

McGregor High School Driver's Education



9/7/21

Dear Driver's Education Parent,

This quarter your child will be taking the classroom portion of their driver's education as part of their regular school day. The focus of this course will be learning **how to manage the risk associated with driving, proper driving techniques, and the "rules of the road."** They will be evaluated on both the **knowledge they acquire** and their **behavior/attitude**. Behavior and attitude will be included because the task of driving requires maturity and the ability to follow rules.

**I cannot stress enough that attendance is crucial and a requirement by state statute.**

State statutes **require 30 hours** of classroom instruction; this quarter we have 42 scheduled class days (**31.5 hours**). As a result, any student that misses more than **2 days** will have to make up the missed time during **2nd Quarter**. Upon completing the time requirement and passing all work in his/her classroom driver education course your 15-year old son/daughter will be eligible to take the *Minnesota State Permit Test*. After passing the test and paying the permit fee, they will be eligible to begin practice driving with a licensed driver, 21 years or older.

Attached are some suggestions for supervising your student once they have earned their permit and a teen-parent driving contract.

You will also find a letter from Lisa Kruse, the Community Ed. Director, that includes a contract and details fee payment.

This is an important time in your student's life. It is an opportunity to discuss many important life issues involving trust, responsibility, and safety. Driving is a privilege... one that needs to be earned.

Thank you for supporting your student in this new era of independence. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jon Jacobs  
Classroom Driver Education Teacher  
218-768-5158

For more information, go to: <http://www.dps.state.mn.us>. click, driver education

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\_\_\_\_\_ brought home the driver education information for us to read and discuss.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/guardian

## Documents needed to get your permit:

See pages 3- 5 of the Manual to be sure you have the correct primary and secondary identification documents. This is very important because you will not be able to get the permit without them.

## Instruction Permit (Minnesota Drivers Manual, p. 9-10)

The permit is valid for two years of practice driving with a **licensed driver** (21 years of age or older) sitting in the front passenger seat. It is illegal to practice driving without a valid instruction permit. When you drive, you must have your instruction permit in immediate possession.

### Under 18

If you are under 18 years of age:

**the supervising driver must be 21 years of age** or older

every occupant must wear a seat belt or use a child passenger restraint system

you may **not** use, or talk on, a cell phone while driving, with or without a hands-free cell phone device.

Before taking the **Road test** to acquire the **provisional license** student must:

Be at least 16 years of age.

Have completed the classroom and behind-the-wheel phases of driver education.

Have held an instruction permit for six months with no convictions for moving or alcohol/controlled-substance violations.

Have passed a road test.

A parent or court-appointed guardian must sign and approve your license application and submit a driving log showing that the permit holder **has driven under the supervision of a licensed driver who is at least 21 years of age for not less than 50 hours. At least 15 of the 50 supervised hours must have taken place at night.** If the parent or guardian has attended a parent/teen driving class you will only need to show proof of 40 hours on the driving log.

# How to Instruct Your Teen Driver

- ✓ Ask your teen's driving instructor for advice to make effective use of your practice time.
- ✓ Plan what skills you will be working on before practice begins.
- ✓ Work from basic to more complex skills.
- ✓ Make sure your teen is familiar with all of the controls of the vehicle.
- ✓ Keep early lessons short, about 10-15 minutes.
- ✓ Start practicing with only you and your teen in the car--no other passengers.
- ✓ Make sure that you give directions well in advance of the maneuver you want performed.
- ✓ Let your teen practice under many different driving conditions, including driving at night.
- ✓ As your teen advances, let them do "commentary driving." In this technique, your teen describes what s/he is observing while driving.
- ✓ Look for the positive in your teen's driving and let them know about it.
- ✓ Set a good example with your own driving.

# Establishing Rules for Newly Licensed Teens

Studies have found that the risk of a crash and ticket is highest during the first year of licensure. A natural strategy for mentoring new drivers comes from the combination of progressive privileges and rational consequences. Some parents find a written contract enhances the agreement they make with their teen driver about driving privileges.

## ✓ Step 1

- Daylight conditions only
- Low-stress conditions (low-traffic volume and good road conditions)
- No passengers or a limited number of passengers
- no cell phone use

## ✓ Step 2

- Nighttime driving, with a curfew and no passengers
- More daytime passengers allowed

## ✓ Step 3

- Nighttime driving with one passenger

## ✓ Step 4

- All road and traffic conditions allowed
- Maintain passenger and cell phone use restriction

## ✓ Step 5

- Unrestricted privileges to drive

# Teen - Parent Driving Contract

## THE TEEN DRIVER WILL:

1. Always wear a safety belt and require passengers to do so
2. Not drive after using alcohol or drugs
3. Provide destination and time of return
4. Call if more than \_\_\_\_\_ minutes late
5. Drive at safe speeds (at or below the speed limit)
6. Make complete stops at red lights and stop signs
7. Refrain from speeding up to get through yellow lights
8. Not drive when excessively fatigued
9. Concentrate on the task of driving
10. Not drive aggressively, and no tailgating
11. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE FOLLOWING PRIVILEGES ARE AGREED UPON:

*(Periodic Updates Recommended)*

Daylight driving: Number of passengers under age 20 allowed:

- None       One       Two       # \_\_\_\_\_

Road conditions:

- Good weather       All weather  
 Low-traffic volume       High-traffic volume

Nighttime driving: Number of passengers under age 20 allowed:

- None       One       Two       # \_\_\_\_\_

No eating or cell phone use

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## RESPONSIBILITIES:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check Fluids with each fuel fill     | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspect and check tire pressure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report unusual performance           | <input type="checkbox"/> Clear or clean all windows      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report when fuel is less than ¼ tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep vehicle clean              |

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Teen's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

