

Vulnerable Road User Program

PARTICIPANT WORKBOOK Part 1



“ Giving new drivers greater insight, awareness and respect for sharing the road with vulnerable road users.”

This is an approved learner licence training program under the Road Transport (Driver Licensing) Regulation 2000.



PART 1

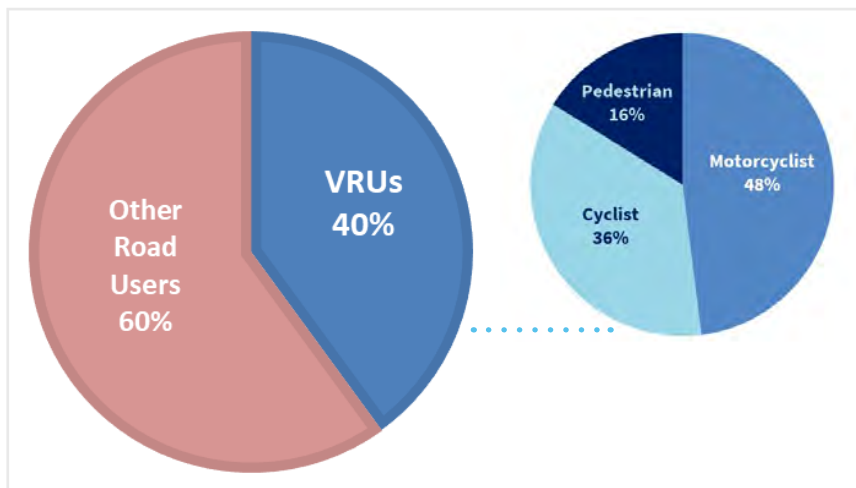
Welcome to Part 1 of the Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Program. The VRU Program is designed to engage with new drivers to give them greater insight, awareness and respect for motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians¹ to reduce the risk of harm to these vulnerable road users.

These road users are vulnerable because they do not benefit from the level of crash protection other vehicles have and therefore are at a higher risk of being injured or killed in a road crash. Drivers of cars or larger vehicles are often the greatest risk to VRUs.

Motorcyclists, cyclists, and pedestrians are all legitimate road users and have the same rights and responsibilities for using the road as motorists. As more Canberrans choose active travel options, we are not only improving health and wellbeing but also promoting sustainable transport. It is important that we recognise the role that these road users play in improving congestion on our roads and improving road safety in the ACT. In simple terms, the less we have people driving, the fewer crashes that will occur. If just 10% of Canberrans changed to non-car transport modes, we could expect to see dramatic decreases in the number of crashes on ACT roads.

VRUs remain overrepresented in road user casualty figures, which includes injuries and fatalities as a result of crashes. Over the last 10 years, there has been an average of 630 serious injuries and ten fatalities on ACT roads each year. Of these, VRUs have represented 40% of all casualties.

VRU Casualties on ACT Roads



¹ Pedestrians include Personal Mobility Devices such as e-scooters, e-skateboards and Segways

PART 1: PRE-COURSE ACTIVITY

Part 1 of the VRU Program is to be completed in your own time and consists of around 1-hour of self-directed learning. You **must** complete this work before attending the workshop to complete Part 2. Once you have completed Part 1 and Part 2, you will then be eligible to receive a 10-hour credit towards your required driving hours.

Activity 1: Awareness Test

Follow this link to watch a video that tests your awareness. It can be easy to miss something you're not looking for <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ahg6qcgoay4>

Activity 2: Driving Diary

When you are next travelling in a vehicle, either as a passenger or a driver, take care to notice every motorcyclist, cyclist and pedestrian on your journey. Observe how these vulnerable road users and drivers interact with each other.

Once you have completed your trip, use the table below to record your observations.

Road User	Did you observe considerate and respectful behaviours? What about unsafe or disrespectful behaviours?
Motorcyclists	
Cyclists	
Pedestrians	
Drivers	

Activity 3: Driving Observations

Take a moment to consider your observations. Was it difficult to see motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians? What made it difficult to see them?

Activity 4: Road Rules Q&A

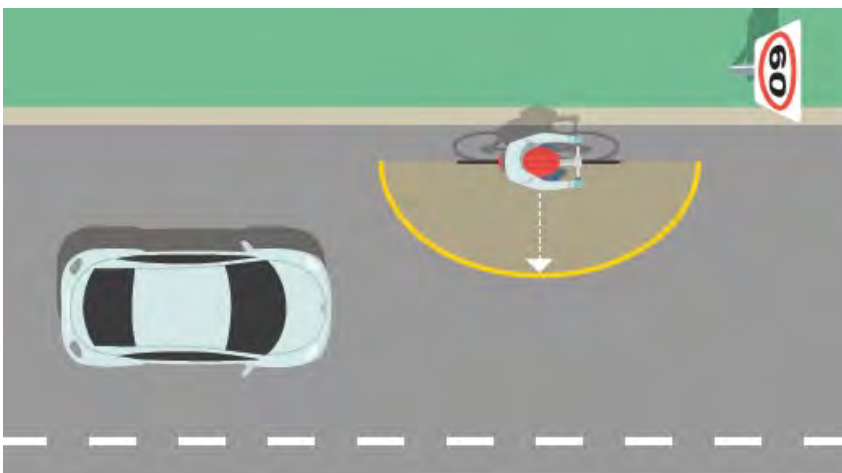
There are a number of road transport laws in place in the ACT that reduce the risk of harm to VRUs and ensure our roads are being shared safely.

More information on these road rules can be found at www.act.gov.au/safeplates

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. a) What is the minimum passing distance (in metres) that must be given when overtaking a cyclist in speed zones at or below 60km per hour?

- b) How does this change when you move to a speed zone of over 60km per hour?

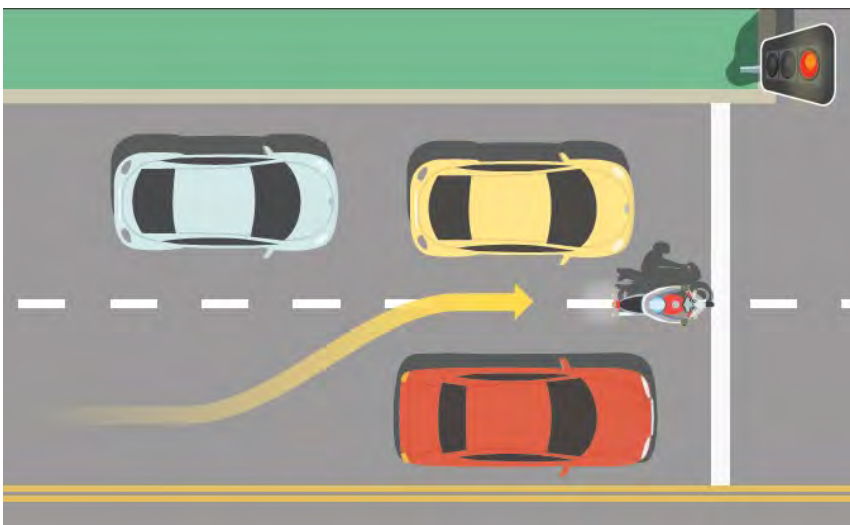


2. Using a mobile phone distracts drivers and is particularly dangerous around VRUs. As a learner or provisional driver, are you permitted to use your mobile device while driving for any of the following activities?

Using a mobile phone while driving	Yes / No	
Texting	Yes	No
Using handsfree or speaker	Yes	No
Skipping a song	Yes	No
Updating your social media	Yes	No
Streaming videos	Yes	No



3. a) What is motorcycle lane filtering?



4. a) When approaching a marked crossing, a motor vehicle driver must give way to...?

b) What might be some of the consequences if you fail to give way?



END OF PART 1

! Please ensure you bring this completed workbook and your current driver licence to the workshop. If you fail to bring the completed workbook you will not be able to participate in the workshop and you will not receive credit towards your required driving hours.

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