

GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSING

CRASHES ARE THE NUMBER ONE
KILLER OF TEENS

Texas Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) laws are designed to prevent teen crashes by giving new drivers the chance to gain experience and improve their driving skills over time in lower-risk environments.

PHASE 1

At least 15 years of age:

- **Driver education course**
- **Learners license** (drive with licensed driver age 21 or older)
- **30 hours supervised driving** (ten of these at night)
www.tdlr.texas.gov/driver/files/Texas%2030-Hour%20Behind-the-Wheel%20Log.pdf
- **Six-month waiting period** after learners license is issued for practicing with experienced drivers age 21 or older
- **No wireless communication devices**, hands-free or not
- **Wear seatbelt**, it's the law

SPELL OUT THE RULES: *The risks teens face in the driving environment are huge! Parents and guardians need to teach safe driving behaviors from the beginning. So before obtaining the provisional license is the time to develop a "Parent-Teen Driving Agreement" to outline expectations and set consequences if the expectations are not followed. For sample agreements, check with your insurance agency or view www.cdc.gov/ParentsAreTheKey/agreement.*

PHASE 2

At least 16 years of age (not issued until six months after learners license issued, so age varies) **and until driver turns 18:**

- **Provisional license*** (drive solo)
The GDL completion date is printed on license:
"TRC545.424 applies until mm/dd/yy"
- **No driving between midnight and 5 a.m.** after license is issued unless licensed driver 21 or older in front seat
- **No more than one passenger under age 21** except for family members, unless licensed driver 21 or older in front seat
- **No wireless communication devices**, hands-free or not
- **Wear seatbelt**, it's the law

*The license is still marked "provisional" until driver turns 18.
www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/teenDriver.htm



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Texas Department of Transportation

www.txdot.gov

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