

GDL Requirements and Restrictions

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Wisconsin Department of Transportation
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Requirements to get an Instruction Permit for an applicant under 18 years of age:

- Be at least 15 ½ years old;
- Have completed or be enrolled in an approved behind-the-wheel driver education course which begins within 60 days of the date your driver education instructor certifies your driver license application;
- Have your adult sponsor sign the driver license application;
- Present proof of citizenship or legal immigration status; name and date of birth; identity;
- Pass the knowledge test, highway signs test and vision screening;

RESTRICTIONS OF THE INSTRUCTION PERMIT

A driver under 18 may only drive when accompanied by a person with two years driving experience who holds a valid, regular license (it cannot be a probationary or occupational license) and who sits in the front passenger seat and is one of the following:

- A qualified instructor 19 years old or older. Up to three other people may ride in the vehicle if it is equipped with dual controls.
- A parent, legal guardian or spouse 19 years old or older. Immediate family members may ride in the back seat.
- A person 21 or older. This person must be designated in writing by a parent or legal guardian prior to accompanying the teenage driver.

Requirements to get a Probationary License for an applicant under 18 years of age:

- Hold the Instruction Permit for a minimum of six months before applying for a Probationary License;
- Be violation free in the six months prior to applying for the Probationary License;
- Accumulate a minimum of 30 hours of behind-the-wheel driving experience, 10 of which must be driving experience at night. You may document the hours on a driving log sheet available on the DMV web site and in the Wisconsin Motorists' Handbook;
- Present proof of completion of an approved driver-education training course;
- Have your parent or adult sponsor certify on the driver application the completion of 30 hours of driving experience (10 at night);
- Pass the driving skills test;
- Pay the necessary fees.

RESTRICTIONS OF THE PROBATIONARY LICENSE

Drivers under 18 have the following restrictions during the first 9 months after obtaining a Probationary License:

From 5 a.m. to midnight, you can drive alone and go anywhere. Any number of immediate family members can ride along as well as the following people:

- ONE person who holds a valid, regular license with at least 2 years of licensed driving experience and who is:
 - a qualified instructor or spouse 19 or older, *OR*
 - a person 21 or older
- ONE other person

From midnight to 5 a.m., you can drive alone only *IF* driving between home, school and/or work. The same people listed immediately above can ride along, too.

If driving anywhere else, one of the following people must be seated in the front passenger seat:

- A parent or legal guardian
- ONE person with a valid, regular license with two years of licensed driving experience and who is:
 - a qualified instructor or spouse 19 or older, *OR*
 - a person 21 or older.
- In addition, any number of the driver's immediate family members and one other person may ride along.

Restrictions will be extended 6 months if:

- You are convicted of a moving traffic violation, *OR*
- You violate any of the restrictions, *OR*
- Your license is suspended or revoked for any reason.