

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Teen Driver – Graduated License

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on Teen Driver – Graduated License s.343 a proposed guidance document.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21 days by:

1. Department's website:

<https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/dot/guidance-docs?guidDocId=DMV13>

2. Mailing written comments to:

Division of Motor Vehicles
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
PO Box 7336
Madison, WI 53707-7336

WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at wisconsindot.gov to allow for ongoing comment.

AGENCY CONTACT

DOTDMVGuidanceDocs@DOT.WI.GOV



State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation

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Year in and year out, teen drivers are over-represented in traffic crashes. Only 6% of all Wisconsin-licensed drivers are ages 16-19, but drivers in this age group account for 16% of all drivers involved in crashes.

Wisconsin's Graduated Driver License (GDL) law went into effect in 2000 to help give new, young drivers a healthier, safer start to their driving career. The GDL law was crafted to:

- Give beginning teen drivers more practice time behind the wheel before getting a probationary license

- Restrict teen drivers from being on the road during late night hours when the risk of injury is high
- Limit the number of passengers who are at risk while riding with teen drivers
- Allow teen drivers a longer and safer driving experience before earning an unrestricted license

Based on the first three full years of the GDL restrictions (2001-03), the number of 16-year old drivers involved in crashes has decreased. Compared to the three years prior to GDL (1997-99), during 2001-03, 16-year old drivers were:

- 15% less likely to be in a traffic crash of any type (6,709 per year)
 - 18% less likely to be in a fatal crash (23 per year)
 - 20% less likely to be in a non-fatal injury crash (2,354 per year)
 - 12% less likely to be in a property damage-only crash (4,332 per year)

With exceptions for school and work, Wisconsin's GDL law restricts teens with probationary licenses from driving between Midnight and 5:00 AM. Since GDL was enacted, during these overnight hours, 16-year old drivers were:

- 36% less likely to be in a crash of any type (591 per year)
 - 37% less likely to be in a non-fatal injury crash (219 per year)
 - 35% less likely to be in a property damage-only crash (369 per year)

There was no change in the number of 16-year olds involved in fatal crashes between midnight and 5 a.m. (three per year before GDL, and three per year since).

More analysis is being conducted to determine other benefits that the new GDL law may have had for teen drivers.

Video of a presentation by Roger White, father of Sean White, a teen from Oregon Wisconsin who died in a car crash with two of his friends.

Roger White gives his presentation to schools and organizations. This five minute video is an edited version of his presentation which is about 25 minutes. For more information please contact Mr. White at rcwhiteguy@yahoo.com.



For more information:

- [Cell phones - driving and the law - know the facts](#)
- [Graduated driver license \(GDL\)](#)
- [Teen driver portal](#)
- [Wisconsin crash facts \(16-19 year-olds\) for 2012](#)

Questions about the content of this page:

Bureau of Driver Services, records.dmv@dot.wi.gov

Driver Information Section

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