Driver's Service Adding Options

The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security's Driver Services division is pleased to announce the addition of document uploads to its online services options. This service allows new and existing customers to upload required identity documents to be pre-vetted and added to the customer's profile prior to visiting a Driver Services Center.

"This new service will reduce the number of potential visits and cut down transaction time at the Driver Services Center with our staff by pre-vetting the customer's uploaded documents," said Commissioner Jeff Long. "One of the biggest frustrations we see for customers visiting a Driver Services Center is finding out they don't have the correct documents with them when they arrive."

Current customers wanting to apply for a REAL ID; first-time driver license and ID applicants; and new resident applicants are eligible to use this service. To begin the document upload process, visit www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/online and navigate to e-Services. Existing customers will enter the required information fields and select "Upload Documents" from their service menu. New residents or first-time applicants will click, "Apply for a Tennessee permit, license, or ID" to begin the application and document upload process. Customers who complete the online document upload process will receive an email notification of their document review status.

Customers should allow up to five business days for their documents to be reviewed. Once approved, customers may visit any Driver Services Center or participating county clerk partner.

The approved uploaded documents must be presented in-person at a Driver Services Center or participating county clerk partner to verify the documents are original or certified. Proof of name change documents are not accepted for online document upload and need to be presented at the time of service.

The department encourages all Tennesseans to utilize the online portal to complete driver services such as driver license or CDL renewal, submitting reinstatement documents, change of address and many more. For services not available online in e-Services, customers may visit a Self-Service Kiosk, participating county clerk partner or are encouraged to make an appointment for their Driver Services Center visit.

CIS Plans To Aid Students

Communities In Schools (CIS) of Tennessee, part of the nation's leading nonprofit integrated student support network, is a school-based approach to develop academic success by tackling academic and non-academic barriers. CIS' Integrated Student Supports Model Support is provided by site coordinators, including Tania Ward, from Halls High, and Tequilla Nance, from Ripley High. They assess a student's needs, and then provide direct services and/or make referrals to community partners to ensure a student has everything they need to succeed in and out of the classroom.

In partnership with Gov. Bill Lee's administration and the General Assembly, CIS coordinators like Tania and Tequilla are working in 23 high schools in rural communities across the state as part of a three year pilot program to broaden the nonprofit's reach among vulnerable students in rural Tennessee. The site coordinators help facilitate a variety of student support services, including things like assistance securing food, housing, and transportation to health care, counseling, and mentoring services depending on the students' needs – which have of course evolved considerably in the last year.

The CIS mission is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

CIS began providing critical resources Tennessee students need to increase attendance and improve academic performance in 2012. The three-year rural expansion pilot program, which was approved by the General Assembly in 2019, allowed CIS to introduce new site coordinators at 23 high schools located in Tennessee's 15 most economically distressed counties in an effort to reduce chronic absenteeism and support higher academic outcomes.

As a result, CIS services are now available to an additional 10,800 students in these rural communities, and now serves 25,442 students across Tennessee through partnerships with 61 schools in 17 counties.

Trees Trimmed

VOLUNTEERS with the Lauderdale County Master Gardener, in upper photo, Doug Seaton and Carolyn Seaton, and in middle photo, Dwight Weaver, along with Lee Johnston, in lower photo, executive director of Ripley Downtown Development, worked on pruning the crape myrtles and other trees around the Ripley square last week. For those who may not know or need a refresher on how to properly prune a tree can now view an example of how to around the Ripley square. The Master Gardners are always looking for ways to help educate the public. Extension helps provide opportunities for both youth and adults across the county and state. The master gardener program is a prime example of how adults can be involved and serve their local communities while at it.