

# Travel is Heating Up

## *Summer Brings Higher Temps and Lots of Miles*

### Driving on UAB Business

A frequent question that we receive in the Office of Risk Management is, “who can drive a vehicle on UAB business?”

Driving on University business is a privilege. The [Vehicle Safety Management Program](#) (VSMP) outlines age, licensure, training, driving experience and other criteria for eligibility. The VSMP and requirements apply if driving a university owned vehicle or a personal vehicle on UAB business.

Generally speaking, employees, students, and volunteers may drive on university business. To drive, the individual must:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Have a valid driver’s license issued in the United States
- Have 3 years of driving experience
- Maintain an acceptable driving history and submit to a Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) review
- Complete the online defensive driving course offered through EH&S and other vehicle specific training as required
- Be knowledgeable of driver responsibilities as detailed in the VSMP.

For additional information on these and other requirements and responsibilities, visit [Risk Management Information Central](#), and choose Automobile Risk Management.

### Forms Related to Driving on UAB Business

For quick access to forms, use the following links:

- [UAB Vehicle Safety Management Program](#)
- [UAB Motor Vehicle Record \(MVR\) Request and Release](#)
- [UAB Vehicle Accident Report Form](#)

The Vehicle Safety Management Program requires that MVR records be reviewed on an annual basis for all regular drivers. If you are unsure if your departmental drivers are current on this requirement, email us at [UABRisk@uabmc.edu](mailto:UABRisk@uabmc.edu).

### Alabama Hands Free Law Begins June 1

The Alabama Hands Free Law goes in full effect Saturday, June 1, 2024.

Distracted driving has been addressed in the Vehicle Safety Management Program and driver training for years. Starting June 1<sup>st</sup>, law enforcement officers can give you a ticket if you’re driving and holding your phone to make a phone call, text, watch a video, FaceTime, use your GPS, or other activity.

**For additional information and resources, visit the Risk Management website at : [www.uab.edu/riskmanagement](http://www.uab.edu/riskmanagement)**

### Traveling Abroad? We Have You Covered

If you’re traveling internationally on UAB business or as part of a UAB sponsored education abroad experience, you can do so with confidence that there is a team ready to support you during your trip. UAB travelers are provided with resources, support, and insurance coverage through the [University of Alabama System International Travel Assistance Program](#).

The University of Alabama System maintains a robust program to help protect and assist our international travelers engaged in Educational Travel and Business Travel abroad. All travel involves risk, requiring individuals to be primarily responsible for their personal safety, security and health. The UAS International Travel Assistance Program has been established to assist travelers in times of unexpected circumstances that call for prompt action. While not a substitute for personal preparation and diligent emergency precautions, our objective is to provide assistance in times of need.

Information on different elements of the International Travel Assistance Program is provided during orientation for education abroad travelers. Business travelers receive information via email after the trip has been registered and approved through [UAB’s international travel approval process](#).