

# PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IS KEY



## Know *what GDL means*

Graduated driver licensing is designed to make the learning process safer for new drivers by managing risk as new drivers learn.

## Know *why GDL is important*

16-year-olds have the highest crash rate per mile driven of any age group. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among teens aged 16 to 18.

## Parents *of teen drivers*

- As a parent, you are cosigner on your teen's license.
- You have control of your teen's license until he or she is 18.
- As cosigner, you are liable for any damages resulting from your teen's driving.
- As your teen's parent or guardian, you know when he or she has the skills and maturity to drive. That's why your permission is required at every step in the juvenile licensing process.
- Driving is not a right for teens. It's a privilege parents grant to teens. That's why you have the right to withhold or cancel your teen's driving privileges at any time for any reason.

## 16 *years old*

Ohio law states:

- 16-year-olds are restricted from driving between midnight and 6 a.m.
- They may not have more than one passenger who is not a family member in the vehicle.
- One moving violation within the first six months of licensure may result in a requirement to drive with a parent for six months.

## 17 *years old*

Ohio law states:

- 17-year-olds are restricted from driving between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.
- They may only have as many passengers as seat belts in the vehicle.



DRIVE BY THE  
RULES.  
KEEP THE  
PRIVILEGE.



State Farm, University Hospitals of Cleveland and the Ohio Department of Public Safety are working together to promote safe teen driving.

For detailed text of Ohio's GDL laws and FAQs go to:  
[www.bmv.ohio.gov/driver\\_license/new\\_gdl\\_info.htm](http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/driver_license/new_gdl_info.htm)

# PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IS KEY

Whether your teen is getting ready to start driver's education, has a learner's permit or recently began driving, YOUR INFLUENCE MATTERS.

A study by State Farm<sup>®</sup> and the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia found that teens' heightened crash risk results from:

## Inexperience

About two in three fatal teen crashes are due to driver error, including mistakes due to inexperience and distractions. Teens' crash risk is highest during the first six months (or 1,000 miles) of independent driving.

## Distractions

Having a single teen passenger doubles a teen driver's fatal crash risk. With three or more teen passengers, crash risk increases fourfold.

## Speed

Crash risk increases with speed for any driver; add in teens' lack of experience, and the risk only increases.

## Driving at Night

Four of 10 teen traffic deaths occur between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. Limiting teens' nighttime driving can cut crash rates by up to 60 percent.

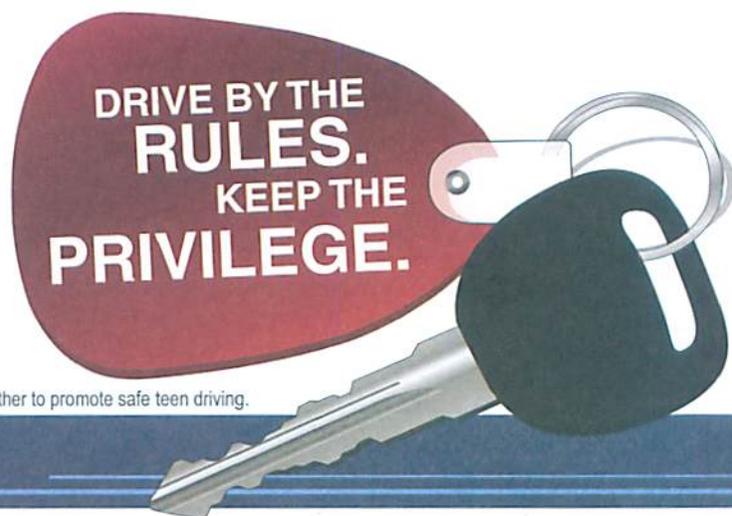
## The Biggest Risk of All? Not Buckling Up

Two of three teens (both drivers and passengers) who die in traffic crashes were not wearing seat belts.

## GDL process

- A temporary permit can be obtained at age 15 1/2 and is valid for one year.
- When driving with a temporary permit, a driver must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or licensed instructor in the front seat.
- Training requirements include:
  - a minimum of 24 hours of classroom instruction,
  - eight hours behind-the-wheel instruction in driver training and
  - completion of 50 hours of driving with a parent or legal guardian (at least 10 of them at night). A parent or guardian must verify the 50 hours in writing by signing an affidavit at the BMV.
- Ohio law requires all drivers to prove financial responsibility, so this is a great time to check in with your insurance agent to make sure you and your novice driver have adequate coverage and find out about any available discounts.

For more information go to:  
[www.ridelikeyfriend.com](http://www.ridelikeyfriend.com) or  
[www.betterteendriving.com](http://www.betterteendriving.com)



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