

321J.22 Drinking drivers course.

1. As used in [this section](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

a. “*Approved provider*” means a provider of a course for drinking drivers offered outside this state which has been approved by the department of education.

b. “*Course for drinking drivers*” means an approved course designed to inform the offender about drinking and driving and encourage the offender to assess the offender’s own drinking and driving behavior in order to select practical alternatives.

c. “*Satisfactory completion of a course*” means receiving at the completion of a course a grade from the course instructor of “C” or “2.0” or better.

2. a. The course provided according to [this section](#) shall be offered on a regular basis at each community college as defined in [section 260C.2](#), or by substance use disorder treatment programs licensed under [chapter 125](#), or may be offered at a state correctional facility listed in [section 904.102](#). However, a community college shall not be required to offer the course if a substance use disorder treatment program licensed under [chapter 125](#) offers the course within the merged area served by the community college.

b. Enrollment in the courses is not limited to persons ordered to enroll, attend, and successfully complete the course required under [sections 321J.2](#) and [321J.17, subsection 2](#). However, any person under age eighteen who is required to attend the courses for violation of [section 321J.2](#) or [321J.17](#) must attend a course offered by a substance use disorder treatment program licensed under [chapter 125](#).

c. The course required by [this section](#) shall be:

(1) Taught by a community college under the supervision of the department of education or by a substance use disorder treatment program licensed under [chapter 125](#), and may be offered at a state correctional facility.

(2) Approved by the department of education, in consultation with the community colleges, substance use disorder treatment programs licensed under [chapter 125](#), the department of health and human services, and the department of corrections.

d. The department of education may approve a provider of a course for drinking drivers offered outside this state upon proof to the department’s satisfaction that the course is comparable to those offered by community colleges, substance use disorder treatment programs licensed under [chapter 125](#), and state correctional facilities as provided in [this section](#). The department shall comply with the requirements of [subsection 5](#) regarding such approved providers.

e. The department of education shall establish reasonable fees to defray the expense of obtaining classroom space, instructor salaries, and class materials for courses offered both by community colleges and by substance use disorder treatment programs licensed under [chapter 125](#), or for classes offered at a state correctional facility, and for administrative expenses incurred by the department of education in implementing [subsection 5](#) on behalf of in-state and out-of-state offenders.

f. A person shall not be denied enrollment in a course by reason of the person’s indigency.

3. An employer shall not discharge a person from employment solely for the reason of work absence to attend a course required by [this section](#). Any employer who violates [this section](#) is liable for damages which include but are not limited to actual damages, court costs, and reasonable attorney fees. The person may also petition the court for imposition of a cease and desist order against the person’s employer and for reinstatement to the person’s previous position of employment.

4. The department of education, substance use disorder treatment programs licensed under [chapter 125](#), and state correctional facilities shall prepare for their respective courses a list of the locations of the courses taught under [this section](#), the dates and times taught, the procedure for enrollment, and the schedule of course fees. The list shall be kept current and a copy of the list shall be sent to each court having jurisdiction over offenses provided in [this chapter](#).

5. The department of education, substance use disorder treatment programs licensed under [chapter 125](#), and state correctional facilities shall maintain enrollment, attendance, successful and unsuccessful completion data for their respective courses on the persons

ordered to enroll, attend, and successfully complete a course for drinking drivers. This data shall be forwarded to the court by the department of education, substance use disorder treatment programs licensed under [chapter 125](#), and the department of corrections.

[86 Acts, ch 1220, §22](#); [90 Acts, ch 1253, §120](#); [97 Acts, ch 177, §22](#); [2000 Acts, ch 1138, §5](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1140, §37](#); [2002 Acts, 2nd Ex, ch 1003, §240, 262](#); [2003 Acts, ch 180, §60](#); [2008 Acts, ch 1124, §16](#); [2011 Acts, ch 20, §17, 18](#); [2023 Acts, ch 19, §1073](#)

Referred to in [§321J.17, 707.6A](#)
Subsections 2, 4, and 5 amended