



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the Smart Riders program! We have collaborated with the Missouri Department of Transportation's Highway Safety and Traffic Division to bring this highway safety online educational program to your home.

Children are one of our most vulnerable when it comes to roadway users. Whether crossing the street, riding their bicycle, or being a passenger in a vehicle, children must be educated on the safest ways to get to and from their destination. According to the 2021 Missouri Child Passenger Seat Survey, only 91% of children under the age of 4 were restrained in a vehicle. In 2021, 21 children under the age of 10 were either seriously injured or killed as a pedestrian.

The MoDOT Highway Safety and Traffic Division developed the Smart Riders program as a fun and interactive way to encourage children in 1st through 5th grade to learn the importance of safety in vehicles and along the roadway.

The link for the Smart Riders program is found on the SaveMOLives.com website. The child, along with a parent, or caregiver can either click the "Smart Riders" link at the top of the landing page, or by clicking on the "Smart Riders" logo on that same landing page to get to the program.

The program has four courses:

[Booster and Seat Belt Safety-focusing on the importance of using the booster and seat belt properly.](#)

[Smart Bicycling-focusing on the importance of wearing a helmet and riding a bicycle safely.](#)

[Smart Walker-focusing on how to walk along and cross the street safely.](#)

[Distracted Driving-focusing on the dangers of being a distraction and looking out for the driver.](#)

Once the child completes the assigned course(s), they will either download the certificate and either print it off or show on their device. Once a certificate is shown to their teacher or assigning community member, they have earned a reward(s). We hope you and your child enjoy this important program!