

Troopers and dispatchers with the Nebraska State Patrol will be putting in overtime hours as part of high visibility enforcement efforts in conjunction with this week's boys state basketball tournament in Lincoln.

A grant of \$8,550 from the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety (NOHS) will help to pay for the special enforcement efforts.

Beginning today (Thursday) and continuing through Saturday, troopers will focus on several high traffic areas across the state in an effort to reduce crashes.

"You can expect traffic volume in and around the capital city to increase during state basketball," said Headquarters Troop Commander, Captain Steve Ayres.

"We would encourage anyone traveling into Lincoln for the games to give themselves plenty of time to reach their destination," he said.

Motorists are reminded to obey the posted speed limits, always buckle up and never drink and drive.

Several construction projects remain on Nebraska roadways. I-80 widening projects between Omaha and Lincoln continue. Drivers are urged to use caution and remember fines double for speeding in construction zones.

Travelers wanting to check road and weather conditions along their route can do so by dialing 511, the state's automated weather and road condition hotline.

Anyone experiencing a roadside emergency or witnessing a reckless or impair driver should call the Nebraska State Patrol Highway Helpline at 1-800-525-5555 or *55 on their cellular phone.