

INDIANA'S TEEN GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSING LAW (GDL)

LEARNER PERMIT – Supervised Driving Only

15 year olds may obtain a learner's permit when enrolled in an approved behind-the-wheel training course and must present a valid Certificate of Driver Education. At 16, a person may obtain a permit without enrolling in driver education.

PROBATIONARY LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Unsupervised Driving with Restrictions

Minimum Age – 16 years with successful completion of Driver Education; 16 years and 270 days without Driver Education.

Mandatory Holding Period – Must have held Learner's Permit for 180 days.

Minimum Supervised Driving – Must have logged at least 50 hours of supervised practice driving (10 hours must be nighttime driving).

Under 18 – Supervisor may be: (1) a licensed instructor working through a driving school; (2) a licensed driver at least 25 years old and related by blood, marriage or legal status; (3) a spouse over age 21 with valid driving privileges; (4) BMV-recognized certified driver rehabilitation specialist

Over 18 – Supervisor may be any licensed driver over age 25 or a spouse over age 21.

A log of Supervised Driving must be maintained and presented to the BMV at the time of application.

PROBATIONARY LICENSE RESTRICTIONS:

Cell Phones/Texting – Prohibits individuals under age 21 from using **any** type of telecommunication device for **any** purpose while operating a vehicle except for making emergency 911 calls.

Driving Hours –

During the first 180 days, the restriction is 10 pm–5 am. After that, until age 18, the restrictions are 1–5 am Saturday and Sunday, after 11 pm Sunday through Thursday, and before 5 am Monday through Friday

Exemptions: *Lawful employment, school-sanctioned activity, religious event or if accompanied by a licensed driver 25 years or older or your spouse with valid driving privileges who is at least 21 years of age.*

Restrictions on Passengers – Up to age 21, no passengers for the first 180 days unless accompanied by a licensed instructor, a licensed driver 25 years or older, or your spouse with valid driving privileges who is at least 21 years of age.

Exemptions: *sibling, step-sibling, child, step-child, half sibling, parent or legal guardian, grandparent, or spouse of the driver.*

VIOLATIONS – Violations generally constitute a Class C infraction and may result in fines and court costs.

All occupants must use proper seatbelt restraints.

RESTRICTED LICENSE until AGE 21

Young, inexperienced drivers, particularly 16- to 17-year-olds, are significantly over represented in fatal crashes. NHTSA research tells us that immaturity and inexperience are primary factors contributing to these deadly crashes by young drivers. GDL laws address these factors by reducing high-risk exposure for novice drivers.



REMEMBER

During the first 12-24 months of driving, teens are at the greatest risk for being involved in a crash. That risk decreases with driving experience.