ILLINOIS GDL

Parent-Teen Driving Guide

GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSING PROGRAM

JESSE WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE

It takes time and practice to learn how to be a good driver. This Parent-Teen Driving Guide is a tool to help parents observe and instruct their teen drivers during the instruction permit phase of licensing. Teens must log a minimum of 50 hours of practice driving, including ten hours at night. The hours of practice driving can be completed with their parents or a responsible adult age 21 or older.

This guide also outlines the provisions of Illinois' Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Program, which has become a national model for teen driver safety. Since the GDL provisions were implemented more than ten years ago, teen driving deaths have decreased more than 60 percent. The GDL Program increases driving privileges for safe and responsible drivers in various phases. Safe teen drivers will gradually see their driving restrictions ease as they move from one licensing phase to the next phase.

Distracted driving continues to be a serious hazard on Illinois' roadways, especially with young drivers. Cellphone use and texting while driving are prohibited for all drivers, regardless of age.

Parental involvement is a critical component of any successful GDL Program. Working as a team, we can ensure that our newest, youngest drivers are well-prepared to enjoy a lifetime of safe and responsible driving.

Jesse White

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Secretary of State

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1 — Illinois' GDL Program
Questionnaires 3
GDL Phases 4

Chapter 2 — Preparing to Drive
50 Hours in the Car with My Parents? 6
50 Hours in the Car with My Teen? 6
Before You Turn the Key 7
Practice Commentary Driving 7

Chapter 3 — Learning the Skills to Drive
Skill 1: Starting and Stopping 8
Skill 2: Turning 9
Skill 3: Backing Up 10
Skill 4: Changing Directions 11
Skill 5: Parking 12
Skill 6: Establishing Right of Way 13
Skill 7: Changing Lanes 14
Skill 8: Managing Intersections 15
Skill 9: Following Other Vehicles 16
Skill 10: Defensive Driving 17
Skill 11: Assessing Highway Conditions and Passing 18
Skill 12: Handling Adverse Driving Conditions 19

Chapter 4 — Is Your Teen Ready to Drive?
Driving Practice Checklist 20
Proper Action When Stopped by Law Enforcement 21
Frequently Asked Questions 22

Chapter 5 — Applying for a Driver's License
Completion of Driver Education Training 24
Applying for Your Driver's License 24
Cooperative Driver Testing Program 24
Parent-Teen Driving Contract 25
Affidavit/Consent for Minor to Drive 27
50-Hour Practice Driving Log 29

Chapter 1
Illinois' GDL Program

Illinois' Graduated Driver Licensing Program allows teen drivers to gain experience on the road and prove they are good drivers before they "graduate" to fewer restrictions and more driving privileges.

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death among young people ages 15-20. Nearly one in five licensed 16-year-olds are in a vehicle crash, and their fatality rate is roughly three to five times that of drivers in their 30s, 40s or 50s. Comprehensive GDL programs like Illinois' make a significant improvement to these statistics. In fact, Illinois has seen teen driving fatalities drop over 50 percent since the new GDL provisions took effect more than 10 years ago.

Primary contributing factors to the high crash rate among young drivers are a lack of experience and a greater tendency to take risks. To address this issue, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, along with numerous other traffic safety organizations, recommends that states implement a three-tier Graduated Driver Licensing Program. Illinois' GDL Program has become a national model for other states.

Illinois' GDL Program does not increase the minimum age at which a teen can obtain a license. Provided the teen successfully completes an approved driver education program and the instruction permit phase, he or she may obtain a license at age 16.

A person age 18-20 who does not take an approved driver education course must successfully complete a six-hour adult Driver Education course before obtaining a driver's license.

Parent and teens can test their knowledge of the GDL Program by answering the questions on the following page. (Answers on page 5.)

Parent Questionnaire:

1. Traffic crashes are the third-leading cause of death among young people ages 15-20.

   ❏ True ❏ False

2. Safe drivers are rewarded with lower premiums, and high-risk drivers pay a greater share of insurance costs.

   ❏ True ❏ False

3. Illinois' GDL Program requires parents to spend 50 hours of practice driving, including 10 hours at night, with their teenagers behind the wheel.

   ❏ True ❏ False

4. Parent/legal guardians may withdraw consent for their teen to drive at any time prior to the teen's 18th birthday.

   ❏ True ❏ False

5. It is a crime to provide alcohol to a person under age 21 or to allow underage consumption at your home.

   ❏ True ❏ False

6. During the first six months of licensing or until the driver turns age 18, the number of passengers is limited to the number of safety belts in the vehicle.

   ❏ True ❏ False

7. Your teen must remain traffic conviction-free to graduate through the licensing phases of the GDL Program.

   ❏ True ❏ False

8. Drivers under age 18 are subject to nighttime driving restrictions of 10 p.m.-6 a.m. on weekdays and 11 p.m.-6 a.m. on weekends.

   ❏ True ❏ False

9. A driver under age 18 ticketed for a traffic violation must appear before a judge with a parent/guardian in order to receive court supervision.

   ❏ True ❏ False

10. A parent/guardian of a driver under age 18 may access the teen's driving record free online.

    ❏ True ❏ False

Teen Questionnaire:

1. Driving is considered a right rather than a privilege.

   ❏ True ❏ False

2. Cellphone use while driving is against the law for all drivers.

   ❏ True ❏ False

3. Teenagers under age 18 are subject to nighttime driving restrictions of 11 p.m.-6 a.m. on weekdays and 12 p.m.-6 a.m. on weekends.

   ❏ True ❏ False

4. A teen driver is only allowed one traffic conviction per licensing phase in order to move to the next phase.

   ❏ True ❏ False

5. A teen driver and all passengers must wear safety belts.

   ❏ True ❏ False

6. Any teen caught driving without an instruction permit prior to or during the permit driving phase will be ineligible to obtain a driver's license until age 18.

   ❏ True ❏ False

7. For the first 12 months of licensing or until a teen driver turns 18, the number of unrelated passengers is limited to one person under age 20.

   ❏ True ❏ False

8. Drivers under age 21 caught driving with any trace of alcohol or drugs in their systems will lose their driver's licenses.

   ❏ True ❏ False

9. A conviction of two traffic violations in a 24-month period results in a minimum one-month driver's license suspension.

   ❏ True ❏ False

10. Speed is a factor in the majority of teen driver crashes where a death occurs.

    ❏ True ❏ False

Graduated Driver Licensing Phases

Permit Phase — Drivers Age 15

- Parent/legal guardian consent required to obtain an instruction permit.
- Must be enrolled in an approved driver education course and must pass vision and written tests.
- Nighttime driving restrictions — Sun.-Thurs., 10 p.m.-6 a.m.; Fri.-Sat., 11 p.m.-6 a.m. (local curfews may differ).
- Permit must be held for a minimum of nine months.
- Must practice driving a minimum of 50 hours, including 10 hours at night, supervised by a parent or adult age 21 or older with a valid driver's license.
- Must not acquire any driving infractions, underage alcohol convictions or court supervisions during the nine-month permit phase.
- Number of passengers is limited to one in the front seat and the number of safety belts in the back seat.
- Cellphone/wireless use while driving, including a hands-free device, is prohibited for drivers under age 19, except in the case of an emergency to contact a law enforcement agency, health care provider or emergency services agency.
- Permit is valid for up to two years.

Sanctions

- To obtain court supervision for a traffic violation, a driver must appear in court with a parent/legal guardian and also must attend traffic safety school. Limit one court supervision for serious driving offenses.
- A moving violation conviction results in a nine-month waiting period before applying for a driver's license.
- Not eligible for any hardship permit.
- Anyone caught driving without a permit is ineligible to obtain a driver's license until age 18.
- A person under age 18 who has any unresolved traffic citations may not be issued a driver's license until the citation is resolved.
- Driver's License Suspension for Nighttime Driving Restriction Violation — Persons under the age of 18 who violate the nighttime driving restriction may have their driving privileges suspended.

Initial Licensing Phase — Drivers Ages 16-17

- Parent/legal guardian must certify that a minimum of 50 hours of practice driving, including 10 hours at night, have been completed.
- Parent/legal guardian must accompany teen to provide written consent to obtain a driver's license OR complete and notarize an Affidavit/Consent for Minor to Drive form.
- Must have completed a state-approved driver education course.
- Nighttime driving restrictions — Sun.-Thurs., 10 p.m.-6 a.m.; Fri.-Sat., 11 p.m.-6 a.m. (local curfews may differ).
- Must maintain a conviction-free driving record for six months prior to turning 18. A traffic conviction during the Initial Licensing Phase may extend restrictions beyond age 18.
- For the first 12 months of licensing or until the driver turns 18, whichever occurs first, the number of passengers is limited to one person under age 20, unless the passenger(s) is a sibling, stepsibling, child or stepchild of the driver. After this period, the number of passengers is limited to one in the front seat and the number of safety belts in the back seat.
- Cellphone/wireless use while driving, including a hands-free device, is prohibited for drivers under age 19, except in the case of an emergency to contact a law enforcement agency, health care provider or emergency services agency.

Sanctions

- To obtain court supervision for a traffic violation, a driver must appear in court with a parent/legal guardian and also must attend traffic safety school. Limit one court supervision for serious driving offenses.
- A moving violation conviction before age 18 generates a Secretary of State warning letter to the parent and teenager.
- A moving violation conviction that occurs within the first year of licensing will result in a six-month extension of the passenger limitation, which allows only one unrelated passenger under age 20.
- Two moving violation convictions occurring within a 24-month period will result in a minimum one-month driver's license suspension. Suspension length is determined by the seriousness of the offenses and the driver's prior driving history. An additional driver's license suspension will result for each subsequent moving violation following the initial suspension.
- Suspended drivers must attend a remedial education course, may be retested and must pay a $70 reinstatement fee.
- Driver's License Suspension for Nighttime Driving Restriction Violation — Persons under the age of 18 who violate the nighttime driving restriction may have their driving privileges suspended.

Full Licensing Phase — Drivers Ages 18-20

- No age-related restrictions apply except in cases where a driver fails to move from the Initial Licensing Phase to the Full Licensing Phase.
- Cellphone/wireless use while driving, including a hands-free device, is prohibited for drivers under age 19, except in the case of an emergency to contact a law enforcement agency, health care provider or emergency services agency.

Sanctions

- Limit one court supervision for serious driving offenses.
- Two moving violation convictions occurring within a 24-month period will result in a minimum one-month driver's license suspension. Suspension length is determined by the seriousness of the offenses and the driver's prior driving history. An additional driver's license suspension will result for each subsequent moving violation following the initial suspension.
- Suspended drivers are required to pay a $70 reinstatement fee.

Answers (from page 3)

Parent Questionnaire:

1. False (Traffic crashes are the **leading** cause of death among young people ages 15-20.)
2. True
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. False (For the first 12 months, drivers under 18 are limited to one unrelated passenger under age 20.)
7. True
8. True
9. True
10. True

Teen Questionnaire:

1. False (Driving is a privilege not a right.)
2. True
3. False (Nighttime driving restrictions for drivers under age 18 are Sun.-Thurs., 10 p.m.-6 a.m.; Fri.-Sat., 11 p.m.-6 a.m.)
4. False (Must remain traffic conviction-free to graduate to the next licensing level.)
5. True
6. True
7. True
8. True
9. True
10. True

Chapter 2
Preparing to Drive

50 Hours in the Car With My Parents?

A lack of behind-the-wheel experience puts teens at a greater risk of being involved or killed in a vehicle crash. The more they practice, the better they will handle different situations on the road. The instruction permit phase of a GDL requires teens to spend 50 hours of driving, including 10 hours at night, with a parent/legal guardian or a responsible adult age 21 or older with a valid driver's license.

The 50 hours of driving practice may seem like a lot, but during the nine-month permit phase, this requirement will provide ample time for teen drivers to practice driving in a variety of situations, at different locations and at varying times of the day. This experience will help them become more confident and improve their driving skills so they are prepared when it is time to get a driver's license.

Follow these tips for safe driving:

- Get to know your car.
- Always wear your safety belt and make sure all passengers are wearing safety belts.
- Drive sober (the blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for persons under 21 is .00).
- Ride with sober drivers.
- Drive defensively.
- Avoid distractions — focus on your driving.
- Obey all traffic rules, signs, signals and markings.
- Be alert and anticipate what other drivers might do.
- Be careful at all intersections — think ahead.
- Don't have more passengers in your car than allowed by law.
- Don't get stressed out.
- Don't exceed the posted speed limit or drive faster than you can handle.
- Don't let friends drive your car.
- Don't use your cellphone or text while driving.

50 Hours in the Car With My Teen?

Teaching your teen how to drive takes patience and your full attention. If either of you are tired, angry, distracted or not feeling well, it's best to postpone the driving lesson. Practice when you are both alert and ready to pay attention to each other.

Follow these tips to make driving time with your teen positive and productive:

- Set a good example when you drive. Obey all traffic laws and drive courteously. Wear your safety belt and make sure all other passengers also are wearing theirs. Do not text or talk on your cellphone.
- Be enthusiastic. Most teens are excited about getting their driver's license. Don't make the learning experience seem like a chore.
- Provide a safe vehicle for practice sessions.
- Take your teenager for driving practice under various seasonal conditions and practice different skills.
- Be a careful and supportive teacher. Your new driver will make mistakes along the way. Keep the learning experience manageable and positive for your teen.
- Use positive reinforcement. When your teen is doing well, let him/her know. When he/she makes a mistake, use it as a chance to teach, not punish.

- Sit so your left hand can be placed on the steering wheel to help guide the new driver if necessary.
- Give directions well in advance. First direct where, then state the action to take (e.g., "At the second intersection turn left"). Check traffic conditions on all sides yourself.
- Avoid the use of terms with possible double meaning (e.g., say "that is correct" instead of "that is right").
- For each new maneuver, guide the new driver through two or three practice trials, then allow the teen to practice without specific assistance or direction.
- Move to a safe place and park for lengthy discussions or performance reviews.
- Never place yourself or other drivers in dangerous situations. Do not attempt to practice a skill unless you and your teen are comfortable that it can be completed safely.
- Inform your teen what to do in case of an accident (i.e., call police, exchange insurance information).
- Discuss and sign the Parent-Teen Driving Contract (see page 25) with your teen.
- Take your teenager to get a driver's license only when you and your teenager believe the time is right.

Before You Turn the Key

Choose a mid- to full-size car with an automatic transmission for your teen to practice driving. Avoid small cars, if possible. Small cars do not afford as much protection in a crash. Sports cars and muscle cars may encourage speeding. New drivers should not be overwhelmed by their vehicle. Driving mistakes in areas such as steering and braking are only magnified in a vehicle that is too large, too powerful or has large blind spots.

Before you begin a practice session:

- Check around the car. Make sure the tires have sufficient air and all lights and signals are working.
- Check the owner's manual for details on your car's controls, their locations on the dashboard and operations.
- Check the ventilation before you start driving. Adjust the heating, cooling or airflow as necessary to make you comfortable.

All drivers in Illinois must carry liability insurance, which covers personal injury and property damages of other drivers if you are involved in an accident. Safe drivers are rewarded with lower premiums and high-risk drivers pay a greater share of insurance costs. If you are convicted of a traffic offense or involved in a traffic accident involving personal injury or death, that information will go on your Illinois driving record. Insurance companies may access your driving record, which may adversely affect your insurance premiums.

Practice Commentary Driving

Commentary driving is the practice of verbally calling out each step needed to complete a maneuver. Commentary driving may be awkward at first, but it is the most valuable tool you have for checking your teen's progress. Read the traffic picture aloud. Describe anything that may affect your path of travel. For example, when approaching a red light say, "red light ahead, check mirrors, ease off accelerator, apply brake." Take this guide along and use the lists of steps under each skill as a guide.

Your teen should practice commentary driving from the passenger seat before actual driving lessons begin. Also, have your teen begin to judge traffic signals and stopping distances as a passenger. He/she should call out points where it would be safe to stop if the light were to turn yellow and at what point it would be safer to proceed through the intersection. When driving, a parent can call out steps while demonstrating a skill. Student drivers should begin commentary as they become comfortable with a skill.

Chapter 3
Learning the Skills to Drive

Following are specific driving skills teens should practice with their parents in the vehicle. What you teach your teen driver should agree with what is taught by the driving instructor. If your teen insists that your instructions are different from the teacher's, contact the driving instructor to be sure you are correct. Do not teach shortcuts or improper procedures.

Before you start the car, fasten your safety belt and make sure the car is in Park (P).

When you start the car, step on the brake; turn the key to Start. After the car starts, check to see that all red warning lights are off.

Skill 1: Starting and Stopping

Objective: To smoothly control the car when starting and stopping.

Where to practice: Have several sessions in a parking lot before practicing on the street.

What to practice:

When moving the car:

- Step on the brake.
- Release parking brake if on.
- Shift to Drive (D).
- Check mirrors and blind spots.
- Release foot brake.
- Re-check traffic; accelerate.

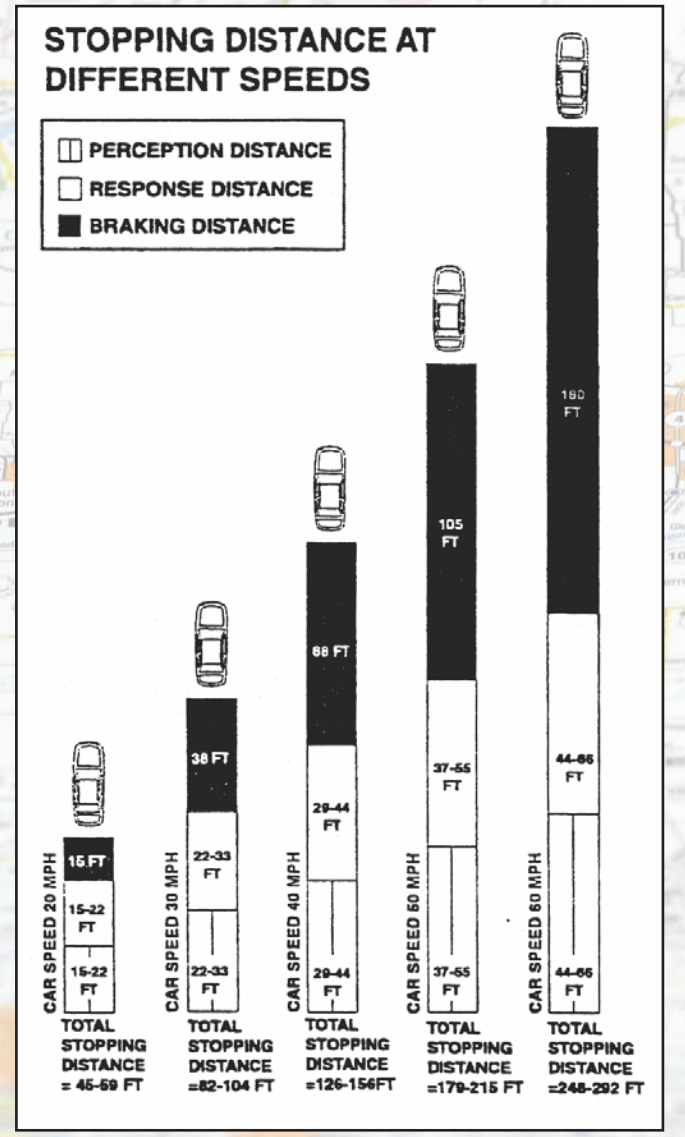
When stopping the car:

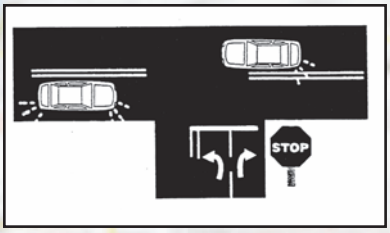
- Check mirrors before you stop.
- Brake smoothly until you stop.
- Do not take your foot off the brake until you put the transmission in Park (P) and set the parking brake.

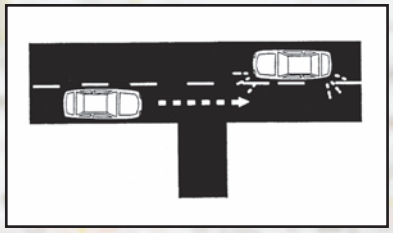
Lesson Completed:

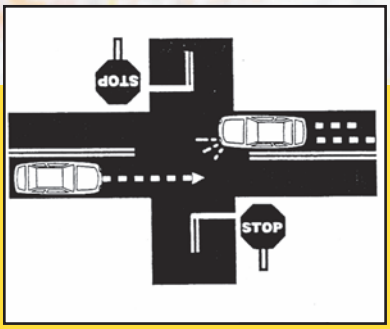
Parent's Initials:_____ Date: _____

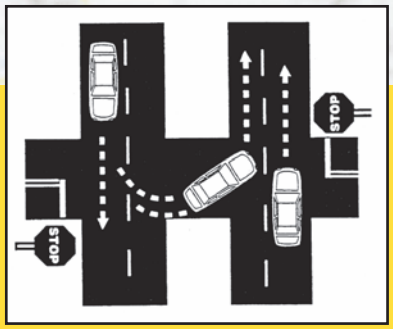
Teen's Initials: _____ Date: _____











Skill 2: Turning

Objective: To make accurate left and right turns from both a stopped and moving position.

Where to practice: Start this lesson in a quiet, open area such as a parking lot and then move into a neighborhood where you can make four turns within a few blocks. Finally, practice crossing multiple lanes of traffic, including shared left-turn lanes.

What to practice: Because left turns are easier to make than right turns (as long as there is no oncoming traffic), begin by making 10-12 left turns and then 10-12 right turns from a stopped position. Next, practice both turns while moving. On each turn:

- Decide who should yield the right of way (who should go first if there are other cars on the road).
- Use signals.
- Check mirrors and blind spots.
- Control speed (10-15 mph).
- Search the intersection and identify a gap in traffic.
- Use hand-over-hand steering.
- Choose a path and follow it accurately.

Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- When driving in a city, apply the turn signal about four to five seconds before an intersection. New drivers tend to signal too early, which may confuse other drivers. Once you are sure there is a safe gap in traffic, accelerate and make your turn. Do not hesitate once you are in the middle of the intersection.
- Look ahead to where your car will be in 20 to 30 seconds. Looking "through" the turn you are going to make or the intersection you are going to cross will help you see potential problems and plan your responses.
- Where there are multiple left-turn lanes, you must turn into the lane corresponding to the same lane from which you turned.
- Do not make a habit of staring straight ahead. Good drivers frequently glance in every direction, watching for trouble.

Before you start the car, fasten your safety belt and make sure the car is in Park (P).

When you start the car, step on the brake; turn the key to Start. After the car starts, check to see that all red warning lights are off.

Skill 3: Backing Up

Objective: To move the car precisely where you want it to go – in reverse.

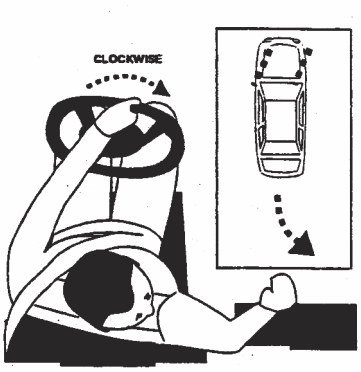
Where to practice: First practice off the street, in a driveway or in a parking lot. When you feel confident backing up, practice in street situations with little or no traffic.

What to practice:

- Check for traffic, pedestrians, parked cars and low-stationary objects behind you.
- Turn your head to look out the rear window. Do not rely on your mirrors.
- Release pressure on the brake just enough to let the car creep backward slowly. The idling speed in a car with automatic transmission is usually enough to move the car backward without giving it gas.
- Place your right arm at the back of the passenger seat and look through the rear window. Place your left hand at the top of the steering wheel (see illustration). When you want to change directions, move your hands in the direction you want the rear of the car to go.
- Make small corrections to the steering wheel.
- Keep your foot in light contact with the brake while the car is moving backward (ride the brake).
- Glance quickly to the front and sides to check traffic then continue looking through the rear window as you brake smoothly.
- If the vehicle is equipped with a backup camera, it should be used exactly as a rearview mirror. The driver should still utilize all of the above techniques for proper backing.

Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials: _____Date:_____ Teen's Initials:_____Date:_____



When backing to the right, make sure you have room on the left side. The front of your car will swing wide to the left.

When backing to the left, make sure you have room on the right side. The front of your car will swing wide to the right.

TIPS

- Never back up faster than a walking pace. When you get close to an object, back up inch by inch.
- Never back up on an expressway. If you miss your exit, continue to the next exit.

Skill 4: Changing Directions

Objective: To learn where, when and how turns may be made and to make turns efficiently, even in tight spots.

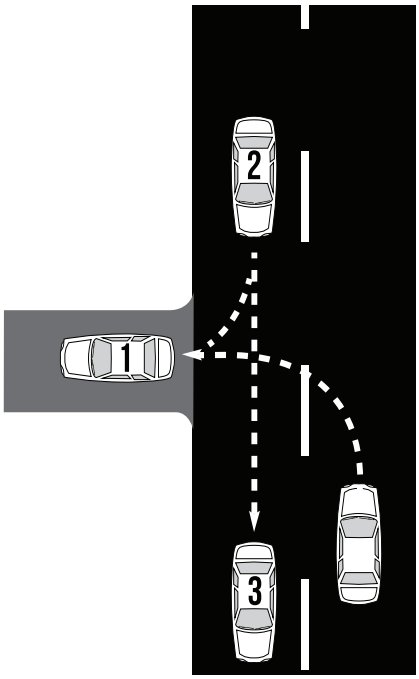
Where to practice: Use a variety of driveways and roadways on which turns are legal.

What to Practice:

- Evaluate the traffic flow to decide where and when to turn.
- Apply the turn signal.
- Check blind spots.
- Continually check traffic.
- Choose a path of travel and follow it.
- Control speed smoothly.

Practice each of these turns in different locations:

- Three-point turns (see illustration).
- Turn around by pulling into a driveway on the left side of the street.
- Turn around by pulling into a driveway on the right side of the street.
- Backing into a driveway on the right side of the street.
- U-turn in the middle of the block (where legal).



Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- Because large vehicles have a larger turning radius, allow more time and space to make turns in vans and other large vehicles.
- Never make a three-point turn near the top of a hill, on a curve, near an intersection, or close to trees or fire hydrants.

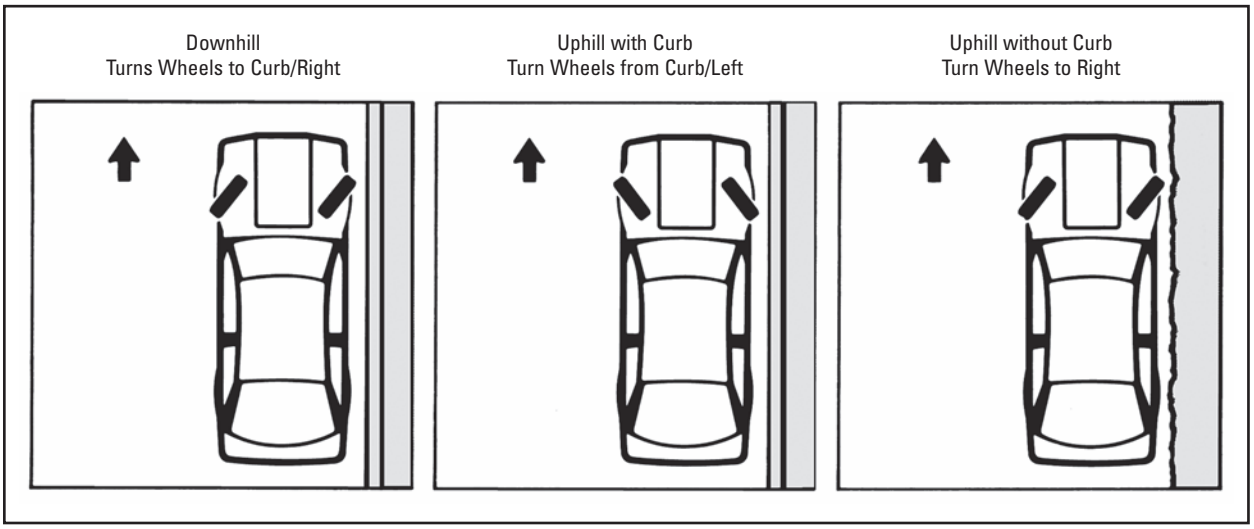
Before you start the car, fasten your safety belt and make sure the car is in Park (P).

When you start the car, step on the brake; turn the key to Start. After the car starts, check to see that all red warning lights are off.

Skill 5: Parking

Objective: To park the car in a perpendicular, angle and/or parallel parking space smoothly and consistently and to get the car out of the parking space in the same way.

Where to practice: Start by practicing away from other vehicles in large parking lots with perpendicular spaces. Then move on to angle and parallel parking. Finally, practice each type of parking next to other cars.



What to practice:

- Check for cars, pedestrians or other obstacles in your way.
- Use your turn signal and vehicle position to communicate to traffic behind you that you will be parking.
- Put the car in a good position before turning into the parking space.
- Move at a slow, consistent speed.
- Stay in line with your target destination.
- Maintain a safe distance from other parked cars.
- Straighten out your car and tires.
- Set the parking brake when parking on an incline.

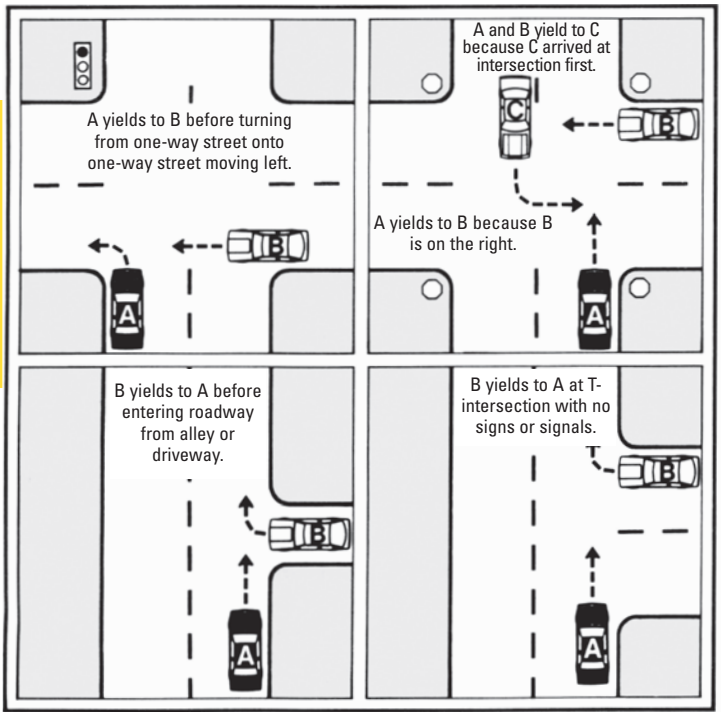
Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- After parking and before opening vehicle doors, a motorist should first check for bicyclists. Drivers should consider reaching with their right hand to open the vehicle door as this gives them a better opportunity to check their surroundings for oncoming vehicles and bicyclists.
- Do not park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities — a violation carries a minimum $250 fine.



Skill 6: Establishing Right of Way

Objective: To determine which driver must yield the right of way in different situations.

Where to practice: Begin on roads with light traffic. After demonstrating the ability to "read" traffic and yield properly, practice on highways and in heavy traffic.

What to practice:

Practice yielding the right of way in these situations:

- When making a right turn on red (after stopping).
- At a stop sign or flashing red signal (after stopping).
- When entering an intersection with a flashing yellow arrow.
- When turning left on red (after stopping) from a one-way street onto another one-way street.
- When there is more than one driver at a four-way stop. The first driver to stop should be the first to go. If more than one car arrive at the same time, the one on the right has the right of way.
- When two cars come to an uncontrolled intersection (no signs/signals) at the same time. The one on the right has the right of way.
- When making a left turn, yield to oncoming traffic.
- When there is a MERGE sign, yield to through traffic.
- Even if you have a green light, yield if there are still vehicles in the intersection.
- When emerging from an alley, building, private road or driveway (after stopping).

Also, yield in the following special situations:

- For pedestrians at a designated crosswalk.
- For police or emergency vehicles with sirens or flashing lights. The law requires you to pull to the right side of the road and stop until the vehicle passes.
- When approaching a stopped school bus with its stop arm extended. Passing a stopped school bus with its stop arm extended carries a three-month driver's license suspension and a minimum $150 fine.
- For authorized road construction or maintenance vehicles with flashing yellow lights.
- When a funeral procession enters an intersection, even if you have a green light.

Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- If another driver isn't following the right of way rules, give the driver the right of way to avoid a crash.
- If you are making a left turn, oncoming traffic has the right of way.
- When a light turns green, only proceed when the intersection is clear.
- When the same lane is used for both entering and exiting a highway, let the vehicle entering the highway go first.

Before you start the car, fasten your safety belt and make sure the car is in Park (P).

When you start the car, step on the brake; turn the key to Start. After the car starts, check to see that all red warning lights are off.

Skill 7: Changing Lanes

Objective: To safely enter and leave lanes of moving traffic.

Where to practice: Start by pulling away from and parking next to curbs. Then change lanes on residential streets, rural two- and four-lane roads, city streets, open highways with two to six lanes and limited access highways.

What to practice:

- Check mirror(s) to make sure there is enough space between you and the traffic behind you.
- Apply your turn signal. When changing lanes to the left, check your left blind spots; when changing lanes to the right, check your right blind spots. Check for blind spots out the side windows rather than out the rear window.
- Change lanes smoothly and try to maintain constant space.
- Cancel your turn signal once the lane change is complete.

Position your mirrors so you can see well when changing lanes.

- Rearview mirror: Center the view out of the rear window, including as much of the roadway behind the car as possible. The bottom of the mirror should be level with the bottom of the rear window.
- Outside mirror: Arrange the view to include a small portion of the side of the car, with the main view in the mirror extending down the side of the car to the rear.

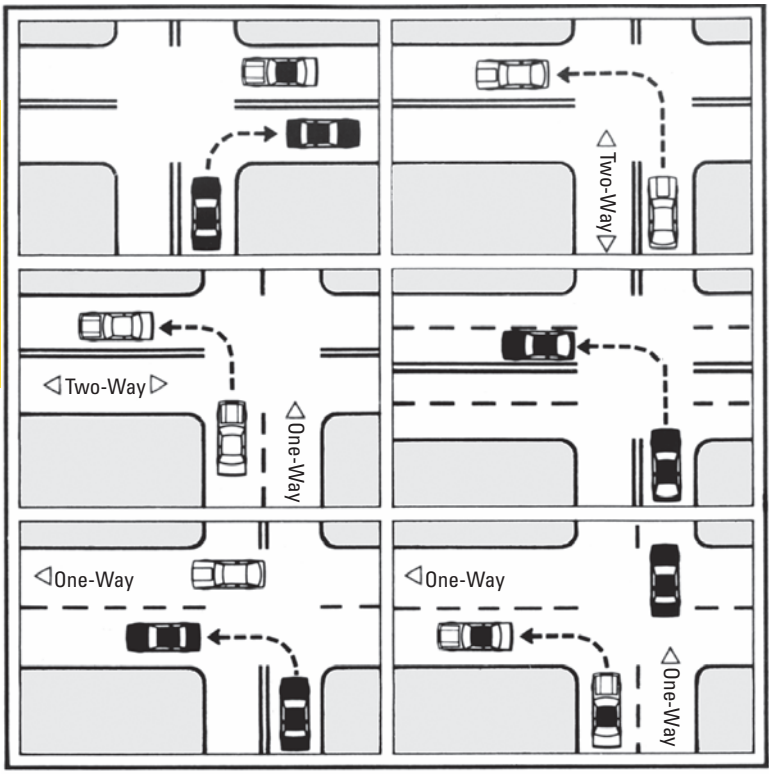
Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- Always change lanes one at a time. Shooting across several lanes at once is dangerous.
- Make sure space between cars ahead and behind in your intended lane is large enough before checking your blind spots.
- Keep the wheel straight while you check your blind spots. Anxious student drivers sometimes pull the wheel to the side as they turn to check their blind spots. Parents: Get ready to grab the wheel in case this happens.
- Do not change lanes unless absolutely necessary.
- The faster you are driving, the less you need to turn the wheel to change lanes.



Skill 8: Managing Intersections

Objective: To "read" traffic correctly and move confidently through intersections.

Where to practice: Begin in an area that is not congested such as a quiet neighborhood. As you gain experience, attempt more complex roadways such as rural highways and city intersections.

What to practice: The parent can quiz the student on the different meanings of street signs, traffic signals and pavement markings before setting out. While driving, answer the following questions out loud about each intersection as you approach it. Talk about what adjustments you should make based on your answers, and then make those adjustments.

- Am I traveling uphill or downhill?
- Is an intersection marked by signs or signals?
- Are oncoming drivers controlled by signs or signals?
- Where is my greatest danger coming from?
- Are there pedestrians?
- Are there any environmental factors?
- What lane should I be in?
- How many lanes are there?
- Are there any turn islands?
- Does the width of the road change?

Scan traffic at an intersection:

- Check the rearview mirror before and after every turn.
- Check left, then front, then right, preferably when you can see four to six seconds in each direction.
- Just before entering the intersection, check left, then front, then right again.
- New drivers tend to focus straight ahead. Emphasize scanning constantly. Look for "clues" to find hard-to-see residential intersections. Street signs, crossing power lines, yellow curbing, bus stops and newspaper vending machines all may indicate upcoming intersections, especially in residential areas.

Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- When waiting at an intersection to make a left turn, keep your wheels facing straight ahead. If your car is rear-ended, you won't be pushed into oncoming traffic.
- Watch for pedestrians. Most pedestrians involved in car crashes are hit as they first step into the street.

Before you start the car, fasten your safety belt and make sure the car is in Park (P).

When you start the car, step on the brake; turn the key to Start. After the car starts, check to see that all red warning lights are off.

Skill 9: Following Other Vehicles

Objective: To keep a following distance of at least four to six seconds behind the car in front of you.

Where to practice: Use residential roads, rural two- and four-lane roads, city streets and open highways with two to six lanes of traffic.

What to practice: Practice keeping a three-second following distance behind the car in front of you at speeds below 30 mph. At speeds of more than 30 mph keep at least a six-second following distance. When road and/or weather conditions are bad, increase your distance to a six- to eight-second count.

To check your following distance in front:
- Select a fixed object on the road ahead such as a sign, tree or overpass.
- When the vehicle ahead of you passes the object, begin counting "one-thousand-one, one-thousand-two, etc."
- If you reach the object before you finish saying "one-thousand-three," you are following too closely.

Monitor the distance of the driver behind you:
- Check your rearview mirror frequently for tailgaters.
- Leaving room in front of your car allows the driver behind you to pass.
- Leaving room in front of your car allows you to brake slowly and avoid being rear-ended by the driver behind you.

Vehicle Speed	Approximate Feet Vehicle Will Travel in One Second	Three-Second Rule Distance
25 mph	37 feet	111 feet back
35 mph	52 feet	156 feet back
45 mph	66 feet	198 feet back
55 mph	81 feet	243 feet back
65 mph	96 feet	288 feet back
70 mph	103 feet	309 feet back

Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- Slow down when the driver in front of you slows down to maintain your four- to six-second following distance.
- Increase your following distance when following trucks, buses, motorcycles, driver education vehicles, emergency vehicles or vehicles with out-of-state license plates.

Skill 10: Defensive Driving

Objective: To avoid danger by recognizing danger signs early and to communicate with other drivers.

Where to practice: Begin on simple roads with little traffic. As you perform better, increase the complexity of the roads and traffic conditions you choose.

What to practice:

Assessing other drivers to determine your strategy and distance:

- What is the type of vehicle? Does the vehicle have out-of-state license plates? The driver may not be familiar with the area.
- Is the driver young, old?
- Is his/her driving out of control? Is the driver weaving in and out of traffic, straying out of his/her lane, etc.?
- Is the driver obeying the rules of the road?
- Has the driver left his/her turn signal on? He/she is not paying careful attention to his/her driving.
- Is the driver tailgating or driving in others' blind spots?
- Is the driver using his/her lights and horn to communicate?
- Is the driver distracted using a cellphone, talking with other passengers, eating, etc.?

Assess the vehicles around you:

- Buses and trucks require more room to maneuver, especially when turning corners. They are slow to stop/start and have larger blind spots.
- City buses/taxis may expect the right of way when pulling away from a curb.
- Cars covered with dirt or snow may have trouble seeing well.

Communicate with other drivers:

- Use eye contact to tell drivers and pedestrians you see them.
- Use lane position to show which way you may move or turn.
- Use speed to communicate your plan to stop or turn. Speed also may indicate aggressiveness of another driver.
- Use turn signals five seconds before making a change of direction.
- Use headlights when using windshield wipers (during rain, snow) and during low-light conditions (fog, dusk, dawn) — it's state law.
- Tap brake lights several times to warn traffic behind you to slow or stop.
- Tap (not blast) horn to alert other drivers.
- Use hand signals if your car's signal lights aren't working.
- Watch behind you. Check the rearview mirror before and after braking.

TIPS

- Be aware at crosswalks and around parked cars to make sure pedestrians, bicyclists and animals do not dart out in front of you.
- Check in both directions even if you are crossing a one-way street.
- Do not assume a vehicle with its turn signal on is going to turn until the driver starts executing the turn.

Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

Before you start the car, fasten your safety belt and make sure the car is in Park (P).

When you start the car, step on the brake; turn the key to Start. After the car starts, check to see that all red warning lights are off.

Skill 11: Assessing Highway Conditions and Passing

Objective: To identify highway conditions and change speed, position or path as necessary.

Where to practice: On different highways with various traffic conditions and at various times of day.

Do Not Pass — Black Car is Breaking the Law

No Passing Zone | Curve | Hill | Railroad, Bridge, Tunnel, Viaduct

What to practice:

- Check traffic before entering a highway.
- When entering a highway, find a gap in traffic then accelerate to the pace of existing traffic.
- React to highway signs, signals and pavement markings.
- Leave yourself a way out (drive defensively).
- Plan your exit well in advance; get into the proper lane early.
- Use your turn signal and tap your brake to tell others you are exiting.
- Use extreme caution when passing on a two-lane highway. Do not pass on a hill or curve or in a no-passing zone. Make sure you can clearly see ahead to determine if there is oncoming traffic before passing.
- Do not speed up when being passed. Move a little to the right and be prepared to slow down if the passing driver suddenly views a problem ahead while passing.

Adjust speed for:

- Passing vehicles
- Curves
- Unpaved roads
- Animals
- Hills
- Roadside business areas

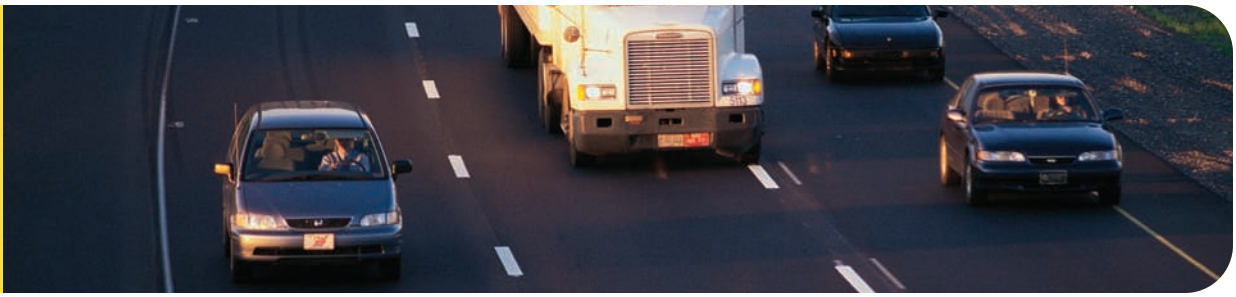
Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- Parents — It is much safer to practice passing on a multi-lane highway (two lanes going the same direction) before passing on a two-lane highway.
- If there is a vehicle immediately in front of the vehicle you want to pass, DO NOT pass.
- Make sure you see the entire vehicle you just passed in your rearview mirror before you move back into the original lane.



Skill 12: Handling Adverse Driving Conditions

Objective: To learn how to react to difficult and unexpected situations on the road.

Where to practice: In bright sun, at night, and in rain, fog and snow.

What to practice:

When visibility is reduced:
- Decrease your speed.
- Use the defroster.
- Leave more space all around your car for maneuvering.

Using your lights:
- At night, use the high-beam headlights when legal.
- In glare, use a visor or wear sunglasses.
- In fog, slow down, use only your low-beam headlights.
- In rain, slow down, use the wipers, use your headlights, and leave a space cushion between you and other drivers.

When traction is reduced:
- Increase space around your car for maneuvering.
- Increase your following distance.
- Don't brake and steer at the same time unless you have anti-lock brakes.

Avoid locking wheels:
- In rain, reduce speed.
- In snow, increase following distance.
- In ice, whenever possible, do not drive.

Lesson Completed:

Parent's Initials:_____ Date:_____

Teen's Initials: _____ Date:_____

TIPS

- If a winter storm is coming, prepare your car with necessary safety items. Don't drive unless absolutely necessary!
- If you drift off the road and onto the shoulder, do not slam on the brakes or jerk the steering wheel suddenly. Instead, let up on the gas, stay off the brake and gradually guide the wheels back on the road.

Chapter 4
Is Your Teen Ready to Drive?

Driving Practice Checklist

Starting Vehicle

- ❑ Checks seat adjustment and mirror.
- ❑ Fastens safety belt.
- ❑ Checks traffic in all directions by turning head.
- ❑ Uses rearview mirrors.
- ❑ Starts smoothly, uses good posture and uses signals.
- ❑ Finds and correctly uses all control devices in vehicle.
- ❑ Does not allow conversation to interfere with safe operation of vehicle.

Steering

- ❑ Holds steering wheel with hands approximately at 9 and 3 o'clock positions.
- ❑ Keeps elbow, hand and arm inside vehicle.
- ❑ Uses hand-over-hand technique to return wheel to straight-ahead position.
- ❑ Maintains an even course; does not wander within driving lane.

Lane Observance/Parking

- ❑ Stays in proper lane at all times.
- ❑ Allows sufficient space between vehicle and other vehicles.
- ❑ Provides sufficient space when returning to driving lane after passing.
- ❑ Yields right of way when right of way belongs to other driver.
- ❑ Stops more than 5 feet from bumper of vehicle ahead at intersection.
- ❑ Positions vehicle within 12 inches of curb or edge of roadway when parallel parking.

Speed

- ❑ Drives at reasonable speed for conditions and traffic flow.
- ❑ Obeys school speed limits in posted zones.
- ❑ Adjusts speed prior to making a turn.

Turn Signals/Lane Changes/Braking

- ❑ Gives proper signal, left or right, in adequate amount of time (100 feet-urban; 200 feet-rural) prior to turning.
- ❑ Cancels signal upon completion of turn or lane change.
- ❑ Turns into proper lane.
- ❑ Does not scrape curb or median when turning.

Stop Signs/Traffic Lights/Yield

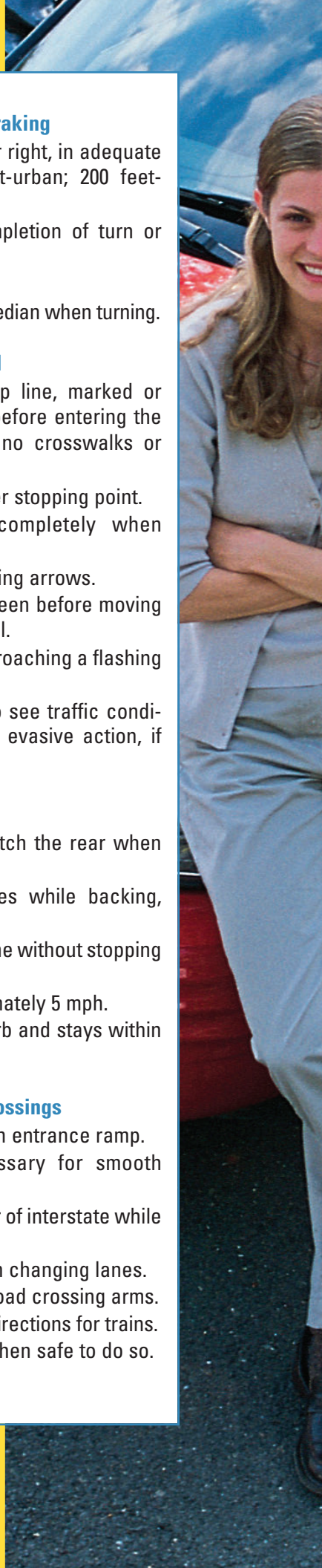
- ❑ Stops before marked stop line, marked or unmarked crosswalk, or before entering the intersection if there are no crosswalks or stop lines.
- ❑ Stops 10 feet before proper stopping point.
- ❑ Stops vehicle motion completely when required.
- ❑ Obeys traffic signal including arrows.
- ❑ Waits until signal turns green before moving when at a red traffic signal.
- ❑ Reduces speed when approaching a flashing yellow light.
- ❑ Reduces speed enough to see traffic conditions and is prepared for evasive action, if necessary.

Backing

- ❑ Turns head to right to watch the rear when backing.
- ❑ Looks to rear at all times while backing, except the last 5 feet.
- ❑ Backs in a fairly straight line without stopping for any corrections.
- ❑ Does not exceed approximately 5 mph.
- ❑ Does not scrape or hit curb and stays within appropriate lane lines.

Interstate Driving/Railroad Crossings

- ❑ Adjusts to proper speed on entrance ramp.
- ❑ Adjusts speed as necessary for smooth merge onto interstate.
- ❑ Does not drive on shoulder of interstate while merging on or off.
- ❑ Makes proper signal when changing lanes.
- ❑ Stops vehicle prior to railroad crossing arms.
- ❑ Looks and listens in both directions for trains.
- ❑ Proceeds across tracks when safe to do so.



Proper Action When Stopped by Law Enforcement

For the safety of vehicle operators and law enforcement officers, drivers stopped by police should adhere to the following suggestions:

- Slow down and safely pull over on to the right-hand shoulder of the roadway. If there is no shoulder or it is too narrow to pull over, the driver should find the next safest location and pull over.
- Do not slam on the brakes or stop in the lane of traffic. Drivers should not stop their vehicle on bridges, curves, next to guardrails, concrete walls, medians or any place where it would be difficult for other vehicles to pass. A vehicle should not be stopped too close to the solid white line, as it may get struck by oncoming traffic.
- Stay in the vehicle with both hands clearly in sight on the steering wheel. Drivers should keep their hands on the steering wheel until the police officer instructs them otherwise or the traffic stop is complete.
- Be prepared for the officer to approach from either the driver or passenger side of the vehicle.
- Do not exit the vehicle unless asked to do so. Getting out of the vehicle can be perceived as aggressive behavior and a threat to the police officer's safety.
- Comply with the officer's request to see a driver's license and proof of insurance. If these items are in the glove box or under the seat or if the proof of insurance is stored for display on a cellphone, the driver should inform the police officer of that fact and then follow the officer's directions before retrieving the information. Vehicle operators are required to have a valid driver's license, registration and insurance in order to operate a vehicle.
- If a driver cannot identify an unmarked police vehicle and/or the driver as law enforcement, he/she should drive slowly and carefully below the speed limit and either (1) pull over at a well-lit, populated location, (2) drive carefully to the nearest police station and attempt to attract the attention of a uniformed officer or (3) call 9-1-1. A driver should activate the vehicle's hazard lights as a helpful way to communicate intentions with the police officer.
- If drivers are being stopped at night, it is acceptable for them to turn on the interior light of the vehicle.

A traffic stop could indicate the driver has committed a minor traffic violation without realizing it. There also may be a problem with the vehicle of which the driver is unaware or the vehicle may be similar to one used in a serious crime. Many officers will not provide the driver with specific reasons for the stop until they have obtained the driver's license, vehicle registration and insurance card from the driver.

If the traffic stop results in a ticket or arrest for the driver, he/she:

- Should not debate the reason for the stop or argue with the police officer.
- Should not refuse to sign a ticket if issued. A traffic ticket requires the driver's signature. Signing a ticket is not an admission of the driver's guilt — only an acknowledgment of receiving the ticket.
- Should not be uncooperative with law enforcement at the scene. If a driver is suspected of impaired driving, refusal to submit to breath, urine, blood or performance tests can result in the loss of driving privileges.
- Should not argue about the ticket at the time of issuance. If a driver believes an offense was not committed or the ticket was issued unfairly, he/she will have the opportunity to present the case in traffic court.
- Should not resist arrest if taken into custody by the police.

A driver is to be treated with dignity and respect by law enforcement officers. If a driver believes that an officer has acted inappropriately during a traffic stop or other encounter, he/she should report the conduct as soon as possible to the officer's superiors. Officers are required to provide their names and badge numbers upon request. Written complaints can be filed with the agency's internal affairs division or civilian complaint board. Regardless of what action is taken, police officers are legally required to document all traffic stops, which includes obtaining the driver's name and address for data collection purposes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Has the GDL Program been effective in Illinois?
Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death among young people ages 15-20. Drivers ages 15-20 account for approximately 13 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes, yet this group accounts for just 6.4 percent of the driving population. Studies estimate that GDL programs can reduce teen crash fatalities from 12 percent to 38 percent. In Illinois, teen driving fatalities have dropped by nearly 51 percent since the new GDL provisions took effect in January 2008.

Does Illinois' GDL Program raise the minimum age at which an individual can obtain a driver's license?
No. Age 16 remains the age at which a person who has successfully completed a driver education program can apply for a driver's license. The graduated system establishes additional requirements during the instruction permit phase, with the goal of producing better-skilled 16-year-old drivers.

Why do GDL laws limit the number of passengers in a car driven by a teen?
Passenger restrictions reduce the likelihood of a young, inexperienced driver being distracted by a car full of teens. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, for teenage drivers, the presence of one passenger nearly doubles the fatal crash risk compared with driving alone. With two or more passengers, the fatal crash risk is five times as high as driving alone. Illinois' GDL law requires a passenger limitation time of 12 months, or until the driver turns 18, whichever occurs first.

What happens if a new driver is caught violating the passenger limitation rule?
If a driver is in violation of the passenger limitation rule, the driver, as well as all passengers in the vehicle, may be ticketed.

Won't the earlier driving restriction times on nights and weekends prevent me from getting a job or going to after-school activities?
Exemptions in the law allow new drivers to drive to and from employment or school-sanctioned activities outside the restriction times.

Will I lose my driver's license if I am convicted of violating the nighttime driving restrictions?
Your driver's license will be suspended if you are convicted of violating the nighttime driving restrictions.

If my teenager is driving, who can be ticketed if passengers are not wearing safety belts?
The driver may be ticketed for any passenger not wearing a safety belt. The driver and all passengers are required to wear safety belts.

If I get a traffic ticket while I have my graduated driver license will I lose my license?
During the initial and full licensing phases prior to age 21, a moving violation conviction before age 18 generates a warning letter to the parent/legal guardian and teenager. A moving violation conviction within the first year of licensing will result in a six-month extension of the passenger limitation. Two moving violation convictions within a 24-month period will result in a minimum one-month driver's license suspension.

Any person under age 21 who receives court supervision for possession, consumption, purchase or receipt of alcohol will receive a three-month driver's license suspension. A conviction for possession, consumption, purchase or receipt of alcohol will result in a one-year driver's license suspension.

What happens if I get a traffic ticket during the permit phase or initial licensing phase?
During the permit phase, a moving violation conviction results in a nine-month waiting period before applying for a driver's license. If the conviction is received by the Secretary of State's office after the driver has moved to the initial licensing phase, the driver will be remanded back to the permit phase. A letter will be sent to the driver and the parent/guardian indicating the change in driving status.

Drivers in the initial licensing phase (usually drivers ages 16 and 17), must remain conviction free for the final six months before moving to the next phase. If a new driver receives a conviction during this six-month period, he/she will not be able to move to the next phase of the program until he/she is conviction-free for a full six months or until age 21, whichever occurs first.

What if my driving privileges are suspended or revoked when I am under age 18. Am I eligible for a driving permit?

A driver under age 18 who has a suspended or revoked driver's license in Illinois may be eligible for a Restricted Driving Permit, depending on the circumstances of the suspension or revocation. For more information, call the Secretary of State Administrative Hearings Department at 217-782-7065.

What happens if a new driver is caught street racing?

Any driver, regardless of age, convicted of street racing will have his/her license revoked for at least 12 months.

How do I withdraw my consent to drive for my teenager?

To withdraw consent to drive for a driver under age 18, the parent/guardian who signed the application giving the driver permission to obtain a driver's license must send a notarized letter to the Secretary of State indicating their wishes to withdraw consent for the minor to hold an Illinois driver's license.

How do I have my teenager's driver's license reinstated after withdrawing my consent to drive?

To reinstate a minor's driving privileges, the parent/legal guardian who withdrew consent must send a notarized letter to the Secretary of State indicating their wishes to have the teen's driving privileges reinstated. The minor driver must visit a Secretary of State Driver Services facility and retake the vision, written and driving exams, and pay the appropriate fee in order to be reissued an Illinois driver's license.

How do I know if my teen is ready to obtain a driver's license?

When your teenager drives well enough to pass the driving test for a license, ask yourself the questions below. You may have overlooked some practice or knowledge your youngster needs:

- ❏ Have we discussed alcohol, drugs and driving?
- ❏ Does my teen know what to do if he/she is riding with a friend who has been drinking?
- ❏ Does my teen know what to do if he/she is stopped by law enforcement?
- ❏ Have we practiced in heavy city traffic?
- ❏ Have we practiced on one-way streets and at intersections with three-way signals?
- ❏ Have we practiced using a left-turn center lane?
- ❏ Have we practiced on small country roads, on gravel roads with potholes and on hills?
- ❏ Have we practiced in bad weather?
- ❏ Have we practiced at night?
- ❏ Have we practiced entering, exiting and driving on a freeway?
- ❏ Have we discussed what to do if an emergency occurs?
- ❏ Have we discussed what to do if an accident occurs?
- ❏ Do you feel that your teen can do all the above in a car by himself/herself?
- ❏ Does my teenager know I can cancel his/her license at any time, for any reason?

Do I need to take the Adult Driver Education Course to obtain my driver's license?

Illinois law requires a six-hour Adult Driver Education Course to obtain an Illinois driver's license if all three of the following points are accurate.

- You are 18, 19 or 20 years old;
- You are applying for an Illinois driver's license for the first time; and
- You have never taken any type of driver education course in high school or through a commercial driving school.

Chapter 5
Applying for a Driver's License

Completion of Driver Education Training

Upon successful completion of the classroom and behind-the-wheel portions of driver education through your local high school, the Secretary of State's office will receive notification and add a notation to your driving record.

Students under age 18 who drop out of high school cannot have the notation indicating completion placed on his/her driver's license record unless:

- The instructor has written verification of enrollment in a GED or alternative program;
- The student has a GED;
- The student, prior to dropping out, received passing grades in at least eight courses in the previous two semesters; or
- The student has written consent from his/her parents or legal guardian and the regional superintendent.

The local superintendent or chief school administrator may waive conditions deemed in the best interest of the student or dropout.

Successful completion of driver education can be verified by contacting the Illinois State Board of Education at 217-782-4321.

Applying for Your Driver's License

To apply for your driver's license before reaching age 18, you must:

- Bring your instruction permit and acceptable forms of identification (see inside back cover) to a Driver Services facility at the time of application. The Secretary of State must have received notification of your driver education completion and the notation must appear on the driving record before a driver's license can be issued.
- Present a form from your parent/legal guardian certifying that you have a minimum of 50 hours of behind-the-wheel practice time, including 10 hours at night, and are sufficiently prepared and able to safely operate a motor vehicle.

Cooperative Driver Testing Program

High school students who successfully complete an accredited driver education course of classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction with a combined grade of A or B may be exempt from taking a facility administered driving exam when applying for a driver's license. The course must include a minimum of 30 hours of classroom training and six hours of behind-the-wheel training. Students also must pass a driving test that meets minimum standards established by the Secretary of State's office, either during the driver education course or at the time of application for the driver's license. The program is voluntary, but school districts are encouraged to participate by contacting the Secretary of State's office.

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PARENT-TEEN DRIVING CONTRACT

As a condition of obtaining my driver's license, and as witnessed by my parent(s) or legal guardian(s), I hereby agree to the following rules. Failure to abide by any of these rules may result in the loss of my driving privileges for a period of time to be determined by my parent(s) or legal guardian(s):

- I will obey all traffic laws and drive with caution and patience, observing the rules of the road as I have been taught. These laws include but are not limited to speeding and improper passing of a school bus.
- I will safely move over to the side of the road when encountering an oncoming emergency vehicle.
- I will always wear my safety belt while driving, as required by law. I also will make sure my passengers wear their safety belts.
- For the first 12 months I have my license, I understand that the law allows me to have only one passenger in my vehicle under age 20 unless the additional passenger is a sibling, stepsibling, child or stepchild of mine.
- Unless my parents say otherwise, my parents and I are the only people allowed to drive my vehicle. There are absolutely no exceptions to this rule.
- I will never drive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and I will never accept a ride from anyone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- I will not make or receive cell phone calls or text messages while driving.
- I will observe the nighttime driving restrictions of 11 p.m. to 6 a.m., Friday and Saturday, and 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday. I am responsible for calculating the time it will take me to drive home and plan my evening accordingly.
- I will not be a distracted driver. I will not play music at an excessive level, change dials on the radio or CD player, or eat food and drink beverages while I am driving my vehicle.
- I will always be a courteous driver. I will not become impatient or angry and will not fall victim to road rage.
- I will not throw anything out of my vehicle, as this is both illegal and dangerous to other drivers.
- I will take every possible step to make sure my vehicle is in good operating condition. These steps include but are not limited to checking the tires, brakes, mirrors and headlights before operating the vehicle. It also includes ensuring that the front and rear license plates are properly displayed and that the vehicle registration renewal sticker is properly adhered to the rear license plate.
- If stopped by a law enforcement officer I will conduct myself in a respectful manner. I will present to the officer my driver's license and insurance card. I will keep my hands on the steering wheel and remain in the vehicle unless otherwise directed by the officer.
- If I am stopped by law enforcement or issued a traffic ticket I will notify my parent(s) or guardian(s) immediately.

If I violate any of the rules in this contract, I understand and accept that my parent(s) have the authority to take away the car keys for a period of time to be determined by them. (For example: One week for the first rule violation, two weeks for the second rule violation, etc). I understand that my parent(s) have the legal authority to take away my driving privileges up until the time I turn age 18 by contacting the Secretary of State's office.

Driver Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____

Important Note: This contract is not a requirement for a teen to obtain a driver's license. It is not an official document of the Office of the Secretary of State and it is not a legal document accepted or used by the office. Rather, the contract is a recommendation from the 2006-2007 Illinois Teen Driver Safety Task Force as a way to encourage safe and responsible driving. It is an issue solely between the parent(s) and teen driver.

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
DRIVER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

FIELD SERVICES
2701 S. DIRKSEN PKWY.
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62723
217-782-7044
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

AFFIDAVIT / CONSENT FOR MINOR TO DRIVE

I, _____, Driver's License/ID Number _____,
Name

Telephone Number _____,

State and affirm that I am legally responsible for the below mentioned minor:

_____, _____, Driver's License/IP Number _____,
Name Date of Birth

and that my relationship to the above-mentioned minor is:

_____.
Parent/Legal Guardian, Other Responsible Adult

If other responsible adult, explain relationship: _____

I hereby certify and give my written consent to the Secretary of State for the issuance of a driver's license to the minor named on this affidavit. I certify that the above-mentioned minor has had 50 hours of behind-the-wheel practice time, including 10 hours of night-time driving and that the minor is sufficiently prepared and able to safely operate a motor vehicle.

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure (735 ILCS 5/1-109), the undersigned certified that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief, and as to such matters the undersigned certified as aforesaid that he/she verily believes the same to be true.

Signature: _____

Address: _____

City: _____State _____ ZIP Code _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

_____
Notary Public

My commission expires _____

PLACE NOTARY SEAL HERE

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As Secretary of State, I want to take every reasonable step possible to make our roads safer and to save more lives. Unfortunately, too many young, novice drivers are killed or injured in motor vehicle crashes. Such crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 15-20. State law requiring 50 hours of practice driving, 10 of which must be done at night, will help give young people more experience behind the wheel, in a variety of situations, helping them to become better drivers.

Please note that the 50 hours are in addition to any time spent behind-the-wheel with a driving instructor. All 50 hours must be spent with someone age 21 or older who has been licensed for a minimum of one year.

The following chart may be used to record the 50 hours of behind-the-wheel practice time, including 10 hours of nighttime driving, that your teenager must complete before obtaining a driver's license. This chart is designed solely for your convenience as a means to ensure your teen has completed the required 50 hours of practice driving.

Jesse White
Secretary of State

Date	Location of Practice (e.g., highway, residential area)	Weather Conditions	Daytime	Daytime Total	Nighttime	Nighttime Total	Grand Total	Initials

* Total time spent practicing must equal a **MINIMUM OF 50 HOURS.**

Springfield, Illinois 62756

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Date	Location of Practice (e.g., highway, residential area)	Weather Conditions	Daytime	Daytime Total	Nighttime	Nighttime Total	Grand Total	Initials

Date	Location of Practice (e.g., highway, residential area)	Weather Conditions	Daytime	Daytime Total	Nighttime	Nighttime Total	Grand Total	Initials

ACCEPTABLE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS

PHOTOCOPIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED

All acceptable documents presented for verification or proof must be valid(current and not expired). One document may satisfy more than one Group.

Documents marked with (*) are accepted for REAL ID.

Group A — Written Signature

- Canceled Check (within 90 days prior to application)*
- Cooperative Driver Testing Program Certificate*
- Court Order*
- Credit Card/Debit Card (major brand)*
- Driver's License/ID Card (current) issued by an agency of the U.S. government*
- Illinois Driver's License (current or expired less than one year)*
- Illinois ID Card (current or expired less than one year)*
- Medicare Card*
- Mortgage or Installment Loan Documents*
- Out-of-State Driver's License/ID Card (current)*
- Passport (valid U.S. or foreign)*
- Social Security Card*
- Temporary DL/CLP/ID Card*
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Forms — I-551 (Permanent Resident Card); I-766 (Employment Authorization Card); I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record) with Valid Passport*
- U.S. Military Driver's License/ID Card*
- U.S. Military Service Record (e.g., DD214)*

Acceptable major brand credit cards (for signature verification only) include American Express, Diners Club, Discover, Master Card and Visa.

Group B — Date of Birth

- Adoption Records
- Birth Certificate*
- Citizenship Certificate (N560/N561)*
- Court Order (Change of birth date)
- Certified Grade/High School/College/University Transcript
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad*
- Illinois Driver's License
- Illinois ID Card
- Naturalization Certificate (N550/N570)*
- REAL ID Driver's License/ID Card
- Social Security Award Letter (primary beneficiary only)
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Forms — I-551 (Permanent Resident Card); I-571 (Refugee Travel Document); I-766 (Employment Authorization Card); I-797A (Notice of Action Status Change); I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record) with Valid Passport*
- U.S. Military Driver's License/ID Card
- U.S. Military Service Record (e.g., DD214)
- U.S. Passport or Passport Card (valid with complete date of birth)*
- U.S. Visa

Group B documents must contain the applicant's full name and complete date of birth and must be verifiable. To be verifiable, it must be possible to contact the regulatory authority to confirm the authenticity of the document. Documents marked with an [*] are also accepted to prove legal presence.

Birth Certificates must be original or certified by a Board of Health or Bureau of Vital Statistics within the U.S. or by the U.S. State Department, U.S. territories or Canada. A certified copy is a document produced by the issuing jurisdiction which has an embossed seal or an original stamped impression. Foreign passports and foreign birth certificates are accepted as proof if accompanied by any other item in Group B.

Group C — Social Security Number

- Illinois Driver's License Record (verified)
- Illinois ID Card Record (verified)
- Non-SSA-1099 Form*
- Pay stub or printed electronic deposit receipt bearing the applicant's name and SSN*
- Social Security Award Letter (primary beneficiary only)
- Social Security Card (issued by SSA)*
- SSA-1099 Form*
- U.S. Military Driver's License/ID Card
- U.S. Military Service Record (e.g., DD214)
- W-2*

Group C documents must contain the applicant's name and full Social Security number. If using an Illinois driver's license or ID record, the Social Security number must have been previously verified with the SSA.

An applicant applying for a Temporary Visitor Driver's License is not required to present documents from Group C. Instead, the applicant must sign a declaration on the TVDL application that the applicant is, at the time of application, ineligible to obtain a Social Security number.

Group D — Residency

- Official Electronic Statement (dated within 90 days prior to application)
- Bank Statement (dated within 90 days prior to application)*
- Canceled Check (dated within 90 days prior to application)*
- Certified Grade/High School/College/University Transcript*
- Credit Report (issued by Experian, Equifax or TransUnion, dated within 12 months of application)*
- Deed/Title, Mortgage, Rental/Lease agreement*
- Insurance Policy (homeowner's or renter's)*
- Letter on Official School Letterhead (dated within 90 days prior to application)*
- Medical Claim or Statement of Benefits (from private insurance company or public (government) agency, dated within 90 days of application)*
- Official mail received from a State, County, City or Village or a Federal Government agency (must include first and last name of applicant and complete current address), may include — Homestead Exemption Receipt; Jury Duty Notice (issued within 90 days of application); Selective Service Card; Social Security Annual Statement; Social Security Disability Insurance Statement; Supplemental Security Income Benefits Statement; Voter Registration Card*
- Pay Stub or Electronic Deposit Receipt*
- Pension or Retirement Statement*
- Phone Book, produced by a phone book publisher*
- Report Card from Grade/High School or College/University*
- Tuition invoice/official mail from college or university, dated within the 12 months prior to application*
- Utility Bill (electric, water, refuse, telephone land/cell, cable or gas, issued within 90 days of application)*

Group D documents must contain the applicant's full name and residence address. Documents in Groups A, B or C, that contain the full name and residence address also may be used for Group D. Two residency documents required for REAL ID.

After review of all identification presented, Secretary of State management has the right to accept or refuse any document.

Both lists — acceptable and unacceptable — are subject to change.

Documents marked with (*) are accepted for REAL ID.

Unacceptable Documents

- Bond Receipt or Bail/Bond Card
- Business Card
- Check Cashing Card
- Club/Fraternal Membership Card
- College or University ID Card
- Commercially produced (non-State or unofficial) ID Card
- DHS Card or documents (Department of Human Services)
- Fishing License
- HFS Card (Healthcare and Family Services)
- Handwritten ID/Employment Card
- Hunting License
- Illinois Concealed Carry Card
- Illinois FOID Card
- Instruction Permit/Receipt
- Insurance Card
- International Driving Permit
- Library Card
- Personal Mail
- Traffic Citation (Arrest Ticket)
- Unlicensed Financial Institution Loan Papers
- Vehicle Registration
- Video Club Membership Card
- Wallet ID

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