School Name

County-District-Campus No. (If Applicable)

Verification of Enrollment and Attendance (VOE) Form for Driver License Purposes

<u>Planned Use of Data</u>: To provide documentation of enrollment and attendance status to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for a student applying for an instruction permit and/or a license to operate a motor vehicle. The student presents the completed form to DPS. **DO NOT** return this form to the Texas Education Agency.

<u>Authority</u>: The Texas Transportation Code (TRC) requires students who have not obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent to be enrolled in a public, charter, home, or private school; GED Program; or Institution of Higher Education and meet specific enrollment conditions to obtain or renew a license. This requirement applies to persons under 18 years of age.

<u>Contacts</u>: Contact local DPS driver license office or DPS Headquarters website: <u>www.txdps.state.tx.us</u> and e-mail: <u>pio@txdps.state.tx.us</u> (512-424-2000) or Texas Education Agency website: <u>www.tea.state.tx.us</u> and e-mail: <u>lauralea.bauer@tea.state.tx.us</u> (512-463-9574 or 512/463-8350).

Issuing VOE Forms: The issuance or denial of the VOE form is strictly a local school, charter, GED program, or institution decision. Neither TEA nor DPS can alter a VOE decision. Schools, Charters, GED programs, and institutions of higher education can impose and enforce conditions and restrictions on enrollment and attendance as it pertains to VOE eligibility that exceed minimum restrictions defined by law and rule. It is recommended that schools, charters, GED programs, and institutions of higher education clearly outline all requirements for issuance of the VOE form and establish a formal, published policy to support the requirements. The VOE form does not have to be signed by the student in the presence of the person certifying attendance. The signature of the student can be placed on the form before or as it is presented to DPS. NOTE: Texas Education Code 25.092 (excerpted), Minimum Attendance for Class Credit, states that a student may not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered. The 90 percent attendance rule applies when determining VOE eligibility. Thus, if 1) the school awarded a student credit for each class the semester prior to application for the VOE form and 2) the school considers the student currently enrolled at the time the student applied for the VOE forms, then the student should be considered eligible for the VOE form pursuant to the 90 percent rule (unless a published policy states otherwise). Schools can accept decisions of attendance committees when considering VOE eligibility. Summer school does not count as make-up time for attendance purposes unless the attendance committee makes summer school attendance a part of a student's plan to make up days missed. For students in grades eight and below, absences may be aggregated on the basis of a scholastic year. For students in grades 9-12, absences may be aggregated on the basis of a scholastic semester (traditional, condensed, accelerated, block, etc.). THE STUDENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE FOR THE VOE FORM WHEN 1) the school considers the student currently enrolled at the time the student applied for the VOE forms AND 2) the school awarded a student credit for each class the semester prior to application for the VOE form OR the student was not awarded credit for each class the semester prior to application for the VOE form (academic failure). The school examines attendance records for the semester prior to application for the VOE form and determines that the student was present 90 percent of the time each class was offered OR the student was absent more than 10 percent and did not meet the 90 percent attendance rule for one or more classes the semester prior to application for the VOE form. The school attendance committee and/or administration approve a plan to allow the student to reinstate the credit for all classes. The student complies with the plan and credit for all classes the semester prior to application for the form is reinstated.

A student must meet one of the following requirements to receive the VOE form. The individual certifying attendance verifies on behalf of the school, program, or institution the following as true and correct by marking the appropriate box and affixing a legal signature to this form.

- Public, charter, home, or private schools: The public, charter, home, or private school should mark this box and issue the form to any student who is (1) currently enrolled (2) who met minimum attendance for class credit
- (90 Percent Rule) in each class they were enrolled in the fall or spring semester immediately preceding the date of application for the form.
- **GED programs:** GED programs mark this box and issue the form to any student who (1) is currently enrolled, (2) has been enrolled in the program for a minimum of 45 calendar days, and (3) is meeting the attendance requirements prescribed by the GED program.
- Institutions of higher education: Institutions mark this box and issue the form to students who have not obtained a diploma or its equivalent but are enrolled and attending as prescribed by the institution. Note: Institutions can issue a letter signed by an official of the institution stating that (1) the student is currently enrolled and (2) the student is meeting the institution's attendance requirements instead of issuance of this form.

Typed or Printed Name of Student			Date		Student Signature
Typed or Printed Name and Title of Administrator/Designee	Area Code & Telephone	Issuance Date / / Month Day Year			Administrator/Designee Signature

The VOE Forms issued during the school year (traditional, year round, etc.) expire 30 days from issuance. The VOE Forms issued the last 5 days of the school year expire the first day of the following school year.

Schools may personalize and/or develop their own VOE form provided all pertinent information contained on this form is incorporated. THE VOE DOCUMENT IS A GOVERNMENT RECORD AS DEFINED UNDER TEXAS PENAL CODE, 37.01(2). ANY MISREPRESENTATION BY THE APPLICANT OR PERSON ISSUING THE FORM MAY RESULT IN DENIAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A TEXAS DRIVER'S LICENSE AND/OR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.