

Delaware State Police and Partnering Agencies Launch Blue Envelope Program to Support Drivers with Disabilities

Delaware has launched the Blue Envelope Program, a new statewide community initiative designed to help drivers with autism and other disabilities navigate interactions with law enforcement more confidently and safely.

The Blue Envelope Program is a tool that drivers can keep in their vehicles to store important documents such as their driver's license, registration, and insurance. It also includes clear communication tips for officers, instructions for drivers, and space to list emergency contact information and medical conditions that may impact behavior or responses.

The University of Delaware Center for Disabilities Studies reviewed and approved the envelope's content and design to ensure it is inclusive and accessible to the disability community.

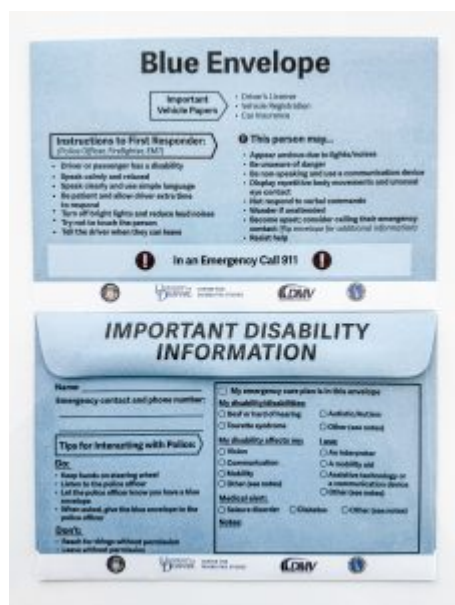


“This program is another example of how Delaware law enforcement is adapting to meet the diverse needs of our communities,” said Colonel William D. Crotty, Superintendent of the Delaware State Police. “The Blue Envelope Program helps prevent misunderstandings and ensures a safer experience for everyone involved in a traffic stop.”

“The Delaware Association of Chiefs of Police is proud to join the Delaware State Police, University of Delaware Center for Disabilities Studies, Delaware Office of Highway Safety, and Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles in supporting the Blue Envelope Program. This free initiative is designed to foster safe, clear, and respectful communication between law enforcement officers and drivers with autism and other disabilities. By providing a simple, visible tool that can be used during traffic stops or roadside encounters, the program helps reduce misunderstandings and encourages positive, informed interactions. The Blue Envelope Program is available to everyone. No qualifying questions are asked, and no identification is required to participate. It is our goal as an association to encourage all Delaware law enforcement agencies to participate in this initiative so that drivers across the state can benefit from consistent, supportive interactions,” said Chief Richard McCabe, President of the

Delaware Association of Chiefs of Police.

“This program is a valuable addition to other statewide initiatives promoting the inclusion of Delawareans with disabilities,” explained Dr. Sarah Mallory, Associate Director of the University of Delaware Center for Disabilities Studies. Dr. Alisha Fletcher, Director of the Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism, added, “We are pleased to have the opportunity to support the state in learning about this valuable resource.”



The envelope outlines behaviors a person may exhibit, such as delayed responses, lack of eye contact, or use of a communication device. It also provides quick reminders for first responders to speak calmly, use simple language, minimize physical contact, and reduce background noise whenever possible. These prompts help create a safer, more supportive interaction from the start.

Drivers are encouraged to inform the officer that they have a Blue Envelope and present it when asked. The envelope also includes practical do's and don'ts to help the interaction go smoothly.

The Blue Envelope Program is part of a nationwide initiative to promote understanding, prevent miscommunication, and support the safety and dignity of all individuals.

You can pick up a Blue Envelope for Delaware Drivers at any Delaware State Police Troop. Residents are also encouraged to contact their local police agency to find out if they are participating in the program. For more information, visit the [Blue Envelope Program](#).