

# More Info About Graduated Driver's License

## What Every Driver Must Know

### “State of Michigan 2019”

**Driver Education Segment 1:** You must be at least 14 years, 8 months and have your parent or guardian's permission to start Segment 1. Segment 1 requires at least 24 hours of classroom instruction, a minimum of six hours of behind-the-wheel instruction, a minimum of four hours of observation time in a training vehicle and a minimum of 70 percent on the Segment 1 state exam.

**GDL Level 1 License:** To apply for a Level License, you must be at least 14 years, 9 months old, visit a Secretary of State office with your parent or legal guardian, pass the vision and health standards, and present the following documents: Segment 1 Certificate of Completion, proof of a valid Social security number (or a letter of ineligibility), proof of legal presence, proof of identity and of Michigan residency. (The last four requirements are discussed later in this chapter.)

Once the Level 1 License is issued, you may only drive with a licensed parent, guardian, or designated, licensed adult age 21 or older seated in the front seat next to you. (The designated adult also will need a signed letter of authorization from the parent or guardian.) You are required to keep a driving log that tracks your supervised driving time (you must complete 50 hours, including 10 hours at night, before taking the Driving Skills Test.) You are prohibited by Kelsey's Law from using a cell phone while driving.

**Driver Education Segment 2:** The requirements for taking Segment 2 are as follows. You must present a driving log of at least 30 hours of supervised driving time (including a minimum of 2 hours at night) with your parent, guardian or designated adult. You must have held your Level 1 License for at least three consecutive months.

Segment 2 consists of a minimum of 6 hours of classroom instruction. You must pass the Segment 2 state exam with a minimum of 70 percent.

**Driving Skills Text:** You must be at least age 15 and have completed Segment 2, along with a minimum of 50 hours of supervised driving time, including 10 hours at night. You must have held your GDL Level 1 License for at least six months.

You will need to present you completed driving log, your Level 1 License, Segment 2 Certificate of Completion along with insurance and registration for the vehicle you will be driving during the test. Driving skills tests are given by third-party testing organizations approved by the Secretary of State. More information about the driving skills tests is found later in this chapter.

**GDL Level 2 License:** You must be at least 16 and have held your Level 1 License for at least 6 months. You must have no violations, at-fault crashes or suspensions on your driving record for the 90 days preceding you license application. You must also present proof of legal presence (usually an original, printed certified birth certificate) and the Driving Skills Test Certificate.

Level 2 License restrictions prohibit you from driving between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. unless one of the following applies: You are accompanied by a parent, guardian or designated, licensed adult age 21 or older, or you are driving to-and-from either a school-sanctioned event or employment.

You may not have more than one passenger under the age of 21 in the vehicle with you at any time unless one of the following applies: Your parent, guardian or a licensed, designated adult age 21 or older is in the vehicle with you, the passengers are members of your immediate family or they are accompanying you to and from an authorized activity or job.

Under Kelsey's Law, you may not use a cell phone while driving, except for emergencies. Violators may be fined up to \$295.

**GDL Level 3 License:** You must be at least age 17 and have held the Level 2 License for at least six months. You must have driven 12 consecutive months without a moving violation, an at-fault crash, a license suspension or a violation of any of the GDL restrictions. There are no state-imposed license restrictions for the Level 3 License, although parents may request to delay advancing their teen to a Level 3 License if the parent feels the teen is not yet ready.

## **18 and older – never been licensed**

**If you are age 18 or older and have never been licensed,** you will have to apply for a temporary instruction permit at a Secretary of State office and successfully pass a driving skills test administered by a third-party testing organization.

Study "What Every Driver Must Know" and the "Driving Skills Test Study Guide" to prepare for the written knowledge test and the driving skills test. Copies are available at Secretary of State offices and online at [Michigan.gov/SOS](http://Michigan.gov/SOS).

Visit a Secretary of State office and apply for a TIP. You must present the following documents. More information about each of these follows this section.

- Proof of valid Social Security number.
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal presence.
- Proof of identity.
- Proof of Michigan residency.

After you have passed the written knowledge test and vision test, and paid the TIP fee, your TIP is issued. You must practice driving with a licensed adult for at least 30 days before taking a driving skills test.

Once you pass the driving skills test, you may return to a Secretary of State office to finish your application for your driver's license.

Your photograph will be taken.

A license fee will be due. Fees will vary depending on the license type. Your new Michigan license should arrive in the mail in about three weeks.