



# – Graduated Driver Licensing Systems – AAA State-By-State Review



All states now have some form of Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL), but most states' systems can be strengthened to include important measures shown by research to save lives.

State	Three Stage GDL System	Passenger Limit	Night Driving Limit	Mandatory Practice	
				Holding Time	Driving Hours <sup>1</sup>
Alabama	■	▨	▨	■	▨
Alaska	■	■	▨	■	■
Arizona	■	▨	▨	■	▨
Arkansas <sup>2</sup>	■	■	▨	■	□
California	■	■	▨	■	■
Colorado	■	■	▨	■	■
Connecticut	■	■	▨	▨	▨
D.C.	■	■	▨	■	■
Delaware	■	■	■	■	■
Florida	■	□	▨	■	■
Georgia	■	■	▨	■	▨
Hawaii	■	▨	▨	■	□
Idaho	■	▨	■	■	■
Illinois	■	■	▨	■	■
Indiana	■	▨	▨	▨	□
Iowa	■	□	▨	■	▨
Kansas <sup>3</sup>	■	■	■	■	■
Kentucky	■	■	▨	■	■
Louisiana	■	□	▨	■	▨
Maine	■	▨	▨	■	▨
Maryland	■	▨	▨	■	■
Massachusetts	■	▨	▨	■	▨
Michigan	■	□	▨	■	■
Minnesota	■	■	▨	■	▨
Mississippi	■	□	▨ <sup>4</sup>	■	□
Missouri	■	▨	▨	■	■
Montana	■	▨	▨	■	■
Nebraska	■	▨	▨	■	■
Nevada	■	▨	■	■	■
New Hampshire <sup>5</sup>	▨	■	▨	□	■
New Jersey	■	■	▨	■	□
New Mexico	■	■	▨	■	■
New York	■	▨	■	■	▨
North Carolina	■	■	■	■	□
North Dakota	▨ <sup>6</sup>	□	□	■	□
Ohio	■	▨	▨	■	■
Oklahoma <sup>7</sup>	■	■	■	■	■
Oregon	■	■	▨	■	■
Pennsylvania	■	□	▨	■	▨ <sup>9</sup>
Rhode Island	■	■	▨	■	■
South Carolina	■	▨	■	■	■
South Dakota	■	□	■	▨	□
Tennessee	■	■	▨	■	■
Texas	■	■	▨	■	□
Utah	■	■	▨	■	■
Vermont	■	■	□	■	■
Virginia	■	▨	▨	■	■
Washington	■	■	▨	■	■
West Virginia	■	▨	▨	■	▨
Wisconsin	■	■	▨	■	▨
Wyoming	▨ <sup>8</sup>	▨	▨	▨ <sup>8</sup>	■

### AAA Recommends:

#### Three Stage GDL System

At least three stages of licensure, comprised of a learner's stage, an intermediate stage, and then full licensure

#### Passenger Limit

No more than one passenger under 20 during first 6 months of driving (family members exempt)

#### Nighttime Driving Limit

No driving between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. unless accompanied by a licensed driver at least 21 years old

#### Mandatory Practice

A minimum 6-month "holding period" for the learner's stage, with at least 50 hours of certified practice (including 10 hours at night)

**"...improvements to GDL systems could result in fewer crashes and less direct spending by state and local government on Medicaid, police/EMS response, property damage, and more..."**

AAA Cost of Teen Crashes Report (2008)

### Legend

- GDL component meets or exceeds AAA recommendations
- ▨ State has GDL component but it falls short of AAA recommendations
- State lacks GDL component

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<sup>1</sup> Including required nighttime hours

<sup>2</sup> Arkansas' passenger and nighttime driving limits take effect 91 days after 2009 sine die adjournment

<sup>3</sup> Kansas' intermediate stage takes effect January 1, 2010

<sup>4</sup> Mississippi's night time limit change takes effect July 1, 2009

<sup>5</sup> New Hampshire does not require new drivers to hold a learner's permit for a specified period of time. New required practice hour law takes effect June 16, 2009.

<sup>6</sup> North Dakota lacks a substantive intermediate license step

<sup>7</sup> Oklahoma's new night time limit and required practice hour law takes effect November 1, 2009

<sup>8</sup> Wyoming requires a nominal 10-day learner's permit holding period

<sup>9</sup> Pennsylvania lacks a nighttime practice driving requirement for learner's permit holders

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