



Driver Rehabilitation Program
PROSPECTUS



OVERVIEW

### What is driver rehabilitation?

Driving and community mobility are linked to personal freedom and independence, playing a vital role in our lives. The ability to drive is key to accessing employment, health care, shopping, and socialization. Driver rehabilitation services involve specialized evaluations, training, and mobility planning to maximize access to those important life functions.

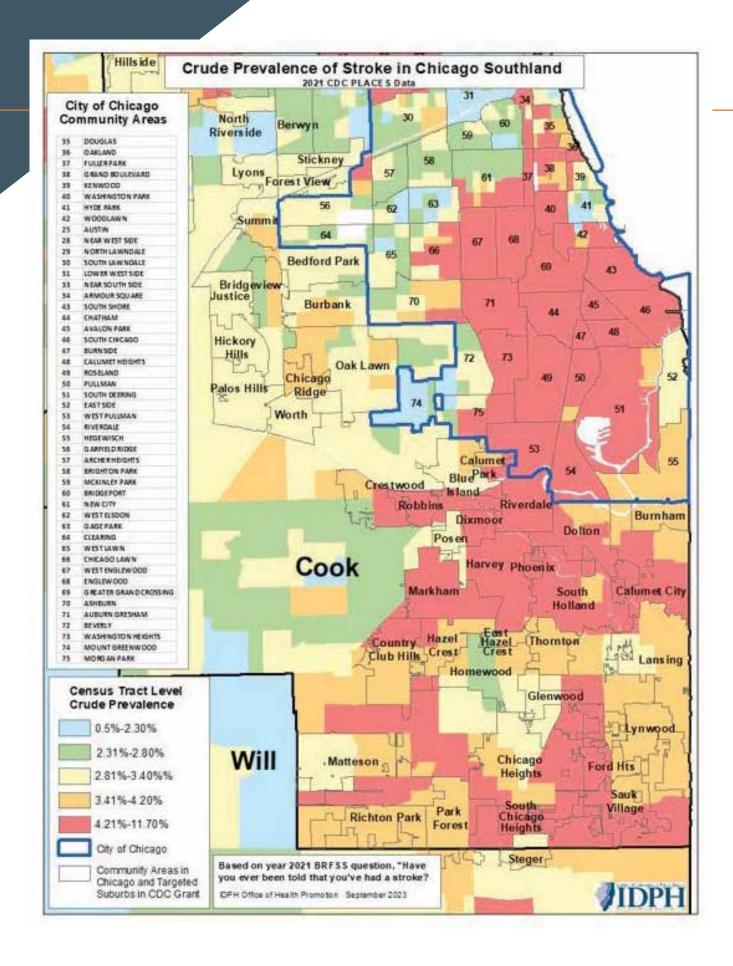
# Who needs driver rehabilitation services?

The client base for driver rehabilitation includes individuals with physical disabilities, injuries or surgeries resulting in loss of limbs, strokes and traumatic brain injuries, neurodegenerative disorders, aging older adults, and teens with atypical neurodevelopment.

Many residents of the Chicago Southland have elevated risks for health conditions that could affect driving. The Chicago Southland is an aging population with 14.7% of citizens in Will County and 16.2% of citizens in Cook County 65 years or older. In Will County, 8.76% of the population, or 56,202 people has a disability. The Illinois Department of Public Health reports 4.21-11.7% of citizens in areas of the Chicago Southland have reported they've had a stroke before—far over the national average of 3%. Several communities in the region are medically underserved and are also exposed at an elevated rate to social and environmental factors that adversely affect health—making the people of this region much more likely to experience conditions that lead to decreased or impaired driver fitness.

In addition, public transportation infrastructure in the region is limited, making it even more difficult to mitigate the impact of driving limitations on essential life functions. In a Community Themes and Strengths Assessment (CTSA) by the Will County MAPP Collaborative, the community rated "Access to Public Transportation" as the #1 issue within the home.

Community mobility has a major impact on a person's overall health and wellness. Driving and community mobility support is within the scope of Occupational Therapy practice. Occupational Therapists as well as other allied health professionals can specialize in driver rehabilitation. However, there are few such trained professionals relative to the need for these services, especially in the south suburban and rural region served by GovState.



# How can we help?

We can help by providing driver evaluation and rehabilitation services and by increasing the number of trained driver rehabilitation specialists. Currently, there are no driver rehabilitation services located in the Chicago Southland, and there is no professional training program in the region to increase the driver rehabilitation workforce.

GovState's Department of Occupational Therapy is seeking support for the development of a Community-Based Driver Rehabilitation Program to fill these gaps. Led by Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist and Assistant Professor Dr. Luther King DrOT, MOT, OTR/L, CDRS, our campus will host clinical services that will both serve the community and provide opportunities for training and educating future professionals in this region. The driver rehabilitation program will be a resource to physicians in the community who have patients that are medically at-risk drivers. Evaluation and intervention will require a referral from a licensed physician.

# MAKE SOMEONE'S LIFE BETTER



"Research shows when a person is injured, one of their top concerns is driving again. As a future Occupational Therapist, it's my job to get them back to work and make them comfortable."

— Destiny Pointer, Master of Occupational Therapy Student

"Expanding our knowledge on driver rehabilitation as students, allows us to teach other people in the future. Us learning and expanding our knowledge, expands that aspect of Occupational Therapy in our field and beyond."

— Abdul Murrar, Master of Occupational Therapy Student

"We met a local client with adaptive equipment in his vehicle after a Spinal Cord injury. He had to be driven hours away to access a driver rehabilitation specialist. I could be a resource point for people like him in the future."

— Jessica Jones, Master of Occupational Therapy Student



## IT'S IN OUR MISSION!

- Provide occupational therapy students quality education experiences in specialized areas of Occupational Therapy Practice
- Foster a commitment to lifelong learning, scholarship, and professional ethics
- Infuse community partnerships for the health, well-being, and economic development of the region

# IT'S OUR VISION TO BE A...

- National leader in preparing Occupational Therapy practitioners for specialized practice in driver rehabilitation
- Recognized leader in advancing evidence-based driver rehabilitation practice
- Recognized community-based provider of high-quality driver rehabilitation services in the Chicago Southland













will have the opportunity to interface directly with clients. These unique learning experiences will become a regular part of educational programming at GovState.

Experiential learning is the best way to prepare students to assess and intervene with clients and provide support for use of adaptive equipment and/or adaptive techniques to drive.

While working directly with the community, students are being prepared to become part of the healthcare workforce, and specifically driver rehabilitation workforce, that understands the social and environmental determinants of health and advances justice through improving health equity. Training students at GovState will impact the future of the local area in particular. GovState alumni enrich the region, with many staying after graduation and becoming permanent members in the fabric of our community.



# GovState would be the first academic institution in Illinois to have a Driver Rehabilitation Program.

"Having driver rehabilitation as a specialized learning outcome for our OT students will help them develop the skills and practice behaviors to be able to support community members with driving resources and needs. Building capacity in the field of driver rehabilitation will support the current shortage of access to driver rehabilitation specialists."

— Caren Schranz, Department of Occupational Therapy Chairperson

"A driver rehabilitation program that serves the Chicago Southland will provide a much-needed service to the community and educational opportunities for our students. This has the potential to be the foundation of a bigger initiative relative to community mobility including education on advances in vehicle technology, partnerships with the Secretary of State, public transportation, etc."

— Luther King, Assistant Professor

MAKE SOMEONE'S LIFE BETTER





# **ABOUT GOVSTATE**

GovState is committed to offering an exceptional and accessible education that prepares students with the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed in a global society.

GovState is in many ways a model for public universities in today's challenging higher education environment. Founded as an upper-division institution in 1969, in 2014 the University converted to a full-fledged university that provides transformative undergraduate and graduate education to both traditional and adult learners.

Located 30 miles south of Chicago in University Park, GovState strives to provide an exceptional and accessible education. Its mission and service territory are compelling. Serving a local and regional population that spans from Chicago's South Side, to its south suburbs, to rural communities far beyond the city, GovState has throughout its history played a seminal role in improving the lives of its students and our communities. The University has long partnered with the region's robust community colleges, and its innovative Dual Degree Program encourages students who start in the community college system to persist to attainment of a bachelor's degree at GovState.

GovState serves nearly 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students with 31 bachelor degrees; 28 master degree programs; five doctoral degrees, and 27 certificate programs that prepare them for success in business, industry, healthcare, the arts and education. As a state university with a regional focus, GovState is committed to providing high-quality and responsive opportunities in higher education. Further, the University offers one of the best value undergraduate tuition and fee rates in the state.



PROPOSAL

### REGULATION

# Illinois Secretary of State Association of Driver Rehabilitation Specialists (ADED)

# **IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE**

**Summer 2021:** Program development consultation

Spring 2022: Business plan created

Fall 2023: Program location space secured

Spring 2024: Renovation of classroom, laboratory, and office space

**Spring 2024:** Vehicle and essential equipment purchases

**Spring 2024**: Marketing plan development and implementation

Summer 2024: Program launch

# **OPERATIONS AND PROGRAM MONITORING**

**Luther King,** DrOT, MOT, OTR/L, CDRS will perform evaluation services and manage clinical operations, insuring compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

The program will be reviewed annually by the Department of Occupational Therapy, with the support of expert consultants.

# FUNDING

# We need your support to make this program happen.

#### PARTNERSHIP AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Naming of the Driver Rehabilitation Lab \$250,000

- Lab space will be named after your organization/individual name
- Name/logo will be associated with materials and related media (including GovState website)
- Name/Logo applied to the vehicle
- Name and logo on GovState Foundation website.
- Press release with photo opportunity, announcement to 40,000+ alumni in Chicagoland)
- Scholarships in your organization's name/individual name

#### Lead Gift Recognition \$200,000 to \$249,000

- Name/logo will be associated with materials and related media (including GovState website)
- Endowed Named Scholarship (\$25,000 per scholarship)
- Recognition at annual scholarship luncheon and lunch with students
- Press release with photo opportunity, announcement to 40,000+ alumni in Chicagoland)
- Name and logo on GovState Foundation website.
- Name/Logo applied to the vehicle

### Community Partner \$100,000 - \$199,000

- Name/logo will be associated with materials and related media (including GovState website)
- Endowed Named Scholarship (\$25,000 per scholarship)
- Press release with photo opportunity, announcement to alumni (40,000+ in Chicagoland)
- Recognition at annual scholarship luncheon and lunch with students
- Name and logo on GovState Foundation website for fiscal year
- Name/Logo applied to the vehicle

### Collaborator \$50,000 to \$99,000

- Name/logo on vehicle
- Endowed Named Scholarship (\$15,000 per scholarship)
- Name and logo on GovState Foundation website

BUDGET

# DRIVER REHABILITATION FUNDING NEEDS

ITEM	AMOUNT
Vehicle	\$60,000
Maintenance of Vehicle/Insurance	\$6000 annually
Vehicle Adaptive Equipment	\$2000
Driving Simulator	\$58,000
Vision tester (Optec)	\$6000
Mobility Assessment and Evaluation Instruments	\$6000
Documentation system/software	\$10,000
Cost of Clinical Services	\$50,000
Driver Rehab Lab (build out, electric, heating/air, technology)	\$100,000





Please contact for more information or to donate: Institutional Advancement

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To donate: bit.ly/49eE23C

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