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For many individuals with SCI, driving can become a reality given the array of driving equipment and vehicle modifications available today. Driving is an important skill in our society. Often individuals with SCI can relearn this skill through specialized driver's training.

The first step in the process of learning to drive with a SCI is to receive a thorough evaluation to determine what you need in terms of your individual needs for basic driving set-up, specific modifications, and driving equipment. Your positioning requirements will also be taken into consideration. Once you have been evaluated, you will need to receive training to ensure that you are able to use the recommended adaptive driving equipment properly, and can be safe on the road. It is important to seek out an agency with experience in evaluating and training drivers with SCI, and that the staff have up-to-date knowledge of the options available for adaptive driving equipment, as well as expertise and skill as a driver trainer.

Listed below are several agencies that provide evaluation of driving capabilities, as well as behind the wheel training. You will also find a listing of dealers that install adaptive equipment in vehicles, in addition to agencies to contact for information on financial reimbursement for vehicle modifications.

DRIVER ASSESSMENT FACILITIES

Adaptive Driving Aid

800/371-4243

408/866-7237

3155 Williamsburg Dr.

San Jose, CA 95117

Sam Graf: Rehabilitation Driver Consultant

- Driver evaluations based out of the client's home and, when appropriate, using the client's own car
- Driver evaluation, education and training
- Mobile on-site evaluations from Santa Rosa to Monterey
- Adaptive equipment installation
- Prospective clients must have a driver's license or temporary permit

Apex Driving School

415/252-7760

P.O. Box 22342

San Francisco, CA 94122

- Driver assessment/evaluation, education and training
- Classroom instruction
- On road instruction
- Licensing assistance

7. Driving Evaluation and Equipment

Association for Driver Rehabilitation Specialists

608/884-8833

FAX: 608/884-4851

P.O. Box 49

Edgerton, WI 53534

Website: <www.driver-ed.org>

- Professional organization
- Consumers can search membership directory database to locate adaptive driving specialists in the area which they live

Chrysler Automobility Program

800/922-3826

P.O. Box 3124

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-3124

- Purchase or lease an eligible Chrysler, Plymouth, Dodge, or Jeep vehicle and the Chrysler Motors Corporation will reimburse you for a portion of the conversion costs
- Please call for details

John Muir Therapy

925/947-5300 x33423

1981 N. Broadway, Suite 180

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

- Two part program: Classroom and road training
- Physician referral required
- Must have current driver's license

Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Adaptive Driving Evaluation Program

408/885-5613

751 S. Bascom Ave.

San Jose, CA 95128

- Wheelchair/scooter evaluations
- Attendant operated van assessments
- Car assessments
- Van assessments, including high tech
- Driver training
- Certified to provide services to individuals who drive from a wheelchair

7. Driving Evaluation and Equipment

Veterans Administration Medical Center Palo Alto

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department

650/493-5000 x65624

3801 Miranda Ave.

Palo Alto, CA 94304

- Veterans only
- Must register with the VA hospital
- Driver assessment/evaluation, education, and training
- Device prescription
- Classroom and on-road instruction

MOBILITY EQUIPMENT INSTALLERS

Access Development Co.

707/585-6226

FAX: 707/585-6229

323 Sutton Place

Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Website: <www.access-development.com>

- Hand controls, wheelchair carriers & lifts
- Passenger vans and vehicle modifications
- Installation and repair

Access Options, Inc.

408/722-6804

FAX: 408/722-0236

49 Hangar Way, Suite 1

Watsonville, CA 95076

San Jose Location:

1255 Alma Court

San Jose, CA 95112

Website: <www.accessoptions.com>

- Hand controls, wheelchair carriers & lifts
- Passenger vans and vehicle modifications

Adaptive Driving Aid

800/371-4243

408/866-7237

3155 Williamsburg Dr.

San Jose, CA 95117

Sam Graf: Rehabilitation Driver Consultant

- Hand controls, wheelchair carriers & lifts
- Vehicle modifications

7. Driving Evaluation and Equipment

Adaptive Driving Systems

805/549-7996

3534 Empleo

San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

- Vehicle modifications and adaptive equipment

Driving Specialties Ltd.

Website: <www.drivingspecialties.com>

- Offers vehicle conversions with adaptive equipment

707/553-1515

215 Commercial St.

Vallejo, CA 94589

559/252-9738

2727 N. Grove Industrial Dr., Suite 141-B

Fresno, CA 93727

916/635-2765

2216 Cemo Circle, Suite A

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Freedom Access

916/338-4094

5710 Auburn Blvd., Suite 10

Sacramento, CA 95841

- Vehicle conversions with adaptive equipment
- Home modifications including grab bars, lifts for stairs, etc.

Mobility Systems, Inc.

510/540-0295

800/943-7333

1715 64th St.

Emeryville, CA 94608

Website: <www.mobilitysystems.com>

- Hand controls, wheelchair carriers & lifts
- Passenger vans and vehicle modifications

7. Driving Evaluation and Equipment

New Ability Driving Systems

800/287-LIFT
408/435-8005
2470 Kruse Dr.
San Jose, CA 95131

- Vehicle conversion with adaptive equipment

Nor-Cal Mobility

800/225-7361
916/893-1111
1298 Nord Ave
Chico, CA 95926
Website: <www.norcalmobility.com>

- Offers vehicle conversions with adaptive equipment and lifts

South Bay Mobility

408/988-1926
FAX: 408/988-1914
1940 Lafayette St., Unit 1
Santa Clara, CA 95050

- Vehicle modifications
- Hand controls, wheelchair carriers & lifts

DRIVER ASSESSMENT ASSOCIATIONS

American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association (ADTSEA)

Indiana University of PA, Highway Safety Center, R & P Building
Indiana, PA 15702-1093

- Professional organization which represents traffic safety educators

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)

800/729-2682
4720 Montgomery Lane
Bethesda, MD 20824-1220
Website: <www.aota.org>

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Association for Driver Rehabilitation Specialists

608/884-8833

FAX: 608/884-4851

P.O. Box 49

Edgerton, WI 53534

Website: <www.driver-ed.org>

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VEHICLE MODIFICATION REIMBURSEMENT

Chrysler Automobility Program

800/255-9877

P.O. Box 3124

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-3124

Website: <www.automobility.com>

Department of Rehabilitation

- See Chapter 24 for an office located nearest to where you live

Ford Motor Corporation Mobility Motoring Program

800/952-2248

P.O. Box 529

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

Website: <www.ford.com/showrooms/pavilion/>

General Motors Corporation Mobility Assistance Center

800/323-9935

100 Renaissance Center

P.O. Box 100

Detroit, MI 48265-1000

Website: <www.gm.com>

Saturn Mobility

800/553-6000

Website: <www.saturncars.com>

Volkswagon Mobility Access Program

800/444-8987

3800 Hamlin Rd.

Auburn Hills, MI 48326

7. Driving Evaluation and Equipment

BOOKS

The Disabled Drivers Mobility Guide
800/926-4222
AAA Traffic Safety and Engineering
1000 AAA Drive
Heathrow, FL 32746-5080

VIDEOS

The Road to Independence: Adapted Driving Options
404/350-7760
c/o The Assistive Technology Center
Shepherd Center
2020 Peachtree Rd., NW
Atlanta, GA 30309

