



University Transportation Research Center
RFP Cover Sheet

Title: Graduated Driver's License, Phase 2
Proposal Number: 2008-15
Sponsor: NJDOT
Date Issued: September 13, 2007
Pre-Proposal Meeting: Contact NJDOT by Sept. 20, 2007
Draft Budgets Due: Send to Camille Kamga by October 25, 2007
RFP Closing Date: October 31, 2007

If you plan to apply:

1. Please contact Camille Crichton-Sumners (camille.crichton-sumners@dot.state.nj.us) or Stephanie Nock (609-530-5637) to request a pre-proposal meeting, and so that you will receive information about this meeting if it is held. *This meeting will be your only opportunity to ask questions about this proposal.*

2. If you plan to submit a proposal through UTRC, please notify us by email at nadia@utrc2.org and ckamga@utrc2.org. Please indicate whether you are open to teaming up with faculty at other universities on this project.

Proposal submission guidelines:

Please contact Camille Kamga (ckamga@utrc2.org, 212-650-8087) to discuss submission logistics. After UTRC confirms that the proposals' budgets meet UTRC and NJDOT guidelines, we can either provide you with a UTRC cover sheet, or you can send us the printed proposals for hand-delivery to NJDOT.

Proposals must be prepared in accordance with NJDOT's Information and Instructions for Preparing Proposals. Please visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/research/pdf/techpropresproj.pdf>

For questions about budget preparation, contact: Camille Kamga, ckamga@utrc2.org

NJDOT has not specified a budget or timeline for this project. Please note that matching funds up to \$50k are available from UTRC for projects that are relevant to UTRC's theme of "Planning and Managing Regional Transportation Systems in a Changing World." Decisions about the availability of these funds will be made pursuant to the relevance of the topic and the volume of requests.

New Jersey Department of Transportation
Bureau of Research
RESEARCH PROJECT
Scope and Request for Proposals
2008 Program

Date of RFP
August 15, 2007

Closing Date
October 15, 2007

Graduated Driver's License, Phase 2
Project 2008-15 –

(Proposals must be prepared in accordance with NJDOT's *Information and Instructions for Preparing Proposals*. Please visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/research/pdf/techpropresproj.pdf>

Revised Proposal Evaluation Forms are available for your information on the website

Proposals will be based on the merit of the information contained in the proposal. Budgets will be evaluated separately. Please place three (3) copies the budget for this project in a separate sealed envelope.

Comment [T1]: The proposal evaluation form has been revised. Additional consideration will be allowed for joint initiatives amongst universities

1. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT, BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This is a continuation/expansion of a prior GDL Study (which can be found by using the following link.)

<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/research/reports/FHWA-NJ-2002-016.pdf>

In 2001, the New Jersey legislature enacted a graduated licensing law for new drivers. Young drivers as a group are responsible for more accidents per mile driven than any other age category. Most accidents by this group are due to a lack of behind the wheel experience. The Graduated Driver License (GDL) includes steps for a permit, provisional and basic license. A new driver must progress through each stage which limits their exposure (and risk) to traffic conditions based on driving experience. Similar laws have been enacted in most states and there is evidence that graduated licensing reduces collisions.

A provision in the New Jersey law (R.S. 39:3-13.6) requires a study of the effectiveness of the statute and report to the legislature and governor. In 2001, a study was initiated and completed by the UTRC. The study provides baseline data and information for GDL in New Jersey. At the time this study was undertaken, a follow-up, Phase II study was contemplated.

The Phase II study is needed to assess the effectiveness of the program and to determine what changes may be made to improve the safety of young drivers in New Jersey. This is a timely topic given the frequency of tragedies on New Jersey roads involving young drivers. Most recently, a provisional driver and two teen passengers died in a collision in Monmouth County. The driver was violating GDL provisions which restricted the number of passengers. This incident and others have generated significant media and public interest in the effectiveness of New Jersey's GDL law.

MVC believes it is extremely important to provide this study to ensure recommendations to change policies, regulations and the laws in this state are relevant to statistical analysis as well as best practices in other states. The components of GDL include driver education, staged licensing, motor vehicle points monitoring, remedial education, driving restrictions, fines, supervised driving, administrative penalties (suspension) and stage postponements. Each of these components influences program success and may need to be adjusted, as the program evolves.

A matrix oriented assessment would recognize the interrelationship of components. An anticipated study outcome would include a formula driven model that prescribes a driver control program for various violations within the GDL phases. For example, if the driver holds a provisional license and is charged with speeding and failure to observe a traffic signal within a six month period, and both violations are downgraded to an unsafe operator violation, this would trigger a counseling session with MVC and a

remedial class. The same driver would be suspended for 30 days if another violation occurs within six months of class attendance.

MVC and others are also concerned that compliance with GDL requirements is unacceptable. The study should determine if this is true and how the program could be made simpler for enforcement, educators, parents and teen drivers to understand.

Study will complement other MVC initiatives focused on young driver safety such as the Parent's Guide for Teen Drivers, a new version of the driver manual, the Statewide Driver Education Forum and development of lesson plans and supporting materials for driving instruction in the State's secondary schools

2. Tasks

[Provide a listing of appropriate general tasks divided into phases based on types of work (e.g., laboratory, field) or by year (e.g., year 1, year 2) or other appropriate milestones]

Comment [T2]: The Bureau of Research will not suggest tasks appropriate for the research study. Principal investigator must develop this list based upon the research need and the determined approach.

*The NJDOT is seeking the insight of proposal responders on how best to achieve the research objectives. Proposers are expected to describe a research effort that can realistically be accomplished as **expeditiously as possible**. Proposals must present the proposers' current thinking in sufficient detail to demonstrate their understanding of the problem and the soundness of their approach for conducting the required research.*

PHASE I – Literature Search

Conduct a literature search of the current state of the practice.

After the award of the project, a more comprehensive literature search should be conducted. At the completion of this literature search, the PI will make a presentation to the Research Project Selection and Implementation Panel to discuss their findings and to discuss the appropriate research approach.

PHASE II – Research Approach and Anticipated Results

Clear description of how you will solve the problem and implement anticipated findings; Work may be divided into phases (e.g., Laboratory, Field or Year 1, Year 2) as necessary to clarify tasks. **Exit Criteria must be developed during this phase.**

Comment [T3]: New

Comment [T4]: A method of "[process control](#)" consisting of a collection of predefined conditions or standards, against which a process or output is compared to ensure that it conforms to acceptable standards of quality.

3. Implementation and Training Plan

The PI must meet with the Research Project Selection and Implementation Panel (RPSIP) and other NJDOT units to present the findings and as appropriate train these personnel in the use of the project results.

The PI will develop an implementation plan as per the guidelines provided by NJDOT Research Bureau.

Comment [T5]: Implementation Survey is available on the Bureau of Research Website and through Research Project Managers.

4. Deliverables: [List of minimum deliverables necessary to complete the project]

- Presentation of Summary of Literature Search Results
- Discussion to Support and Refine the Project Tasks
- Project work plan.
- Technical Memorandum on the survey results
- Technical memorandum on the measures that are working or not working
- Technical memorandum on actions taken
- Interim Status reports suitable for Senior Leadership if required
- Quarterly Reports, and
- Final report with appropriate tables, graphs and chart in hard copy version, PDF file format, Word, and on CD ROM. Two copies plus one per RSIP member of each presentation, technical memorandum, draft final report and Final Report (plus 10 copies). The Final Report and Tech Brief are due three (3) months before the end date of the project to allow time for review by the Research Project Selection and Implementation Panel.

5. Contract Time:

The PI must provide anticipated research study duration based on the proposed tasks. Please include 3 months for review and revision of the final report. Final Acceptance will be granted upon receipt of ten copies of the approved final report.

Comment [T6]: New. Research Bureau Staff will no longer provide suggested durations in RFP's. Based on the problem need Principal Investigators must recommend an appropriate project duration which will provide desired results in an expeditious fashion.

6. Contacts:

A Pre-proposal meeting will be scheduled with interested parties after the RFPs are distributed to refine the objectives and deliverables and to promote a better understanding of the research needs. Questions on this topic **shall not** be directed to any Research Project Manager, Research Customer, or any other NJDOT person. All questions and answers will be addressed **during this meeting**. Contact Camille Crichton-Summers (Camille.CrichtonSummers@dot.state.nj.us) on or before September 1, 2007 to confirm your participation in this meeting.

Comment [T7]: A final acceptance memo will be issued for each project once the final report is approved and the designated number of copies are delivered to the Bureau of Research.

Comment [T8]: The pre proposal meeting, will be the only opportunity to ask questions regarding the proposed study.

7. Deadline

Proposals (10 single-bound copies) are due at NJDOT Bureau of Research no later than 4:00 p.m. October 15, 2007

This is a firm deadline, and extensions simply are not granted.

Authorization to Begin Work: January 1, 2008--estimated

8. Delivery Instructions:

For private, paid messenger services such as Federal Express, DHL, UPS, etc., or for hand-carried deliveries:

2008 PROPOSAL-NJDOT
New Jersey Department of Transportation
Bureau of Research
1035 Parkway Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

For U.S. Postal Service mail:

New Jersey Department of Transportation
ATTN: Camille Crichton-Summers
Manager, Bureau of Research
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