INDIANA SADD · TEEN DRIVER INFO SHEET · FOR TEENS & PARENTS

DRIVING IN INDIANA: THE GDL RULES

Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL): the 3 stages and the rules at each one

YOUR ROAD TO A FULL LICENSE

1 LEARNER'S PERMIT
Supervised driving only

- **Age 15** if enrolled in approved driver ed (bring your Certificate of Driver Education)
- **Age 16** without driver ed
- Practice with an approved supervisor and log every hour

2 PROBATIONARY LICENSE
Solo, with restrictions

- **Age 16** with driver ed, or **16 years + 270 days** without
- Held your permit at least **180 days**
- Logged **50+ practice hours** (10 at night) and bring the log to the BMV

3 RESTRICTED TO 21
Some rules stay with you

- Driving-hour limits end at **18**
- No phone use at all, even hands-free, until **21**
- Seatbelts for everyone in the car, **always**
- Breaking the rules: a **Class C infraction**, with fines and court costs

THE RULES, AT A GLANCE

DRIVING HOURS — UNTIL AGE 18

OFF THE ROAD DURING THESE TIMES:

First 180 days	**10 pm – 5 am**, every night
After 180 days	Sun–Thu nights: **11 pm – 5 am** Fri & Sat nights: **1 am – 5 am**

Exceptions: work, school activities, religious events, or a licensed driver 25+ (or spouse 21+) in the car.

PASSENGERS — FIRST 180 DAYS

Drivers under 21: **no passengers** unless a licensed instructor, licensed driver 25+, or spouse 21+ rides along.

Family is OK: siblings (incl. step and half), child or stepchild, parent or guardian, grandparent, spouse.

PHONES: HANDS OFF — UNDER 21

No phone or other device, **for any reason**, while driving, not even hands-free. The only exception is calling **911** in an emergency.

21 and older: Indiana's hands-free law still applies. No driver may hold a phone while driving.

WHO CAN SUPERVISE PRACTICE?

If you're under 18:

- A licensed instructor through a driving school
- A licensed driver 25+ related by blood, marriage or law
- Your spouse 21+ with valid driving privileges
- A BMV-recognized certified driver rehabilitation specialist

If you're 18 or older: any licensed driver 25+, or your spouse 21+.

WHY IT MATTERS

A teen's first 12-24 months behind the wheel carry the highest crash risk.

16- and 17-year-olds are overrepresented in fatal crashes; NHTSA points to inexperience and immaturity. GDL rules cut high-risk exposure while new drivers build skill.

LEARN MORE

indianasadd.org

OFFICIAL BMV RULES

in.gov/bmv/2583.htm