

# Car Control Clinic – What to Expect

---

## Goals

Our goal is simple: Audi Club Glacier Lakes driving events are designed and offered to educate, build skills and promote the application of driving techniques on the street that go beyond what is typically taught in driver education courses. Car Control Clinics may be referred to as Teen Car Control Clinics or Adult Car Control Clinics or another variation depending on the audience targeted for the event.

You should never be just a “passenger” in a car that you are driving. The technology integrated into cars today gives vehicles capabilities far above those required for relatively safe everyday driving. That said, as the driver you still need to be prepared to take decisive action behind the wheel when you experience an unexpected or adverse situation on the road. Rather than panicking or doing nothing, students will learn to be pro-active and take corrective action.

Our educational car control clinics are designed to incorporate prescribes exercises duplicating adverse conditions - in a controlled environment. This allows you to more readily identify such situations and build driving skills intended to help you maintain car control.

*We neither promote nor condone illegal driving activities (e.g., speeding, texting while driving, etc.).*

## Who can participate?

Students may or may not be required to be members of Audi Club North America (ACNA) to participate in this skill-enhancing event. Please see the registration requirements for the specific event you will be attending. Some events allow non-members to participate, with members receiving a discount on entry fees.

Teens are welcome to participate in Car Control Clinics with a valid learner’s permit or driver’s license. Teens can also qualify for membership-required clinics if their parent or legal guardian is an ACNA Member. (Not yet a member? Sign up [here!](#))

## What Happens at this Event?

We use the Dakota County Technical College closed circuit driving course to provide a safe, controlled and structured environment for our students. The event is held regardless of weather unless there is severe weather concern, which the staff monitors closely. Please arrive on time.

When you arrive, head directly inside the classroom for registration. The volunteer at registration will check the student in and confirm the necessary waiver(s) are signed. (An electronic waiver link will be sent to the student, or parent(s) when registering for the event.) A name tag to wear, a schedule for the day and a color-coded group

assignment (designated “run group”) will be provided at registration. Help yourself to a breakfast snack and mingle with other attendees while check-in wraps up. [Note: Teens under 18 years of age must have a parent/legal guardian onsite for the entire event.]

At 8:00 a.m. the session will begin. Introductions will be made, and students will meet their assigned instructors. Next, students will go to their car with their instructor to prepare the vehicle for the car control exercises. Typically this time will include personal introductions looking over the car for things like proper tire inflation and working lights and signals, and making sure that there are no loose objects anywhere in the vehicle.

Students then head back to the classroom for a quick session on car control basics. After the classroom session, students and their instructors head to the driving course to experience concepts discussed in the classroom and put into practice driving techniques that help maintain car control.

This driving clinic mimics actual driving conditions on the street and is designed to probe the limits of the car and the driver under safe, controlled conditions. The purpose is to get the students accustomed to the experience of having to deal with adverse situations on the road. Students will be doing a lot of driving, repeating the same exercises to understand and develop “muscle memory” or instinctive reactions.

Parents of teen drivers attending the clinics are encouraged to sit in on the classroom sessions. They will be asked to volunteer to replace directional cones back into position if drivers inadvertently “relocate” them. Don’t worry, these are traffic cones made of soft material and generally do not damage vehicles. It is inevitable that drivers run over or contact the cones; this generally indicates a need for some type of correction. Learning is what this Car Control Clinic is all about!

A box-type lunch (typically sandwich & chips) is provided by Audi Club Glacier Lakes for all attendees, including parents/volunteers.

After lunch, students head back to the classroom for another short session on car control basics. Then it’s back to the driving course for more practice.

Note: If a student wants to switch instructors – at any time during the event, for any reason – please talk to the Event Master. Not every instructor will meet the needs of every student. Please do not hesitate to ask for a different instructor. We will be glad to help find a better fit for you and your learning style.

Check out this video for a sample of what to expect: [Teen Driving Clinic Video](https://youtu.be/KGHNTIeXcC8) (https://youtu.be/KGHNTIeXcC8)

## Event Schedule

Student Timeline	
7:30-8:00	Arrive at DCTC (classroom location)
8:00-8:30	Registration / Meet with instructor
8:30-9:20	Classroom session I – Basics
9:25-9:45	Green – Dry Slalom
(20 min)	Blue – Wet Slalom
9:50-10:10	Green – Wet Slalom
(20 min)	Blue – Dry Slalom
10:15-10:30	Green – Dry Braking
(15 min)	Blue – Wet Braking
10:35-10:50	Green Wet Braking
(15 min)	Blue – Dry Braking
10:50-11:00	Break
11:00-11:25	Green – Dry Accident Avoidance
(25 min)	Blue – Wet Accident Avoidance
11:30-11:55	Green – Wet Accident Avoidance
(25 min)	Blue – Dry Accident Avoidance
12:00-12:45	Lunch Break
12:50-1:25	Classroom session II – Advanced Techniques
1:30-1:55	Green – Cornering & Offroad Exercise
(25 min)	Blue – Skidpad
2:00-2:25	Green – Skidpad
(25 min)	Blue – Cornering & Offroad Exercise
2:30-3:00	Mini Break & Drivers Meeting
3:10-3:45	Green & Blue – Combination Exercises
(35 min)	Green & Blue – Combination Exercises
4:00-4:30	Wrap-Up Meeting on Track

A typical schedule for a car control clinic is shown to the right.

The schedule is subject to change.

## Safety First! Prepare for the event!

Safety is our primary concern at driving events. Our event team cannot foresee and codify every potential situation. The ultimate burden for safety is yours.

All participants – drivers, guests, staff and volunteers - must sign the required waivers. For participants under 18 years of age, their parents/legal guardians must complete the required waivers on behalf of the minor.

### Driver Requirements

- Drivers must be at least 15 years of age with a valid learner's permit or driver's license
  - For Drivers under 18 years, their parent or legal guardian must be onsite for the event.
- Drivers must bring their valid driver's license or permit
- Students may or may not be required to be members of ACNA to participate in this event. Please see the registration requirements for the specific event you will be attending.
- Dress for the weather and comfort; Drivers will be in and out of vehicles often.
- Drivers must wear closed-toe shoes such as sneakers. Sandals, open-toe shoes, and heavy boots are not permitted.

### Vehicle Requirements

- Participants must provide their own vehicle.

- The vehicle must be in good running order including tires, brakes, fluids, lights, and other essentials. No leaking fluids!
- State-mandated insurance coverage must be in effect.
  - Most makes and models are accepted provided they meet minimum club safety standards. High-center-of-gravity vehicles (SUVs, CUVs, SAVs, trucks, vans) must possess a minimum four-start rollover rating. (See [NHTSA ratings page](#).) Final determinations of a vehicle's acceptability will be determined by the Event Master.
  - If you have any doubts regarding vehicle acceptability, contact the event organizers (email: [events@audiclubglacierlakes.org](mailto:events@audiclubglacierlakes.org))
- Fill the gas tank before arrival.
- Check the air in the tires and fill them to the recommended tire pressures. Check the oil, coolant, brake fluid and power steering fluid levels. Adjust if needed.
- Empty the vehicle of all loose objects in the trunk, glove and passenger compartments, including back seats, under seats, cup holders, floors, etc.

### *Parent & Volunteer Requirements*

- Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age. (No one under 18 is allowed at the event except for registered students.)
- Dress for the weather. Bring sunscreen, a hat, an umbrella, etc. It is recommended to bring an extra pair of socks and shoes or footwear suited for walking in areas flooded with water.
- **Remain alert!** Vehicles are in motion and practicing control. Eyes up, keep a safe distance from cars!

### *General Safety Requirements*

- Follow all instructions provided by the Event Staff. Their primary concern is keeping everyone safe.
- Be aware of your surroundings including moving vehicles and foot traffic at all times.
- Adhere to the 5 mph speed limit in parking/paddock areas and while moving between exercises.
- Stay hydrated throughout the day.
- No alcohol or drugs allowed at the event. Anyone showing up with these – whether driver, parent, guardian, or volunteer – will be expelled from the event.

Audi Club Glacier Lakes reserves the right for our Event Master to make ad hoc decisions concerning the operation of the event. Participation in the event is contingent upon your abiding by these decisions. Cars, drivers and volunteers not judged to be safe will not be allowed on the driving course. Inappropriate behavior is grounds for expulsion from the balance of the event without a refund.

## Are you ready to give a Car Control Clinic a try?

We see significant improvements in drivers of all ages over the course of the day. The confidence level of each driver increases as their skills and capabilities increase. And the fact that it's so much fun is the icing on the cake! Are you ready to give a Car Control Clinic a try? Find a Car Control Clinic at: <https://acgl.motorsportreg.com>