

CODE-CCDE TRAINING CERTIFICATIONS

2025-2026



Presented by



BARBER'S
DRIVING SCHOOL
SINCE 1964



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CODE-CCDE Program Explanation

The CODE-CCDE (Certified Older Driving Evaluation – Certified Comprehensive Driving Evaluation), **is designed to address the significant challenges medical professionals and driving instructors face when determining their clients' fitness to drive after illness or injury.**

One of the primary challenges faced in this field is the limited awareness among healthcare providers and patients regarding the benefits offered by driving programs. Cost, fear, and uncertainty also act as barriers, often preventing individuals from seeking evaluations. Our program aims to alleviate these concerns by providing comprehensive evaluations with **insurance coverage, reducing costs in half for patients, and ensuring a more efficient and supportive evaluation process.** The first step of a comprehensive driving evaluation is the referral to the OT or PT for the clinical evaluation, and the second step is the on-road portion with a certified driving instructor. Furthermore, the CODE-CCDE program encompasses the entire driving assessment process, including marketing, software, and the overall customer/patient experience.

As the leaders of this program are mostly healthcare providers, our team understands the pivotal role driving plays in an individual's independence and access to essential services within the community. Undeniably, driving, being a complex and hazardous task, raises questions for both patients and medical professionals alike. Our program brings together a network of licensed and trained professionals, ensuring comprehensive driving evaluations focusing on safety and suitability. To guarantee the highest standards, we mandate that all our instructors undergo and pass an additional certification program, emphasizing our dedication to the safety and well-being of our clients. Kindly review the certification process detailed below to gain a comprehensive understanding of the requirements necessary to attain these distinguished credentials.

How much do the Evaluations Cost?

The driver evaluations costs **\$297.00** out of pocket.

Driving schools may charge the following **additional fees**:

- \$1 per mile both ways, an hourly rate of \$30.00, or both, when traveling out of their service area
- \$50 for assistance completing the online questionnaires
- \$200 for a 2-hour refresher course before or after the evaluation
- Road test fee if the driver fails their first road test and is eligible for re-examination

For more information please visit:

www.CODE-CCDE.org





Certified Older Driver Evaluations

Driver Evaluations for Drivers 65 and Older

Overview

CODE addresses the challenges associated with older drivers by providing evaluations specifically tailored for **individuals aged 65 and older**, with particular attention to age-related changes in vision, sensory, motor, and cognitive functions that may impact driving fitness.



Upon completion of the training program, providers should be able to: Apply knowledge of medical conditions with implications to driving; Assess the cognitive, visual, perceptual, behavioral and physical limitations that may impact driving performance; Integrate the clinical findings with assessment of on-road performance; Synthesize client and caregiver needs and assist in decisions about available options; And Coordinate with multidisciplinary providers and resources related to the needs of the clients.



Certified Comprehensive Driver Evaluations

Driver Evaluations for Drivers Under 65

Overview

CCDE is a valuable assessment tool for **drivers younger than the age of 65**. Some of the areas of concerns include: vision changes, medication side effects, a recent gap of time without driving, mental or physical decline from an accident or sickness, lack of confidence, involvement in a motor vehicle crash or other accident, as well as bipolar disorder, anxiety, autism spectrum disorder, and other health conditions affecting driving fitness.



For more information please visit:

www.CODE-CCDE.org



Tier 1

This level will often include:

- Mild Cognitive Dysfunction
- Memory loss
- Dementia
- General safety concerns/
Effects of aging
- Learning disability
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

This level may also include:

- CVA/TBI – non-complex
- Parkinson's disease – non-complex
- Psychiatric disorders



No Adaptive Equipment

These assessments focus on the ability to safely continue or resume driving without the need for adaptive equipment to operate a vehicle (Fitness to Drive)

Tier 2

Examples of typical diagnoses include:

- Neuropathy
- Foot drop
- Lower extremity amputation
- CVA or TBI with physical deficits such as hemiplegia
- Paraplegia
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Spina Bifida
- Arthritis
- Cerebral Palsy
- Chronic pain



Low-tech Equipment

No significant Cognitive Deficits

These assessments focus on the ability to drive utilizing low-tech driving equipment to compensate for physical deficits. The client may use a wheelchair or scooter but should be able to independently transfer to a sedan. At least two extremities should have normal function. Providers should have a range of hand controls and steering devices.

Tier 3

Examples of typical diagnoses include:

- Quadriplegia
- Muscular dystrophies
- UE amputations or amputations of >2 limbs
- Congenital conditions that affect multiple limbs



Medium/High--tech Equipment, Complex Disabilities, may include Cognitive/Perceptual Deficits in addition to Physical Disabilities

These assessments focus on the client with more complex physical deficits. They may include clients who need to utilize a wheelchair accessible vehicle as well as modifications to the primary and secondary controls. The client may or may not be able to transfer. More than two limbs may have deficits.

Certification Board Members:

The Certification Board is responsible for establishing applicant eligibility, overseeing certification processes, enforcing standards, and approving renewals.

Beth Barstow, PhD, OTR/L, SCLV, FAOTA Professor; Program Director: Graduate Certificate in Low Vision Rehabilitation CODE-CCDE Research and Development - Low Vision and Trainer

Beth Barstow PhD, OTR/L, SCLV, FAOTA is a professor and program director of the Low Vision Graduate Certificate in the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She has over twenty years of clinical experience in the practice areas of low vision, adult and older adult rehabilitation and driving. In her current role, she teaches, completes service activities, and conducts research to advance the practice of vision rehabilitation with an emphasis on global environmental and societal barriers. She is the co-editor of the textbook Occupational Therapy Interventions for Adults with Low Vision. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed papers and has presented on vision and disability locally, nationally, and internationally. Beth is also currently co-leading an OT group to develop an OT vision rehabilitation certification for ACVREP. She has worked with AOTA on their previously offered SCLV and was formerly a Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist (CDRS).



Katy Abney, OTR/L, DES – Clinical Tier I CODE-CCDE Research and Development Trainer

Katy completed her Occupational Therapy program at Louisiana State University Medical Center in 1997, honored as the Most Outstanding Allied Health Graduate. She spent 26 years at Roosevelt Warm Springs Rehabilitation in Warm Springs, GA, which is the oldest comprehensive rehab center in the United States. Her roles there included serving in inpatient physical rehabilitation, as the Intern Program Coordinator, on the Speaker's Bureau, as a therapy lead of the Stroke Team, managing the Driving Program, and as the Campus Life Manager for the 150-bed special-needs residential program. Her certifications include Fieldwork Educator Certification, Neurodevelopmental Treatment (NDT), Brain Injury Certification, and Modalities Certification. Additionally, she became a Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist (CDRS) in 2016.



Her primary experience has been with the geriatric population as well as young adults with learning differences such as autism, ADHD, and other developmental delays. She has a heart for working in a rehabilitative setting where she can provide interventions using client strengths, adaptation, family supports, and outcome-centered strategies. Katy plans to retire in 2025 and enjoy traveling with her husband, while continuing to support the CODE team on various projects to make a positive impact in her community.

Cara Harman, OTD, OTR/L, CDES- Clinical Tier I CODE-CCDE Director of Clinical Research and Development

Cara currently serves as the outpatient OT neurological rehab leader at Emory Decatur Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. Each day, Cara provides care to patients with a wide range of neurological and orthopedic conditions, and she is the sole therapist conducting clinical driver evaluations at this hospital.



She received training to perform clinical driving evaluations at the VCU Neuroscience, Orthopaedic & Wellness (NOW) Center in Richmond,

Virginia and she has been offering clinical driver evaluations to patients of all ages at Emory Healthcare since 2021. Her passion for education has led her to deliver numerous in-services and presentations in Atlanta and was also asked to present on clinical driving evaluations at both the Georgia and Alabama OT Association conferences in 2023, as well as the Tennessee OT Association conference in 2024.

Beyond her role at Emory Healthcare, Cara has been making significant contributions to Barber's Driving School since 2022. As a part-time team member, she plays a vital role in leading training sessions for both behind-the-wheel instructors and therapists. Additionally, in her capacity as the Director of Clinical Research and Development, she is dedicated to implementing best practices and evidence-based assessment tools for driving evaluations, ensuring the highest quality of care for all individuals with diverse diagnoses and across all age groups. In acknowledgment of Cara's steadfast dedication to her Atlanta community and the state of Georgia, the Georgia Occupational Therapy Association (GOTA) proudly named her the OT Practitioner of the Year for 2023.

Moreover, Cara's collaborative efforts extend beyond the boundaries of Georgia. Working with various driving schools in multiple US states, she continues to advance her mission of delivering a holistic approach to comprehensive driving evaluations. Through her unwavering dedication, she ensures that individuals seeking driving evaluations receive the utmost care, tailored to their specific needs and conditions.

Alfred Barber, CDES-Functional Tier I President, Barber's Driving School CODE-CCDE Managing Director of Program Development

As the second-generation owner and operator of one of America's oldest driving schools, CODE-CCDE Director Al Barber has literally spent a lifetime in the driving industry. His father founded Georgia-based Barber's Driving School in 1964 whose offerings have grown from basic driver education to include driver rehabilitation, defensive driving, risk reduction, corporate training and much more.



(BarbersDrivingSchool.com) Al graduated Summa Cum Laude from Columbus State University with a BA degree in Business Management.

Al was appointed by Georgia Governor Nathan Deal to the Georgia Driver Education Commission where he served to the end of his three-year term. Al was instrumental in the Georgia Driver Education Scholarship program being developed so teens in Georgia who needed assistance with tuition could receive help. The voucher is issued to the teen and they can select where they would like to take their training from a private or public provider. August 29th, 2024 Al was appointed by the Georgia LT Governor Burt Jones, to a 6 year term as a member of the board of directors of The Georgia Department of Driver Services. He currently serves as the President of the Georgia Driving School Association as Chairman and CEO. **(GeorgiaDrivingSchoolAssociation.org)**

Al also has been a member of the Governor's Officer of Highway Safety's Older Driver Task Force since 2016. In 2017, Barber began a personal quest to find a solution for the at-risk older driver problem. Other stakeholders who have participated in the development of the CODE-CCDE program include: the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety's (GOHS) 'Older Driver Task Force', physicians, neurologists, occupational therapist, hospitals, judges, lawyers, caregivers, family and friends of older drivers and older drivers themselves.

August 2024, Al was appointed by Georgia Lt. Governor Burt Jones, to serve a 6 year term on the Georgia Department of Driver Services Board of Directors.



Clinical Tier I Driving Evaluator Certification Guide:

Objective of Certification:

The goal of the certification process is to safeguard and benefit the community by granting certification solely to clinicians who fully meet all eligibility criteria and specified requirements, ensuring they can safely conduct driving evaluations for the public.

The Clinical Evaluator Certification recognizes generalist practitioners, such as occupational or physical therapists, who have shown proficiency in completing Steps 1 and 2 of a comprehensive driver's evaluation, including administering health questionnaires and conducting the clinical assessment.



Important note: The applicant must complete and obtain certification for Steps 1 and 2 before advancing to Step 3, which certifies the ability to conduct both the clinical and on-road portions of the evaluation. Please note that Steps 1 and 2 of the certification process do NOT include the on-road portion.

Types of Certifications offered:

1. Driver Evaluation Specialist- Clinical Tier I (DES-Clinical Tier I)
2. Certified Driver Evaluation Specialist- Clinical Tier I (CDES-Clinical Tier I)

Eligibility Criteria for Clinical Evaluators:

Must have a four-year undergraduate degree or higher in a health-related field including but not limited to:

1. Occupational Therapy
2. Physical Therapy
3. Speech- Language Pathology
4. Nursing



*Other health-related degrees not listed must be formally approved by the Certification Committee. Please contact caraharman@gmail.com.

Clinicians without post graduate degrees (ex: Bachelor of Science- Occupational Therapy) must have at least 5 years of experience as a clinician

Required Documentation for Certification:

The applicant is required to submit the following essential documents prior to the certification team assessing the application:

- a. Government issued driver's license
- b. Verification of an active health-related license (e.g., OT/PT license number)

Outline of the Certification Process:

Step I

DES - Driver Evaluation Specialist - Clinical Tier I

- Meet all eligibility criteria.
- Complete all modules in the 10-hour Clinical Driver Evaluation Course for Tier I and achieve a score of over 70% on both exams.

DES Renewal:

- Certification within the CODE-CCDE network is valid for three years. Upon the expiration of this period, candidates must provide evidence of at least 20 hours, which can be fulfilled through any combination of direct experience in conducting driving evaluations, CEU courses related to driving rehabilitation, research, published articles, and/or teaching content related to driving. See the DES renewal log for more information.

DES Fees:

- \$195 for 10- hour CEU course + 2 exams
- \$50 for renewal (every 3-years)

The certification fee is non-refundable. *All fees are in US Dollars*

Step II

CDES - Certified Driver Evaluation Specialist - Clinical Tier I

- Must first obtain the DES credential before proceeding. See requirements above.
- Complete a minimum of 20 clinical driver evaluations, with at least 5 documentation reports reviewed by the certification team to ensure compliance with established standards.
 - For further details on the passing score, refer to the documentation grading rubric form.
 - Ensure that all documentation adheres to HIPAA compliance standards and contains no protected health information.

CDES Renewal:

- Certification within the CODE-CCDE network is valid for three years. Upon the expiration of this period, candidates must provide evidence of at least 50 hours, which can be fulfilled through any combination of direct experience in conducting driving evaluations, CEU courses related to driving rehabilitation, research, published articles, and/or teaching content related to driving. See the CDES renewal log for more information.

CDES Fees:

- \$195 for 10- hour CEU course + 2 exams
- \$100 for certification
- \$50 for renewal (every 3-years)

The certification fee is non-refundable. *All fees are in US Dollars*

Step III (Optional)

To proceed with the on-road evaluation certification, please consult the DES/CDES Functional Tier I Certification Guide for further details.

Re-examination:

Although there is no limit to the number of exam attempts, candidates must retake the full 10-hour CODE-CCDE course after two unsuccessful attempts before they can reattempt the exam.

Appeals:

Barber's Driving School offers an appeal process for candidates seeking reconsideration of an unfavorable decision regarding eligibility, results, or credential renewal/maintenance. It is the candidate's responsibility to initiate this appeal.

To initiate an appeal, a formal written request must be submitted to the CODE-CCDE Certification Committee within thirty days of the adverse decision.

Upon receipt, the written request will be reviewed by the certification committee. The committee will assess the appeal and may request additional information. The committee's final decision will be conclusive.

****Statement on Nondiscrimination and Special Accommodations****

Barber's Driving School is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination. We do not discriminate against candidates on the basis of age, gender, race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or marital status. In adherence to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Barber's Driving School will ensure that individuals with disabilities have equal access to take the course and the two examinations. Special testing accommodations can be arranged if a request is submitted to the certification team prior to the examination.

Have questions? Email Caraharman@gmail.com

Functional Tier I Driver Evaluator Certification Guide:

Objective of Certification:

The certification process is designed to promote public safety by ensuring that only qualified individuals who meet all eligibility criteria and requirements are certified. This guarantees that driving evaluations are conducted by professionals who are skilled in accurately assessing the driving abilities of



older adults and individuals with medical conditions. Certified evaluators will focus exclusively on conducting on-road assessments and will **not** be responsible for clinical evaluations. However, they are expected to work collaboratively with clinicians who perform the clinical components of the driver evaluation process.

Types of Certifications offered:

1. **Driver Evaluation Specialist- Functional Tier I (DES- Functional Tier I)**
2. **Certified Driver Evaluation Specialist- Functional Tier I (CDES- Functional Tier I)**

Application Eligibility Criteria for both DES and CDES Credentials:

Educational Requirements:

- Minimum of an Associate's Degree (e.g., EMT, law enforcement, fire safety) or a Bachelor's degree from an accredited technical college, community college, or university (any major or minor is acceptable).

Certification and Licensing:

The applicant is required to submit the following essential documents prior to the certification team assessing the application-

- A valid state issued driver's license.
- A valid state issued instructor/third party examiner license in states where licensing is required to teach driver education or test the general population for driver licensing.

Practical Experience:

- Minimum 2 years or 500 hours of on the road behind the wheel student training.

Must be able to provide evidence of these qualifications and to prove the applicant is in good standing with state licensing agency if requested by the certification team

Additional Requirements:

- Criminal background check. (If the state licensing process requires a drug screen and background check, this step may be omitted.)
- Physical exam and drug screen. (If the state licensing process requires a drug screen and background check, this step may be omitted.)

Outline of the Certification Process:

Step I

DES - Driver Evaluation Specialist - Functional Tier I

- Complete all modules in the 10-hour Driver Evaluation Course for Tier I, and score above 70% on both exams.
- Meet ALL eligibility criteria outlined above.

**If you are already certified as a CODE-CCDE clinical evaluator (DES or CDES), you will have already completed the first half of the online training modules. Therefore, you are only required to take the second half of the training (5 hours of BTW modules).*

DES Renewal:

Certification within the CODE-CCDE network is valid for **three years**. To renew, candidates must submit evidence of at least **20 hours** of ongoing professional development. These hours can be fulfilled through:

- Direct experience in conducting driving evaluations.
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs) related to driving evaluations.
- Research, published articles, and/or teaching content related to driving.

DES Fees:

- **\$195** for the required 10-hour CODE-CCDE Driving Evaluation Course + 2 exams.
- **\$50** for renewal (every 3 years).

Note: All fees are in U.S. Dollars and are non-refundable.

Step II

CDES - Certified Driver Evaluation Specialist - Functional Tier I

- Must already have DES- Functional Tier I credential to qualify
- Proof of 20 completed in-car driving evaluations, including dates and signatures from the clinic manager/supervisor, school director, or school owner.
 - The 20 evaluations can be observed either *in person or via video recording*. Each evaluation must include the **date, time, and outcome**. Video recordings must contain **clear audio** and **GPS location tracking**.
 - A written verification from the applicant's school or clinical director is required, confirming that the evaluations were both administered and completed by the applicant.
 - To ensure HIPAA compliance, all submitted documentation must exclude any protected health information (PHI).
 - A **minimum of five evaluation reports**, randomly selected from the submitted set, will be reviewed alongside the corresponding in-car video recordings. This is to verify the accuracy and fairness of scoring and assessment practices.

CDDES Renewal:

Certification within the CODE-CCDE network is valid for **three years**. To renew, candidates must submit evidence of at least **50 hours** of ongoing professional development. These hours can be fulfilled through:

- Direct experience in conducting driving evaluations.
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs) related to driving evaluations.
- Research, published articles, and/or teaching content related to driving.

CDDES Fees:

- **\$195** for the required 10-hour CODE-CCDE Driving Evaluation Course + 2 exams.
- **\$100** for certification.
- **\$50** for renewal (every 3 years).

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