

The National Advanced Driving Simulator Invites You to Participate in a Driving Research Study



Hello, my name is Mark Wilkinson. I am the principal investigator of a study in which you are being invited to participate. I would like to tell you about the research that will be conducted and provide a preview of what will be included in your visit to the National Advanced Driving Simulator at The University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa, if you choose to participate in this study.

You are being invited to participate in this research study because you have expressed interest when completing our online questionnaire.

This study will not evaluate how you drive. We are evaluating how individuals with and without a visual impairment navigate through unfamiliar areas with and without the assistance of GPS navigation.

In the study, you will be asked to complete two drives in an instrumented research vehicle during daylight hours in the Iowa City, Iowa area. During the drives, a researcher will sit in the front seat to monitor the road, the vehicle, and provide instructions. Another researcher will sit in the rear of the vehicle to assist with data collection. You may or may not receive GPS navigational instructions during the drives. You will also be asked to verbally indicate when you can read sign and interact with traffic on the road as you normally would.



Before going into the details of the study, I would like you to know more about our center and the groundbreaking research conducted here:

- The facility was built by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to conduct highway safety research.
- The facility is operated by The University of Iowa.
- Traffic safety research is conducted for organizations such as NHTSA, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), automotive manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies, and medical device manufacturers.

I appreciate your interest in participating in this study.



Hello, I am Cheryl Roe. I am the study coordinator for this driving research study. I will be your contact at The University of Iowa. I want to assure you that I will be here to help you throughout your involvement in this research.

I encourage you to take the time to read the materials included and seriously consider participating in this study. If you would like to know more about our facility, please go to our website at www.nads-sc.uiowa.edu.

The following has been included:

- This informational letter
- The informed consent document
- Visitor's Guide to the Iowa City/Coralville area

If you are interested in participating, the following steps are involved:

- Contact me via email cheryl-roe@uiowa.edu or call me at 319-335-6803.
- I will review the study procedures with you on the phone. Although you are most likely eligible to participate, I will need to ask you a brief list of questions to determine your eligibility. I will email and/or mail the consent and additional information to you and allow about one week for you to think about your participation.
- After about one week, I will go over the consent and obtain your consent over the phone electronically. To do this you would need to have access to an internet connection on a personal device (phone, tablet, laptop, desktop). If you do not have access to the internet, I will go over the consent and obtain a verbal indication from you over the phone regarding your willingness to participate.
- Next, we will determine the best time for you to travel to Iowa for your study visit.
- I will make sure I have all your contact information. Then I will ask you to read the Informed Consent Document, follow the instructions on where to sign, and return it in the envelope provided.
- When I receive your signed consent, I will call you to confirm your participation. I cannot arrange travel to Iowa until I receive your consent form.
- After I confirm your consent, I will start travel arrangements for you.
- A copy of your signed consent will be sent to you with your travel itinerary.
- Travel arrangements will be made for your stay in Iowa City. This will include:
 - Hotel arrangements
 - If flying, flight arrangements will be made from your home to the nearest airport.

- If driving, detailed navigational instructions will be provided.
- I will call you three days before you travel to Iowa and again the day before you travel here to verify all arrangements.
- Staff will greet you at the airport or the hotel upon your arrival

The study visit will take up to 2.5 hours upon arrival at NADS. A research team member will greet you in the lobby of your hotel 30 minutes prior to your study appointment and transport you to NADS. Upon arrival at NADS, you will be taken to a private room and the study procedures will be reviewed. Then you will be asked to complete a payment form and sign a video release statement. The video release is not optional. Next, your visual acuity will be obtained using an eye chart similar to those used at the eye doctor. These procedures will take about 15 minutes. You will then be given a short break before being escorted to the research vehicle.

A research team member will provide information about the study drives and the research vehicle and will allow you to adjust the seat, steering wheel, and mirrors to a comfortable position for driving. The researcher will sit in the front seat to provide instructions throughout the drives as well as monitor the road, the vehicle, and you. Another researcher will sit in the rear passenger seat to assist with data collection. You will complete two drives during daylight hours that will take about 35 minutes each. Both drives will require you to drive on an interstate, a rural highway, and in urban and residential areas. You will receive instructions from GPS navigation during one of the drives, and not receive GPS navigation on the other drive. You will be given a break between the drives.

If you are required to wear a bioptic telescope while driving, you will be required to wear it for both drives. If you are not required to use one, you will complete both drives without wearing a bioptic telescope. When the study visit is complete, a research team member will transport you back to the hotel or airport.

I hope you consider visiting Iowa to take part in this study and help us promote safety on our roadways. I look forward to talking with you on the phone and answering any questions you may have. Please give me a call at 319-335-6803.

Thank you,
Cheryl

Cheryl Roe
Study Coordinator, Using GPS while Driving with Visual Impairments
National Advanced Driving Simulator
University of Iowa
319.335.6803
Cheryl-roe@uiowa.edu