



University Transportation Research Center
RFP Cover Sheet

Title: Teen Driver Safety Metrics – Effectiveness of NJ’s GDL Law in Improving Teen Driver Safety
Proposal Number: 2009-07
Sponsor: NJDOT
Date Issued: August 08, 2008
Pre-Proposal Meeting: Contact NJDOT by August 22, 2008
RFP Due at UTRC: Send to Camille Kamga by September 24, 2008
RFP Closing Date: September 26, 2008

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
2009 Program

Date of RFP
08-08-08

Closing Date
09-26-08

Teen Driver Safety Metrics – Effectiveness of NJ’s GDL Law in Improving Teen
Driver Safety
Project 2009-07

(Proposals must be prepared in accordance with the Bureau of Research’s *Information and Instructions for Preparing Proposals* available on our website at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/research/pdf/techpropresproj.pdf>)

For your information, revised proposal evaluation forms are available on our website as well.

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

1. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT, BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This research should focus on a targeted study on the current and future shape of New Jersey’s Graduated Drivers License (GDL) law in terms of reducing motor vehicle crashes, injuries, fatalities and property damage for novice drivers, typically 16-25 years of age. The Teen Driver Study Commission established by Governor Corzine in March 2007 recommends ongoing research to evaluate the crash and violation experience of novice, typically young drivers. Armed with a solid baseline of research and a method to track results over time will allow New Jersey to fine-tune its GDL program based on analysis of available crash, violation, and court data. 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. It is imperative that New Jersey monitor and measure data related to teen drivers to ensure that initiatives are having their intended impact.

The project should be broken into two phases. Phase 1 should address Objectives 1 and 2 detailed below. Phase 2 should address Objectives 3 and 4 once they are enacted by statute and regulation.

Objective 1: Propose a comprehensive teen driver monitoring method and program for New Jersey that utilizes current and future data sources. Identify, evaluate and recommend a methodology to monitor teen driver crash events and violations as an indicator of the impact of the New Jersey GDL law, regulations, education, law enforcement, courts, and parental involvement. Identify where data sources exist but recognize that easy access for development of a monitoring system is restricted. Where data sources are unavailable, recommend solutions. Explain how a regular and efficient monitoring program can be established and what an ideal program would involve. The primary deliverable will be a research based recommendation on what elements in various data sources should be compiled, tracked and evaluated over time as an index of the state of drivers 16-25 years old. Data should be reported by year, key demographics, and in an aggregated index.

Objective 2: Evaluate crash data by county, major population area, and zip code factors to determine if teen driver crashes and fatalities in New Jersey have significantly declined since enactment of a GDL law in 2001. Has the rate of change been statistically and uniformly consistent across the state? What are the pockets of positive and negative performance? Consider factors that would scale or compare data in terms of population size, roadway miles, and other criteria that make the varied segments of New Jersey comparable.

Objective 3: Anticipating approval of a change to the GDL law that requires novice drivers, typically teen drivers, to complete a minimum number of certified practice driving hours in the permit phase (detailed in the Teen Driver Study Commission report under recommendation 1.4), conduct a study that compares the driving experience of teens who had 50 hours of practice driving coupled with formal driver training versus those who had 100 hours of practice driving without formal driver training in terms of future crash involvement, traffic violations and other factors. This is expected to be a long-term evaluation.

Objective 4: Pending approval of a change to the GDL law that requires novice drivers, typically teen drivers, to hold a permit for a minimum of 12 months (detailed in the Teen Driver Study Commission report under recommendation 1.5), conduct a study that compares the driving experience of teens who held their driving permit for six months versus those who held their permit for 12 months in terms of future crash involvement, traffic violations and other factors.

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]

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 the findings and to discuss the appropriate research approach.

PHASE II – Research Approach and Anticipated Results

Provide a clear description of how you will tackle the problem and the 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.

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 study 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 the NJDOT Bureau of Research.

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

- Final report with appropriate tables, graphs, and charts in hard copy version, and MS Word and PDF file formats on a CD ROM. Two copies plus one per RPSIP 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 the anticipated research study duration based on the proposed tasks. Consideration should be given to potential impediments so that adjustments are incorporated into the schedule.

6. Contacts:

A meeting may be scheduled with interested parties after the RFP's 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 would be addressed **during this meeting**. Contact Camille Crichton-Summers (Camille.CrichtonSummers@dot.state.nj.us) on or before August 22, 2008 to confirm your interest in participating in such a meeting.

7. DEADLINE

Proposals (10 single-bound copies) are due at the NJDOT Bureau of Research no later than 4:00 p.m. September 26, 2008

Authorization to Begin Work: January 1, 2009--estimated or as negotiated

8. DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:

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

2009 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
PO Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600