

PARENT INFORMATIONAL

38 HR COURSE

The 38 Hour course consists of in person classroom hours and behind the wheel instruction hours led by a certified license instructor.

THE GRADUATED LICENSING PROGRAM

There are 3 stages to the Louisiana graduated licensing program. One for a 15 year old, a 16 year old, and a 17 year old student. The stages are broken down as follows:

THE GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSE PROGRAM

STAGE 1 - Learner's Permit (02 restrictions) Shall be at least 15 years old; shall pass knowledge test and a vision screening; • shall maintain the learner's permit for a minimum of 180 days and cannot upgrade to Stage 2 until licensee is at least 16 years old; • shall drive **ONLY with a licensed parent, guardian, or adult at least 21 years old, or a licensed sibling at least 18 years old or older.**

THE GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSE PROGRAM

STAGE 2 -An applicant for an intermediate license: • shall be at least 16 years old or have had a valid learner's permit issued at least 180 days prior and complete a minimum of 50 hours of supervised driving practice, at least 15 of which must be nighttime driving. The supervised practice must be with a licensed parent, guardian or adult at least 21 or older; • shall pass the road skills test; • shall not drive between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a. m. the teen may not transport more than one passenger under age 21 and who is not an immediate family member, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

THE GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSE PROGRAM

An applicant for a permanent license: • shall be at least 17 years • • shall not have had any convictions for moving, seat belt, or curfew violations during the intermediate stage if applicable.

Course Content

The outline of all 9 chapters is currently posted in the student's Google Classroom.

The course content range to but is not limited to introduction to driving to vehicle components to traffic safety to driver awareness to defensive driving. The dangers of drunk driving, texting and driving, police interactions and road hazards are also thoroughly discussed.

Is Your Teen Ready To Drive?

- 1. Do you feel your teen consistently demonstrates good judgment and maturity at school, around peers, at home and is receptive to constructive criticism and instruction? Is she ready to accept the responsibility for her own safety and those around her?**
- 2. Is your teen demonstrating knowledge of the rules of the road and other proficiencies based on lessons learned in driver education classes? (Parents can assess by asking the teens to comment on their driving.) If not, is your teen in need of specialized instruction or a driving assessment?**

Is Your Teen Ready To Drive?

3. Is your teen agreeable to practicing driving (for at least 50 hours required in Louisiana) with a licensed adult prior to driving independently; is there an adult who is willing/able to serve in this important role?

4. Of course, even after a teen receives a driver's license, parents need to continue to assess their teen's driving behavior. Will the teen be teachable in this aspect?

ENHANCE YOUR TEEN'S DRIVING ABILITY

Supervised behind-the-wheel driving experience is the key to developing necessary habits and skills for safe driving. Parents who work with their teens will help them gain the needed experience and judgement.

ENHANCE YOUR TEEN'S DRIVING ABILITY

Parents should be comfortable with their teen's level of driving skill, and experience before allowing him or her to drive independently. Talk candidly with your teen about the dangers and risks of distractions such as music, passengers, eating, and using cell phones. It is helpful to demonstrate the importance of controlling emotions while driving (e.g. "road rage", drag racing, etc.).

ENHANCE YOUR TEEN'S DRIVING ABILITY

Practice makes perfect: Studies show that the risk of a crash diminishes with experience. The more time you can spend driving with your teen, the less likely it is they'll crash when they begin driving alone. Driving in a variety of circumstances is equally important. While using this program, you should drive on all types of roads. Make sure your teen gets exposure to a variety of roadways, and in different conditions as well: at night; in rain, fog, and snow; and in heavy and light traffic.

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

Rules for parents to consider when teens begin driving independently include:

- Parents should not allow young drivers unrestricted driving privileges until they have gained sufficient experience.
- Parents should limit their teen's driving alone in adverse weather conditions (rain, snow, ice, fog, etc.) and at night until the teen has sufficient skills and experience.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal and dangerous and should be strictly prohibited.
- Parents should work out when and where the teen is allowed to drive the car (e.g. to and from part-time job, etc.).
- Everyone in the car must wear seat belts at all times.

PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

Inexperienced drivers often concentrate on driving correctly and fail to anticipate the actions and mistakes or errors of other drivers. If your teen is taking medications (prescription or over-the-counter) or has any medical illnesses, you should check with the physician prescribing the medications about possible effects on the teen's driving ability.

LEADING FACTORS OF TEENAGE CRASHES

DISTRACTED DRIVING: This includes texting and driving as well as other behaviors that take your attention away from driving, like eating, talking to passengers, and adjusting the stereo or navigation system.

LEADING FACTORS OF TEENAGE CRASHES

SPEEDING:

"In 2019, speeding was a factor in 29 percent of the fatal crashes that involved teen drivers." The problem can get worse in inclement weather, as teenagers are inexperienced with how a car might handle differently in the rain or less than ideal situations.

LEADING FACTORS OF TEENAGE CRASHES

INEXPERIENCE: Teens are more likely than older drivers to underestimate or not be able to recognize dangerous situations. Teens are also more likely than adults to make critical decision errors that can lead to serious crashes.

In 2019, almost 2,400 teens in the United States aged 13–19 were killed^{1,2} and about 258,000 were treated in emergency departments for injuries suffered in motor vehicle crashes.¹ That means that every day, about seven teens died due to motor vehicle crashes, and hundreds more were injured.

REQUIRED DRIVING HOURS AFTER DRIVER'S ED COMPLETION

Students on a learner's permit would need to complete 50 hours of supervised driving with a licensed adult. 15 of the 50 hours must be at night within 6 months before returning for a road skills assessment.

To track the student's hours, download a free app by RoadReady or StateFarm. Both apps tracks your teen's driving hours until you reach the state requirements.

Or simply use a driver's log found online.

TEEN/PARENT AGREEMENT

The purpose of the teen/parent agreement is to ensure that rules and restrictions are clearly signed and agreed to by both the parent and the teenage driver. The teen/parent agreement is a contract which covers rules, expectations and consequences for the teen driver.

Parents should download the teen/parent agreement. The link is:

[https://www.cdc.gov/parentsarethekey/pdf/PATK_2014_TeenParent_Agreement AAP-a.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/parentsarethekey/pdf/PATK_2014_TeenParent_Agreement_AAP-a.pdf)

TIP-TEMPORARY INSTRUCTIONAL PERMIT

All students must obtain a TIP card from an actual state Office of Motor Vehicle location in order to attend driver's ed. The purpose of the temporary instructional permit card is to verify the student's identity and to address any sort of medical conditions that could prevent a person from being in the driver seat of a vehicle.

The student's parent or guardian must accompany the student to the OMV with the student's birth certificate and social security card.

DRIVER'S ED TIMELINE

The Office of Motor Vehicles allows up to 120 days for a driving school to complete each student's driver's education. We strive to complete each student's requirement within 30-50 days of the classroom completion.