



DRIVE SMART Weld County is excited for the 11th year of the Buckle Up Drive Smart (BUDS) program! The program is a safe driving awareness, peer-driven program that allows teens to earn up to \$1,000.00 for their school, organization, or club over the school year. **There is NO COST to the participating school.**

How to participate

1. **Fill out the entry form** located on the DRIVE SMART Weld County (DSWC) website Buckle Up Drive Smart! page and email to drivesmartweldcounty@gmail.com. *A limit of 6 participants will be accepted. Participants will be chosen on a first-come first-serve basis.*
2. **Schedule a meeting** with DRIVE SMART Weld County's representative, Janet Niederkorn. drivesmartweldcounty@gmail.com or 970.336.8719
3. **Plan activities** using the earnings guide below. (This is only a guide to help with ideas and give teams a feel for how to earn the maximum amount.) Notify DSWC representative of any planned events. The representative will attend events when available.
4. **Education activities must address** seat belt use, impaired driving, reckless driving, Graduated Driver's License, distracted driving, or driving around big rigs. Different subjects can be addressed throughout the year.
5. **A seat belt check must be completed at some point during the year.** DRIVE SMART will assist with counters and help as needed. Schools will receive \$100 toward their total earnings for this activity.
6. **We encourage one event that is a presentation by either students or outside speakers.** DRIVE SMART has speakers from all areas available: Law Enforcement, Trauma, Big Rigs, Survivors, and Insurance. Hosting our DRIVE SMART Teen program or our Truck Smart presentation would also cover this requirement. Skits or videos created and/or performed at a school event or in the common area will earn \$300.
7. **Participants will have a \$100.00 budget to work with.** If the team needs to purchase something for an activity a budget/purchase order will be submitted to the DSWC representative. This request must be approved before purchase. DRIVE SMART cannot reimburse private parties. This budget is in addition to the \$1,000.00 that can be earned.
8. **Events must be validated by a photo and activity submission report.** This validation must take place within the month of the activity. (For example: An activity completed in October must be reported on and validated by the end of October to qualify for earnings.)
9. **Each activity/event will stand on its' own.** Groups must complete a minimum of 5 activities. Earnings will reflect activities completed up to a total of \$1,000.00
10. **DSWC will recognize schools** at the end of the school year or when the \$1,000.00 amount is earned.

All activities and reports must be completed by April 2, 2027.

Buckle Up Drive Smart! Earning Sheet **Examples**

Remember DRIVE SMART is here to help with resources and ideas.

An activity that takes minimal planning and involves only the BUDS team action \$50	An event or activity that takes minimal planning and involves student action outside the team \$100	Coordination and implementation of an event with multiple pieces \$300
Examples	Examples	Examples
All school announcements - Must have a minimum of a week/5 days of safety messages.	Safety video/TikTok/Instagram	Student safety awareness event that would include coordination involving several pieces such as an activity, pledge, speakers, etc.
Bulletin boards or other static displays	Pledge event that would focus on seat belts, distracted, reckless or impaired driving.	Planning and implementation of a safety themed week with several activities such as contests for peers (such as a poster contest or hall decorating contest that revolves around a safe driving theme) and a skit and or game.
	Implement a permanent safe driving message such as parking lot signs/plaques/banners etc.	An event that would coordinate with local responders (Law Enforcement/Fire Department) to reach peer drivers.
		Hosting DRIVE SMART's DRIVE SMART Teen program or the Truck Smart program.
		Hosting a survivor speaker.