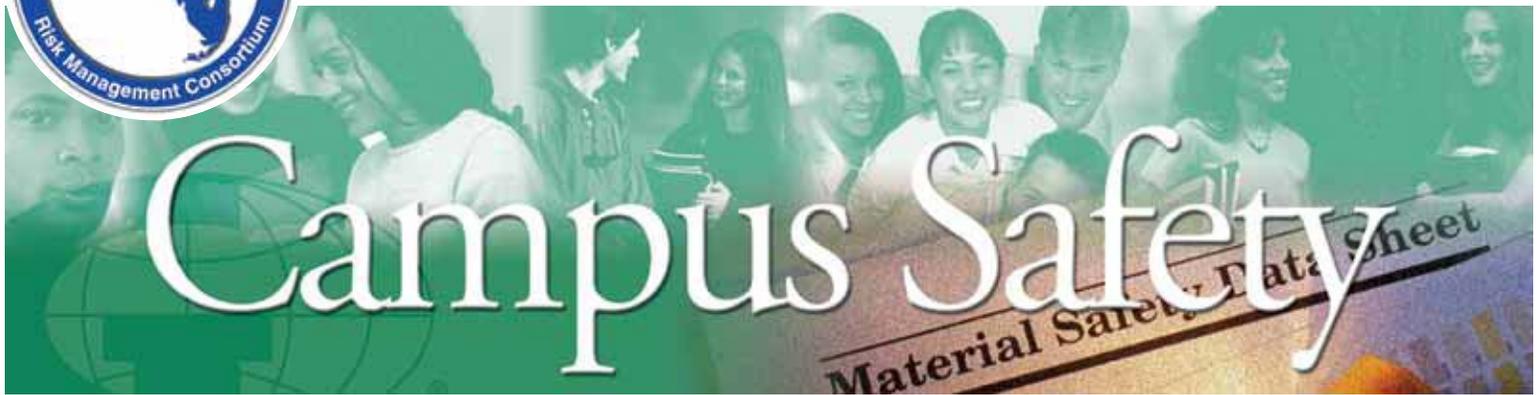




## Florida Community Colleges Risk Management Consortium



# Drive like your life depends on it. It does!

Each year more than 43,000 people lose their life due to vehicle accidents. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for all ages. Motor vehicle accidents are also the leading cause of **on-the-job fatalities**, and it is estimated to cost over \$60 billion dollars a year. Driving is part of almost every business environment and is one of the leading risk exposures that businesses and employees face. Vehicle accidents can occur in seconds. Therefore, it is critical that each business conduct due diligence in selecting employees to drive for your college and maintain vehicle safety programs that ensure employees drive in a safe manner. For employees driving on business purposes, you must drive defensively and keep alert at all times when driving. Listed below are some suggested practices that colleges and employees should consider:

### College Responsibilities

- Ensure that your employees are qualified to operate the class vehicle through driver transcript background checks and over-the-road driver assessment/evaluations.
- Develop standards for safe driving performance.
- Provide vehicle safety orientation training and remedial training to all drivers.
- Investigate all vehicle accidents and promote counseling and training on driver errors discovered in the investigation.
- Create vehicle specifications for your fleet program that include add-on specialty safety equipment to assist the driver.
- Develop and implement periodic and routine vehicle inspections.
- Use the ANSI Z15.1 Standard, *Safe Practices for Motor Vehicle*



Inspect your vehicles. Here a rim is missing a bolt.

*Operations*, as a guidance model for an effective fleet safety program.

### Driver Responsibilities

- Operate only vehicles that you are qualified and licensed to drive.
- Understand and comply with all college safe driving standards of performance.
- Inspect all vehicles to ensure all equipment is in safe working condition—especially all vehicle safety equipment.
- Keep your eyes on the road and your driving at all times in order to forecast activities ahead so you are prepared.
- Drive defensively by operating at safe speeds to control your vehicle for the driving conditions. Maintain sufficient clearance around your vehicle, including in front of you so you can maneuver out of trouble.
- Understand and comply with all federal and state driving regulations.
- Do not become distracted when driving; always keep your attention on driving to avoid accidents.



Drive at a safe speed and a safe distance between vehicles. Be aware of what's going on around you in case you have to suddenly slow down or maneuver out of the way of stopped traffic.

In following these driver responsibilities, you will reduce your chances of being involved in a motor vehicle crash. **Remember, your life and the life of others depend on it!**