover the cost of the required Defensive Driving Course?

-No. **The AUO/Uninsured application fee does not include the cost of the Defensive Driving Course. The applicant must pay to attend a course either in-person or on-line.** You are responsible to make sure a copy of the certificate of completion is sent to the District Attorney's Office.

7. How do I find a qualified Defensive Driving Courses?

-**THE APPLICANT CAN TAKE ANY DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE OF THEIR CHOICE.** A list of courses approved by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles can be found at <https://dmv.ny.gov/pirp/classroom> and <https://dmv.ny.gov/pirp/online>.

8. Are online Defensive Driving Courses acceptable?

-Yes. Online courses are perfectly acceptable.

9. What do I do if I don't have a copy of my ticket?

-If you do not have a copy of your ticket, it is your responsibility to contact the court and ask for one. Our office cannot process your application until we receive a copy of all the original charges.

10. What happens if I get another traffic ticket while I'm participating in the Traffic Diversion Program?

-If you get another traffic ticket while participating in the Traffic Diversion Program, you will still be allowed to complete the program because to be eligible for the program you couldn't have been convicted of another moving violation within the past 12 months. However, you would not be able to participate in the program again for your more recent ticket because we do not approve applicants who have participated in the program within the last 12 months.

11. Will I have to attend future court dates regarding this traffic ticket, and how do I know if I need to attend?

-As soon as we receive your completed application and the applicable application fee, we will request an adjournment of your case to give you time to complete a Defensive Driving Course. We will also send you a letter stating the date in which you need to complete the course by. **If you fail to complete the course by that date, you will be deemed unsuccessful in the program and you will be notified by the court of a date to appear in court. You will only have to attend future court dates regarding this ticket if you do not complete a course in the time allotted or if notified by the court or the District Attorney's Office to do so.**

12. What is the advantage of choosing to complete this program, rather than handling it in court?

-As a defendant you have the right to plead not guilty and proceed to trial, plead guilty and be sentenced accordingly, conference the case with the prosecutor in court to see if there is a plea offer or apply and attend the traffic diversion program, if eligible.

If you take a plea in court, in most cases, you will be required to pay a fine together with a mandatory state surcharge of \$93. The amount of the fine and surcharge varies by court, but the total of those amounts is usually between \$100 and \$250 for a vehicle and traffic infraction case and between \$293 and \$593 for AUO/Uninsured cases. Most traffic infractions carry points on your license and may appear on your driving record for a significant period of time.

If you choose to participate in the Traffic Diversion Program, we will withdraw/dismiss your ticket completely upon your successful completion of a defensive driving course.

You will not acquire any points on your license nor will a conviction appear on your driving record. Additionally, because a requirement of our program is a defensive driving course, you will learn the skills necessary to drive safely, you may be eligible for a reduction in your insurance costs, and/or a reduction of your points currently on your license.

13. Where do I send all correspondence, the application and any other documents?

Wyoming County District Attorney's Office
c/o Traffic Diversion Program
147 North Main Street
Warsaw, New York 14569

14. If I live out of state am I still eligible to participate in the traffic diversion program?

-Yes, as long as you meet all of the program requirements.