

Potential Conflicts of the Internet Based Instructional Approach and Minnesota Code of Administrative Rules 7411

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The following rules were identified as creating conflicts with the type of instruction contemplated by passage of SF 255 or HF 205. Each rule is presented and then followed by observations concerning problems and conflicts created by passage of SF 255 or HF 205. To differentiate my comments from the rules my comments appear in **dark red**.

7411.0305 STUDENT AGREEMENTS OR CONTRACTS.

G. The contract or agreement must specify the dates for the start and completion of instruction by the student.

Self paced and student choosing of start and completion dates do not comport with specifying the start and completion dates required by this rule.

7411.0520 CLASSROOM AND LABORATORY INSTRUCTION.

Subp. 3. **Classroom hours limitation.** A program may offer no more than three hours of classroom instruction per day to a student under 18 years of age who has not yet obtained a driver's license.

The program used to manage internet based instruction must have a feature which prevents students interacting with the program for more than three hours in a day. This rule presumes instruction in a classroom setting and may not be appropriate for internet based instruction.

Subp. 4. **Required number of class D motor vehicle classroom hours.** A class D motor vehicle program must provide a student who is less than 18 years old with a minimum of 30 hours of approved classroom instruction.

This rule would need modification if internet based instruction is permitted. It needs to be noted that based on an administrative law judges ruling successful completion is not tied to a scope or sequence requirement or any achievement test results. The sole determiner of successful completion is the completion of 30 hours of instruction. Under this interpretation students may start at hour 24 and successfully complete at the end of hour 23. In an internet based program of instruction sequence is very important but the current rule allows for a program of instruction that has a random sequence of instruction and as long as the student has received 30 hours of instruction the provided must certify successful completion.

7411.0530 TELECONFERENCED CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

Teleconferenced classroom instruction for class A, B, C, or D motor vehicles or for a motorcycle endorsement may be used to link multiple classroom locations.

- A. The broadcasting location must have a licensed or approved instructor present during classroom instruction.
- B. Each location where students receive instruction must be in a classroom that complies with part [7411.0355](#).
- C. If the receiving location has one or more students under the age of 18 receiving program instruction, the location must have a proctor, who is at least 21 years old, within the classroom for control and assistance.
- D. Locations must be linked using both picture and sound so that instruction and the ability to interact with students is assured.
- E. Identical curriculum materials must be available at all locations.

It is reasonable to expect that new rules would need to be adapted for internet based instruction that agree with best practices for that mode of delivery.