

# Look Who's Driving Now

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***A Parent's Guide to Graduated  
Driver Licensing***

# **Welcome**

## **Introduction – what to expect from this session**

- **The driver education course**
- **Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 licenses**
- **Coaching tips**
- **Parents' responsibilities**

# **Your questions and concerns**

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- **What are your questions about Graduated Driver Licensing?**
- **What concerns you about teaching your teenager how to drive and letting him or her drive on his or her own?**

# **Our driver education course**

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- **How we teach it**
- **What we expect from each student**

**Motor vehicle crashes are  
the number one cause of  
death for youth between  
15 and 20.**

**Young drivers are more involved in single-vehicle crashes and off-road crashes.**

# **Passengers increase crash risk for teenage drivers**

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**Studies found that –**

- **One passenger almost doubled fatal crash risk**
- **With two or more passengers, risk was five times as high**

**One in five teenage drivers  
has a collision in his/her  
first year of driving.**



# **Graduated Driver Licensing:**

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- **Requires student driving experience and parent involvement**
- **Puts restrictions on driving**
- **Gradually allows more responsibilities**
- **Follows step-by-step preparation**

# **Level 1 license requires:**

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- **Minimum age of 14 years, 9 months**
- **24 hours of Segment 1 classroom instruction**
- **6 hours of driving experience**

# **Level 1 license requires:**

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- **Segment 1 certificate**
- **Certified birth certificate**
- **Vision test**

# **Level 1 license permits driving only with licensed:**

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- **Parent**
- **Guardian**
- **Designated adult age 21 or older**

# **Level 2 license requires:**

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- **Minimum age of 16**
- **Level 1 license for 6 months**
- **50 hours of driving total**
- **10 hours of night driving**

# **Level 2 license requires:**

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- **Crash and violation-free for the last 90 days before application**
- **6 hours of Segment 2 classroom instruction**
- **Road Skills Test**

# **Road Skills Test requires:**

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- **Parent or guardian with student**
- **Vehicle must pass inspection**
- **Up to 1 hour to complete**
- **Parent or guardian to ride along during on-road portion of test**

# **For Level 2 license**

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**When your student goes to the Secretary of State's Office he/she will need:**

- **Parent or guardian**
- **Segment 2 certificate**
- **Road Skills Test certificate**



# **For Level 2 license**

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**When your student goes to the Secretary of State's Office he/she will need:**

- **Level 1 license**
- **You to sign an affidavit stating the student completed the 50-hour driving requirement**

# **Level 2 license:**

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- **Parent or guardian not required in vehicle**
- **No driving from midnight to 5 AM...**
  - unless accompanied by a parent, guardian or designated adult
  - or driving to or from a job

# **Level 3 license requires:**

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- **6 months at Level 2**
- **Minimum age of 17**
- **One year free of any moving violations or at-fault crashes**

# **Level 3 license:**

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- **Has no restrictions**
- **Parents can cancel or drop back level of license up to age 18**

# When coaching your student:

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- **Define tasks**
- **Set goals for each drive**
- **Stay positive**
- **Stay on low speed, low volume roads**



# When coaching your student:

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- **Take many 20-minute drives**
- **Repetition is the key**
- **Practice routes he/she will use**
- **Communication is key**



# When coaching your student:

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- **Pay attention – limit distractions**
- **Compliment good performance**





# When coaching your student:

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- **Use mistakes for learning**
  - Get out of traffic
  - Stop the vehicle
  - Address the error
  - Practice again – correctly





# When coaching your student:

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- **Keep your cool under stress**



# **Student drivers should:**

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- **Search – don't stare down the road**
- **Practice in various weather conditions**
- **Practice in different traffic environments**
- **Progress in steps**

# **Focus on these defensive driving and observation skills:**

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- **Anticipating hazards**
- **Planning routes**
- **Factoring in the weather**
- **Minimizing distractions**

# Parents' responsibilities:

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- **Require everyone in the vehicle to always wear a safety belt**
- **Limit the number of passengers**
- **Minimize distractions**

# **Parents' responsibilities:**

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- **Enforce zero tolerance for alcohol and other drugs**
- **Take away the keys if you have to**
- **Set rules for your student as a passenger in other vehicles**

# The Parent/Teen Safe Driving Contract

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- **Clearly spells out the rules and consequences for breaking them**
- **Clearly spells out the limits of the driving privilege**



# The Parent/Teen Safe Driving Contract

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- **Requires a commitment from the student**
- **Requires a commitment from the parent to drive safely**



# **In Michigan – GDL works**

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**After the law – the overall crash risk for 16-year-olds was reduced 25%.**



# Thank you for coming!

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## Please buckle up!

