

## **Driver Education – How to Sign Up For an Event**

You know basically what DE is – at least enough to know you want to try it. Hopefully, you have visited [thetrackschedule.com](http://thetrackschedule.com), created a user profile and picked out the event(s) you are interested in attending. This info sheet guides you through the DE registration process and answers some commonly asked questions.

### **I found an event I want to attend. How do I register?**

Simply navigate to the regional club's website. You will find a convenient link to it from that event's info page on [thetrackschedule.com](http://thetrackschedule.com). You can also get there from the regional directory on the main [pca.org](http://pca.org) website.

**Tip: You may want to set up bookmarks for the various clubs/PCA regions in a separate folder of your internet browser for future reference.**

Find and click on the link to their Driver Education section and follow the link to register for an event. You will also find where to download tech forms and other useful information.

### **What are the different ways to register?**

There are several methods commonly used to register for a DE. Most of the clubs and regions you will encounter use one of these methods:

- Online signup with a 3rd party website:
  - [Clubregistration.net](http://Clubregistration.net)
  - [Motorsportreg.com](http://Motorsportreg.com)
- Online registration using the club's own system

Few clubs, if any, still use one of these methods:

- Download and print out paper form and mail with check
- Fill out online form (such as a .pdf format), print it and mail

Provide all requested info on the form. If it's an online registration system, you will have to set up a profile the first time and enter your car information. If you already have one, be sure to check and update it often.

Where it asks for your driving experience, this usually equates to track days at a HPDE or racing school. Unless otherwise specified, do not include autocross days or attendance at a driving “experience”.

### **What run group do I apply for?**

If you are new to this or have only done a few events, you will be signing up as a student driver. Depending on your experience profile, days on that track and other factors, you may be placed in either the green or yellow run group, though sometimes they are combined.

As a general rule, you should only apply for a solo run group if you last ran in that group or if you were promoted by the Chief Instructor of your club. It normally takes at least a year to move up to the next run group, depending on how many events you do and other factors.

### **How do I make payment?**

There are basically two ways that you will pay for the event:

- Pay online with a credit card or PayPal.
- Send a check in the mail

Sometimes, the club will give you an option to do either but may charge a bit more to pay online. These details will be spelled out on the application form.

### **I sent my application and payment. Now what happens?**

You’re mostly done for now. You will eventually receive e-mail correspondence from the Track Registrar confirming or stating your application status and/or to provide additional information about the event. Read and understand all material as it comes in. You may have to provide some additional information.

If you haven’t already done so, you should be making arrangements for lodging, tech inspection and so forth. Now is a good time to print out the tech form from the region’s website. Also, it’s never too early to start going over your checklist of items to bring.

**Tip: If you really want to get a leg up on the event, especially if it’s a new track to you, download and study the track map. Watching in-car videos of drivers on that track can be very helpful too.**

## **What are the typical costs to run a DE?**

Registration fees vary widely from about \$100 to \$250 per day and is based on many factors:

- Student, solo or instructor
- Track (some are more expensive to rent than others)
- PCA region or club (some provide extras, some limit number of cars)
- Weekday or weekend (weekday events are cheaper)
- Early, peak or late season

## **What are some other costs I should expect?**

Initially, your costs should be relatively low. You may have to factor in the cost of a helmet if you do not already own one. Helmets are not typically rented out at the track during DEs.

Another possible expense is any needed maintenance or upgrades for your car.

**Tip: If you are just starting out, your only goal here should be to make sure your car is in good working order and track worthy.**

Finally, some per-event costs you will incur are:

- Gasoline
- Hotel
- Food & drink
- Incidentals

Even with everything factored in, PCA Driver Education is the most cost effective way to explore the true potential of your Porsche at speed on a real racetrack the way it was meant to be driven. And it just may be the most fun you've ever had.