

# Graduated Driver Licensing

## Summary of Connecticut Law

revised 2/2010

### Obtaining your learner's permit

- Must be at least 16 years old.
- Must pass a 25 question test.
- Bring your birth certificate; parental consent; proof of residence (a piece of addressed mail); and \$40 for the test and another \$18 for the permit.

### Rules for learner's permit holders

- May only drive when supervised.
- No passengers except for a licensed driving instructor, or parents (must have license), or someone instructing the permit holder who is a licensed driver at least 20 years old (has had license for 4 years, no suspension in last 4 years).

### Getting your license

- Required to have had a learner's permit for at least 120 days (if enrolled in a driving school), or 180 days (if home taught) before applying.
- Completed 30 hours of classroom instruction and 40 hours of on-the-road training. **A parent/legal guardian must take a 2-hour course.**
- Pass a Road Skills Test at the DMV.
- Pass a 25 question final exam at the DMV.
- Bring your learner's permit; a vehicle for the road test; insurance card; the "qualified trainer" who will sign your application; and a \$66 to \$77 license fee.

### Rules for all 16 and 17 year old drivers

- No driving from 11 pm to 5am, unless for school, job, religious, or medical necessity, or Safe Ride Program.
- No cell phone use, no hands-free cell phone use, no texting, no mobile electronic device use allowed.
- No passengers in the **first six months** of licensure, exceptions are the same as for the learner's permit period (see above).
- No passengers in the **second six months** of licensure, except for members of driver's immediate family.
- All passengers must wear seatbelts regardless of age, or be in an appropriate child passenger restraint (car seat).

### 48-hour suspension for 16 and 17 year old drivers

- Passenger, curfew, DUI, speeding over 20 mph, racing, and reckless driving violations will result in having your license seized on-the-spot by police and car towed.

*For more detailed information on the graduated driver licensing law for teens in Connecticut visit*

**[www.ct.gov/teendriving](http://www.ct.gov/teendriving)**



Injury Prevention Center  
[www.connecticutchildrens.org](http://www.connecticutchildrens.org)



# MODEL Parent-Teen Driving Contract for Connecticut

An agreement between teen drivers and their parents/legal guardians is a proven way to help in making the first years of driving safer. **Motor vehicle crashes remain the #1 killer of teens.** Take the time to make an agreement and then live up to it, obey the rules, enforce the consequences. Talk this over and then sign it.

- Seatbelts:** I understand that under the law I must wear a seatbelt and that I am responsible for making sure that every passenger in my car is also belted, no matter what their age.
- Distracted Driving:** Driving while talking on a cell phone, even when hands-free for teens, and texting while driving is illegal in CT. I agree to pull over or stop somewhere before using a phone or other electronic device.
- Night Driving:** I understand that under the law I may not drive between 11pm and 5am.
- Cruising/Joyriding:** I agree not to cruise/joyride, meaning that I will only drive between point A and point B for a purpose and will seek permission to drive every time I use the car.
- Passengers:** Under the law I know that I am not allowed to have other teen passengers in my car during the first 12 months that I have my license.
- Alcohol Consumption:** I understand that under the law I am not legally able to purchase or possess alcohol. I agree not drive after drinking or to be a passenger in a car driven by someone else who has been drinking. I understand that I can call my parent or legal guardian to pick me up if I have a problem and need a ride.
- Speeding and the Rules of the Road:** I understand that it is illegal to drive over the posted speed limit. I agree to drive at a reasonable speed and to obey stop signs and traffic signals. I further agree to pause and look left, right, and left again before proceeding through any intersection at which I am stopped.
- Violations of the Above Rules:** For any of the rules above, a violation includes being ticketed by police, being warned by police, or being observed by neighbors, family, or friends engaged in the prohibited behavior. **I agree to a \_\_\_\_\_ day suspension of driving privileges for the first offense and a \_\_\_\_\_ day suspension for each additional offense.** I will give my keys and license to my parent to hold during the suspension period. *[write-in the agreed upon number of days on the lines above]*

## By signing you agree to be bound by this contract:

*I agree to give my teen supervised driving experience. After they have their license I agree to give them use of a vehicle and to give them a ride home any time day or night should they find themselves in a bad situation or otherwise need help.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

*I agree to abide by the laws and the rules stated above.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**TEEN DRIVER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

Go to [www.ctdrive.blogspot.com](http://www.ctdrive.blogspot.com) to register and receive FREE periodic teen driving news and updates on CT law for teen drivers.



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