

Why prohibit driving school instruction in test routes?

Driving school instructors want their students to be successful and it is advantageous for them to provide instruction on the streets where the provincial tests take place.

The large volume of driving school instruction occurring in the test routes led to complaints from both the MTO and public about traffic and pedestrian safety, especially due to new drivers practicing three-point turns and parallel parking.

The City tried to reduce the volume of driving school instructors teaching in the areas on a voluntary basis, but when compliance could not be achieved, prohibition zones were enacted in the Canotek and Walkley areas through the Licensing By-law (By-law 2002-189, as amended).

Most major municipalities in Ontario also have rules in place to prohibit driving schools from providing instruction in areas surrounding MTO DriveTest Centres, including Brampton, Hamilton, Mississauga, Newmarket and Toronto.

Why can't the area be expanded to include my street?

The main factor determining what street is included in a prohibition zone is whether or not it is part of the MTO test route. Other factors include volume of driving school traffic, construction in the area, and the number and types of complaints registered.

What do I do if I see a driving instructor providing instruction in a prohibition zone?

Please note the time and the name of the business. If you are able to record the licence plate or a video of the vehicle, it is helpful for investigation purposes.

Ensure a report is filed via 3-1-1 and a By-law Enforcement Officer will be assigned to investigate.