

I351.87834  
I29dl2  
2006  
c.3

75491595

# ILLINOIS GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSING SYSTEM

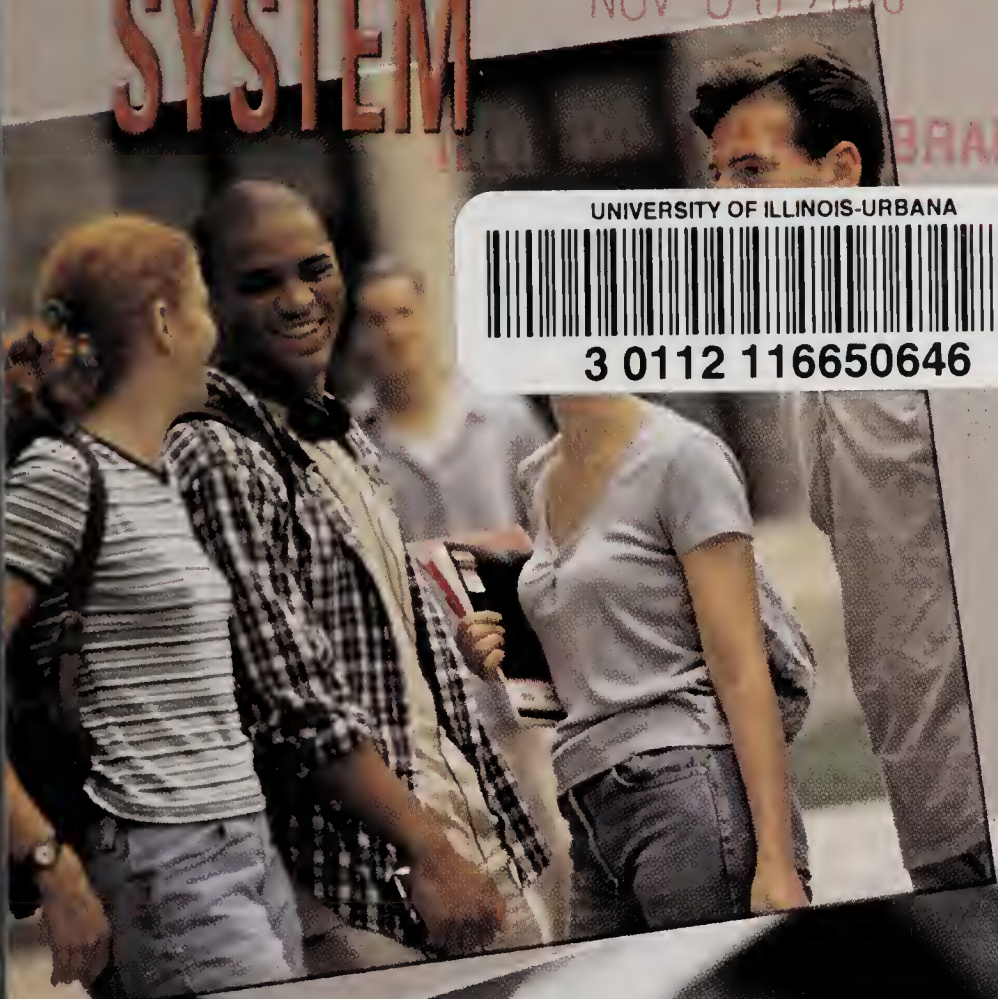
NOV 06 2006

BRARY

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



3 0112 116650646



**Jesse White**  
**Secretary of State**



Dear Parents and Teenagers:

It takes time to learn how to be a good driver. While our young people are learning, we want to help keep them safe.

Illinois' Graduated Driver Licensing System requires teenagers to gain the experience they need to "graduate" to fewer restrictions and more driving privileges. Teenagers now are required to practice driving 50 hours, including 10 hours at night, with a parent or responsible adult before obtaining a driver's license. This extra driving requirement gives young drivers more experience behind the wheel to ensure that they are ready to go it alone when it's time to apply for their licenses.

For more information on the Graduate to Safety program or to obtain the 50 Hour Certification Log or Affidavit/Consent for Minor to Drive form, please visit [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com).

With the help of parents, our young people can look forward to a lifetime of safe, responsible driving.

*Jesse White*

Jesse White  
Secretary of State



# "Graduate to Safety" — Graduated Driver Licensing System

## PERMIT PHASE — DRIVERS AGE 15

- Parental or guardian consent required to obtain an instruction permit.
- Curfew is Sun. - Thur., 11 p.m.; Fri. - Sat., 12:01 a.m. (local curfews may differ).
- Must be enrolled in an approved driver education course, and must pass vision and knowledge tests.
- **All occupants under age 19 must wear safety belts.**
- Number of passengers limited to one in the front seat and the number of safety belts in the back seat.
- **Must practice driving 50 hours, including 10 hours of night driving, supervised by a parent or adult age 21 or older with a valid driver's license.**
- Permit must be held for a minimum of three months.
- Permit is valid for up to two years.
- **Cell phone use while driving is against the law for drivers under age 18.**

## Sanctions

- Limit of one court supervision for serious offenses.
- Conviction of a serious moving violation results in a six-month waiting period before applying for a driver's license.
- Not eligible for a restricted or a judicial driving permit.
- Anyone caught driving without a permit will be ineligible to obtain a driver's license until age 18.

## INITIAL LICENSING PHASE — DRIVERS AGES 16-17

- Curfew is Sun. - Thur., 11 p.m.; Fri. - Sat., 12:01 a.m. (applies only to 16-year-olds; local curfews may differ).
- Must have completed a state-approved driver education course.
- **All occupants under age 19 must wear safety belts.**
- For the first six months of licensing, or until the driver is age 18, whichever occurs first, the number of passengers is limited to one person under age 20, unless the additional passenger(s) is a sibling/step-sibling or child/step-child 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.
- Parental or guardian consent is required to obtain a license; a parent must verify that a **minimum of 50 hours** of practice driving, including 10 hours of night driving, has been completed.
- **Cell phone use while driving is against the law for drivers under age 18.**

## Sanctions

- Limit one court supervision for serious offenses.
- Conviction of any moving violation before age 18 generates a Secretary of State warning letter to the parent and the teenager.
- Conviction of two moving violations in a 24-month period results 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.
- Suspended drivers required to attend a remedial education course may be retested and must pay a \$70 reinstatement fee.

## FULL LICENSING PHASE — DRIVERS AGES 18-20

- No age-related restrictions apply.

## Sanctions

- Limit one court supervision for serious offenses.
- Conviction of two moving violations in a 24-month period results in a minimum one-month suspension. Suspension length is determined by the seriousness of the offenses and the driver's prior driving history.
- Suspended drivers are required to pay a \$70 reinstatement fee.



## Driving Tips

### Tips for Teens

Lack of experience puts teenagers at a greater risk of being involved or dying in a car accident. The more you practice, the better you will handle different situations on the road. Following are a few extra tips for safe driving:

- ✓ Drive sober (the BAC limit for persons under 21 is .00).
- ✓ Ride with sober drivers.
- ✓ Always wear your safety belt.
- ✓ Get to know your car.
- ✓ Be a defensive driver.
- ✓ Stay alert.
- ✓ Focus on your driving; avoid distractions.
- ✓ Don't load up your car with more passengers than allowed by law.
- ✓ Don't get stressed out.
- ✓ Check your rearview mirror before and after you brake.
- ✓ Follow all traffic safety rules.
- ✓ Don't drive faster than you can handle, and don't exceed the posted speed limit.
- ✓ Never let friends drive your car.

### Tips for Parents

The Graduated Driver Licensing System requires parents to spend **50 hours** in the car with their teenagers behind the wheel. Encourage your teenager to develop safe driving habits and skills.

- ✓ Take your teenager for driving practice under various conditions and practice different skills.
- ✓ Take your teenager to get a license only when you and your teenager feel the time is right.
- ✓ Set a good example when you drive.
- ✓ Provide a safe vehicle for practice sessions.
- ✓ Work with your teenager's driver education instructor.
- ✓ Meet with your insurance agent.
- ✓ Create a sober driving contract.
- ✓ Inform your teen what to do in case of an accident.



## New Laws You Should Know

**School attendance** — **Effective July 2007**, unmarried persons under age 18 may have their driver's licenses cancelled or be refused a driver's license or permit by the Secretary of State for failing to maintain school attendance.

**50-hour requirement** — **Effective June 2006**, teen drivers must complete 50 hours of driving during the permit stage, including 10 hours at night, with a parent or adult age 21 or older. Parents must verify that the requirement is completed before a driver's license is issued.

**Parental consent** — **Effective June 2006**, a parent/legal guardian, if unable to accompany a minor, may submit an Affidavit/Consent for Minor to Drive form permitting a minor under age 18 to obtain a driver's license. The parent/legal guardian may withdraw consent for their teen to drive at any time prior to the teen's 18th birthday by sending a written, notarized request to the Secretary of State, which will result in cancellation of the minor's license.

**Cell phone use** — **Effective July 2005**, a person under 18 who holds an instruction permit or a graduated driver's license may not use a wireless phone while driving a vehicle, except in the case of an emergency to contact a law enforcement agency, health care provider or emergency services agency.

### If you are stopped by police

- Slow down and pull over safely as soon as possible.
- Stay in the driver's seat with both hands clearly in sight on the steering wheel.
- Comply with the officer's request to see your driver's license and proof of insurance.
- Get out of the car only if asked to do so.

More information is available in the *Illinois Rules of the Road*, available at your local Driver Services facility or at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com).

### For more information:

**312-814-2905 • 217-782-2952**

**888-261-5238 (TTY/NexTalk)**

***WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM***

**Jesse White • Secretary of State**