

What is Delaware's Blue Envelope Program?

Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism (DNEA) Resource Guide

Through a partnership with Delaware State Police and Delaware Association Chiefs of Police, the Blue Envelope Program is a free initiative that aims to promote safe, clear, and respectful communication between law enforcement and drivers with autism and other disabilities. There are no qualifying questions asked and no identification is needed to participate.



Who can use the Blue Envelope?

The Blue Envelope is designed for people with disabilities, their family members, and their caregivers. It can be used by people who have a communication difference, sensory difference, mobility limitation, or other disability or medical condition.

Where can I get a Blue Envelope?



Delaware drivers and family members should visit their local Delaware State Police Troop, or participating police agency, to pick up an envelope.

Front of Envelope

Blue Envelope

Important Vehicle Papers

- Driver's License
- Vehicle Registration
- Car Insurance

Instructions to First Responder:
(Police Officer, Firefighter, EMT)

- Driver or passenger has a disability
- Speak calmly and relaxed
- Speak clearly and use simple language
- Be patient and allow driver extra time to respond
- Turn off bright lights and reduce loud noises
- Try not to touch the person
- Tell the driver when they can leave

In an Emergency Call

IMPORTANT DISABILITY INFORMATION

Name: _____

Emergency contact and phone number: _____

My disability/condition is:

- ☐ Deaf or hard of hearing
- ☐ Tourette syndrome
- ☐ Vision
- ☐ Communication
- ☐ Mobility
- ☐ Other (see notes)

My disability affects my:

- ☐ Use
- ☐ An interpreter
- ☐ A mobility aid
- ☐ Assistive technology or a communication device
- ☐ Other (see notes)

Medical alert:

- ☐ Seizure disorder
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Other (see notes)

Notes: _____

Tips for interacting with Police:

Do:

- Keep hands on steering wheel
- Listen to the police officer
- Let the police officer know you have a blue envelope
- When asked, give the blue envelope to the police officer

Don't:

- Reach for things without permission
- Leave without permission

Back of Envelope

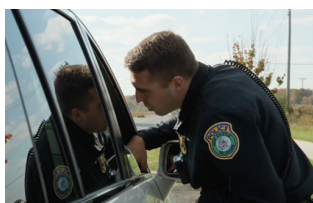
What can go inside the Blue Envelope?

Important documents such as your car registration, insurance card, or an emergency care plan.

Why is this program important for drivers and law enforcement?

- Quickly communicates important disability-related information and considerations
- Helps drivers to feel more confident and prepared during traffic stops
- Signals to officers that a driver may need additional supports (e.g., communication device, extra processing time, clear instructions, reduced sensory input)
- Provides emergency contact information

Additional Resources



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The Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism (DNEA) offers a wide range of resources for autistic drivers, passengers and first responders, including practice traffic stops, trainings, and printable materials and videos.

Visit cds.udel.edu/dnea/mockdriving for driving resources, to register for upcoming events and to access the My Emergency Care Plan.



Additional DNEA resource guides available at <https://www.delawareautismnetwork.org/>

Clark, A., Fletcher, A., Sawchenko, C., Mallory, S., & DNEA CDS Team. (2025). *What is Delaware's blue envelope program?* University of Delaware's Center for Disabilities Studies and the Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism.

