

Driving Unit Pre-Qualification Course Serpentine

The Driving Instructor Candidate is expected to bring with them a minimum level of driving ability. The following course is strongly recommended for the candidate to practice prior to attending the class. The student must pass this course upon arrival to SCCJA, with a SCCJA Staff Instructor.

Layout of Course

This course requires 6 cones, placed 70 feet apart in a straight line on asphalt with enough room before and after, to accelerate and decelerate respectively, as well as room to each side that will allow a police car (CVPI) to maneuver through the course. The student must accelerate up to 40 mph upon entry and attempt to maintain 40 mph while driving through and exiting the exercise. The minimum speed allowed will be 35 at any point.

Proper Execution of the Serpentine

1. Reach the designated speed (40 mph) prior to the first cone so the vehicle speed levels off.
2. Utilize the 9-3 hand position upon entry, and transition to shuffle and/or hand-over-hand when steering wheel inputs are greater than 45 degrees as they go through the course.
3. Enter the course parallel to the cones.
4. Maintain speed throughout the course.
5. Do not knock any cones over or more than halfway out of their designated spot.
6. Maintain control of the vehicle.

Criteria for Passing

1. Enter, maintain and exit the course at the designated speed (40 mph, 35 minimum) and,
2. Utilize the proper steering techniques throughout the course and,
3. Do not knock any cones over or more than halfway out of their designated spot and,
4. Maintain control of the vehicle.

If there is failure to adhere to any of the preceding criteria, the student will not be allowed to continue the class.

