



Student Group, Student Organization, or Student Activities Travel

Concordia University Texas students and student groups are encouraged, when possible, to use rental vehicles for university-related activities.

Understanding that some elective activities and programs utilize personal student vehicles, this should be done so only on a voluntary basis.

- Any individual who drives his or her personal vehicle assumes all responsibility for the safety of himself/herself as well as any passengers.
- State of Texas Law requires people who drive in Texas to have a valid driver's license, carry automobile liability insurance, and have a valid vehicle registration and state inspection.
- Concordia does not provide automobile insurance for a student's personal vehicle driven on a university-related activity.
- Any student choosing to ride in a private automobile do so voluntarily and at their own risk.

Concordia University Texas bears no liability for student use of personal vehicles.

Students who voluntarily participate in the elective activities and programs, including all that involve travel, shall complete the Concordia University Texas Participant Release (Release & Hold Harmless Agreement/Waiver of Liability) that verifies they understand and accept the risks involved with the activity or program and assume responsibility for their actions.

Safety Guidelines for University Travel

- Drive in a safe, controlled and courteous manner, in compliance with all applicable traffic laws.
- Never place a vehicle in motion until the driver and all occupants are appropriately wearing safety belts. The driver must also assure that safety belts continue to be worn by all occupants while the vehicle is in motion.
- Do not exceed the vehicle's manufacturer's recommendation for passenger and weight load.
- Inspect the vehicle for obvious safety concerns prior to operation. The brakes, turn signals, lights, seat belts, mirrors, windshield wipers and tires should all be visually inspected and tested, if applicable prior to operating the vehicle. In no event should the driver attempt to operate a vehicle with deficiencies that may make it unsafe to operate.
- Never transport unauthorized travelers or cargo.
- Never drive the vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, including medications which may cause impairment. Driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol or other consciousness altering substances (except for required medications that do not impair driving ability or cause drowsiness) is prohibited at all times as it endangers the driver, passengers, and others.
- Never use cell phones or any other handheld or hands-free electronic devices while driving.
- Texting while driving is strictly prohibited.
- Avoid distractions while driving. Do not engage in eating, smoking, personal grooming, reading, using a laptop, GPS, watching DVD players or other distracting activities while driving, even in slow moving traffic.
- Avoid driving in hazardous conditions including, but not limited to: fog, heavy rain, snow, or severe weather conditions.
- Avoid driving at night, when possible.
- Know the route of intended travel and an alternate route prior to departure.
- Travel with a vehicle registration card, insurance identification card, and emergency telephone numbers. A flashlight, first-aid kit, jumper cables, spare tire, emergency flares, blanket and bottled water are recommended.