More than 40 percent of teen driver fatal crashes occur between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

A teen driver is twice as likely to be killed in a crash while carrying just one passenger

GDL restrictions reduce young driver exposure to crash risk and save lives. Scientific evidence tells us that there are two conditions that put a teen at the highest risk for being involved in a fatal crash: driving with other teens and driving at night.

(New Jersey Teen Driver Study Commission Report, 2007)

For more information on teen driver safety:

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission
609•292•6500 or (toll-free in NJ) 888•486•3339
www.njmvc.gov

Traffic Crashes are the Leading Cause of Fatalities for Teens*

Mile for mile, teenagers are involved in three times as many fatal crashes as all other drivers. Teens are at the highest risk of being involved in a car crash during their first 12 to 24 months of driving. The more guided experience a young driver has, the safer that driver is on the road.

(NHTSA)

Parents play a crucial role in teen driver safety. Teens who report having parents that set rules and monitor their activities in a helpful, supportive way are half as likely to be in a crash and 71 percent less likely to drive intoxicated as teens who describe less involved parents.

(The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia & State Farm Insurance Companies, Driving Through the Eyes of Teens, A Closer Look, 2009)

For more information on teen driver safety:

Division of Highway Traffic Safety
NJ Office of the Attorney General
800•422•3750
www.njsaferoads.com

Understanding New Jersey's
Graduated Driver License Program

Traffic Crashes are the Leading Cause of Fatalities for Teens*
1. TO OBTAIN A SPECIAL LEARNERS PERMIT YOU MUST:
   • Be at least 16 years old
   • Obtain the signed consent of a parent or guardian
   • Enroll in an approved behind-the-wheel driver training course
   • Pass MVC’s knowledge and vision tests
   • Pay the required fee

Upon completing the driver-training course, MVC will VALIDATE the Special Learner’s Permit. With a validated permit you can:

2. PRACTICE SUPERVISED DRIVING. YOU MUST:
   • Display the GDL decals on the vehicle you operate
   • Be accompanied, in the passenger seat, by a licensed NJ driver who is at least 21 years of age and has been licensed for at least three years
   • Observe the Special Learners Permit driving restrictions
   • Practice for at least six months

Then you can apply for a Probationary Driver License.

3. TO OBTAIN A PROBATIONARY DRIVER LICENSE YOU MUST:
   • Complete the supervised driving period above without any suspensions or postponements
   • Pass MVC’s road test

With a Probationary License you can:

4. PRACTICE UNSUPERVISED DRIVING. YOU MUST:
   • Display the GDL decals on the vehicle you operate
   • Observe the Probationary Driver License restrictions
   • Practice for at least one year

Then you can:

5. GET A BASIC DRIVER LICENSE. YOU MUST:
   • Complete the unsupervised driving period above without any suspensions or postponements
   • Pay the required fee

New Jersey residents who have never had a driver license must follow New Jersey’s Graduated Driver License (GDL) program to get their first unrestricted basic driver license.

The GDL is designed to give new drivers increased, step-by-step instruction and driving experience on the road to obtaining a basic driver license. The GDL has been proven to save lives among new drivers and their passengers.

GDL REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Early-Bird Road and the Young Adult Road have different steps and requirements, but they both lead to an unrestricted driver license.

RESTRICTIONS

Special Learners/Examination Permit and Probationary Drivers

(UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE)
   • No driving between 11:01 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.
   • The driver may only transport one passenger, unless the driver is accompanied by a parent or guardian or the passengers are the driver’s dependents (children).
   • Drivers cannot use cell phones (hand-held or hands-free), hand-held video games or any other hand-held wireless electronic devices (i.e., ipods, GPS).
   • All special learners and examination permit holders must be accompanied by an adult supervising driver in the front seat who must possess a valid New Jersey driver license, be at least 21 years of age and licensed to drive for at least three years.

(AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE)
   • There are no passenger or curfew restrictions.

ALL DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS MUST WEAR SEAT BELTS. IT’S THE LAW!