

What are revocations and suspensions?

Revocations and suspensions are the two most common actions taken to withdraw a driver's operating privilege. Suspension is the more lenient action and means the privilege is put on hold for a given time. Revocation means complete termination of the driving privilege.

What conditions lead to a license revocation?

A conviction on one or more violations of major traffic regulations, crimes, or alcohol regulations leads to a revocation. Other conditions are:

- operating while intoxicated
- attempting to elude an officer
- refusal to submit to a chemical test for intoxication
- non-compliance with orders for assessment concerning use of alcohol or drugs

What conditions lead to a license suspension?

These conditions lead to a license suspension:

- truancy
- failure to pay forfeiture
- failure to pay child or family support
- failure to pay damages resulting from a motor vehicle crash

Who orders revocations and suspensions?

Revocations and suspensions for single offenses are ordered by the courts or by the Department of Transportation, depending on the type of violation. Administrative actions of the DMV are taken when the license withdrawal is the result of multiple offenses.

How is a person notified of a revocation or suspension?

In some cases court personnel may advise a person that a revocation/suspension will occur as a result of the court's actions. In all cases, the DMV issues an order of revocation or suspension and mails it by first class mail to the person's last known address

How long does a revocation run?

Periods of revocation can run from a one day minimum to 20-years for unsatisfied judgments, or up to 55 years for non-compliance with alcohol assessment requirements.

How long does a suspension run?

Periods of suspension can run from a one day minimum to "indefinite" periods. These periods are strictly governed by the statute under which a suspension is ordered.

For more information contact:

Bureau of Driver Services
Driver Information Section
(608) 266-2261
Email: records.dmv@dot.wi.gov

