

What are GDL Programs?

Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) programs are designed to minimize the highest risk situations for a new driver while they safely gain crucial experience behind the wheel. GDL programs introduce young drivers to the road slowly with a gradual, staged approach to earning a drivers license.

GDL LAWS SAVE LIVES

Car crashes are the number one killer of teens, taking almost 4,000 young lives annually. These crashes are not just sad accidents—they are preventable crashes.

Since the inception of GDL laws, teen fatalities and serious injuries have been reduced by up to 40%.

50% of teens killed in car crashes were passengers driven by another teen

THREE STAGES OF THE GDL LAW:

- 1 Learner Permit
- 2 Minor License
- 3 Full Driver License

It's simple. Read on to understand the different licensing stages and guidelines.

WHAT CAN TEENS, PARENTS, AND GUARDIANS DO?

By understanding, following, and enforcing GDL laws, teens, parents, and guardians can minimize the risk of a car crash and keep the roads safer for everyone.



Visit ImpactTeenDrivers.org/Utah for more information.



Understanding GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSING LAWS

Utah



Impact
Teen Drivers



STAGE 1

LEARNER PERMIT

The Learner Permit stage is the time to gain driving experience.

This stage can begin at age 15. Teens will first need to study the Utah Driver Handbook. Next, teens can visit a Utah Driver License Office to take an eye exam and complete the written permit test. Upon passing both tests, they become the proud holder of a Learner Permit.

After earning a Learner Permit, teens will need to enroll in an approved driver education course. Teens will also need a minimum of 40 hours of behind-the-wheel supervised driving time with an approved driving instructor, parent, or legal guardian. Ten of those hours must be at night. They will hold their Learner Permit for a minimum of six months before taking the behind-the-wheel driving test.

STAGE 2

MINOR LICENSE

Once a teen takes the online Traffic Safety and Trends Exam AND passes the behind-the-wheel test at the Driver License Division, through their driver education course, or with a third party road tester, they will receive their Minor License.

A Minor License allows the teen driver to drive ALONE. However, they must follow these driving restrictions while in the Minor License stage:

- For the first six months of driving, *no non-immediate family member passengers* under the age of 21 years old UNLESS accompanied by a licensed driver over the age of 21
- Until age 17, no driving *between midnight and 5 a.m.* UNLESS accompanied by a licensed driver over the age of 21
- *No cell phone use*, even with a hands-free device
- *Seat belts* are mandatory for all people in the car



STAGE 3

FULL DRIVER LICENSE

When a teen turns 18, the *passenger, nighttime, and cell phone restrictions* are lifted. Remember, hands-free is not distraction-free. Seat belts remain mandatory for all occupants of a vehicle under Utah law.

With a full driver license, teens can participate in all of the privileges, responsibilities, and enjoyments that come with driving. But remember, driving is a privilege, not a right, and it is important to drive safely at all times no matter age or experience.

Congrats!

