

MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE

LICENSING FOR DRIVERS UNDER AGE 18

Iowa has a graduated driver's license (GDL) system for drivers under 18. The GDL includes three steps that provide experience to improve driving skills. **These steps include:**



HOW DO I GET A MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE?

- Be at least 14 ½ years old.
- Complete an Iowa-approved driver education course.
- Hold a valid instruction permit and maintain a clean driving record for at least six consecutive months immediately before applying for your minor school license.
- Live one mile or more from the school you are enrolled in, unless a special need exists or you live or work on a farm in Iowa. If you have more than one residence, where you live is the location you reside the majority of the time.
- Be enrolled in one of the following schools:
 - A public school located within the school district of your parent or guardian's residence, or located in a bordering school district of your residence if you open enroll or your school district of residence has a sharing agreement.
 - An accredited non-public school within 50 driving miles of your parent or guardian's residence.
- Have the appropriate school authority AND your parent or guardian sign an Affidavit for School License (form 430021) available at any driver's license issuance site or online at: <https://forms.iowadot.gov/BrowseForms.aspx>.
- You may be required to complete a drive test at the driver's license service center.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS LICENSE?

Drive *without* adult supervision between the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. using the most direct and accessible route for these reasons:

- Drive from your home to your school(s) of enrollment for school sponsored activities. Activities must be in the school district you are enrolled in and at a site designated by your school.
- Drive to a location that is not your school of enrollment to participate in extracurricular activities. Activities must be within the district of enrollment or in a contiguous (bordering) school district for public school students, or not more than 50 miles driving distance for private school students, and must be held at a site, facility, or school designated for the activity under a sharing agreement between schools or conducted at a site or facility that the school you are enrolled in has designated to accommodate extracurricular activities.
- Drive to complete farm-related work if you live on or work on a farm in Iowa. The driving distance between the origin and destination must be 50 miles or less.
- Drive to and from your home to the closest school bus stop.

- **Stop for fuel at the closest station to your route.**
- **Drive at any time with adult supervision.** The adult must possess a valid driver's license and be one of the following:
 - Parent, guardian, or custodian
 - Immediate family member at least 21 years old
 - Driver education instructor
 - A person at least 25 years old with written permission from your parent or guardian.

WHAT CAN'T I DO WITH THIS LICENSE?

- **Use any electronic communication or entertainment device while driving.**
- **Drive to work without adult supervision, unless you live or work on a farm** and are driving less than 50 miles for farm-related work.
- **Carry more than one minor passenger that is not a relative when driving *without* adult supervision.** A relative means someone that is your brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, or another minor living in your household.
- **Drive to a school district you are not enrolled in for school or school-sponsored activities, unless your school has an extracurricular sharing agreement with that school district and you participate in the extracurricular activity.**
- **Carry more passengers than the number of seat belts in your vehicle, even when driving with adult supervision.**
- **Drive a commercial motor vehicle, a vehicle requiring a class D chauffeur's license, a vehicle with more than two axles, a vehicle towing another vehicle, or a motorcycle (unless you have a motorcycle privileges).**

HOW DO I ADVANCE TO THE NEXT STEP: AN INTERMEDIATE LICENSE?

- **Be at least 16 years old.**
- **Hold a valid instruction permit (or instruction permit and minor school license) for a total of 12 months.**
- **Maintain a clean driving record for at least six consecutive months immediately before applying for an intermediate license.**
- **Your parent or guardian must provide written consent** in person at a driver's license service center or complete the **Parent's/Guardian's Written Consent Form** (form 430018).
- **Complete 20 hours of supervised driving including any driving you completed in driver's education.** At least two of those hours must be between sunset and sunrise.

WHAT IF I MESS UP?

If you are involved in a crash you caused or contributed to, you will be subject to additional license restrictions. If you're convicted of a traffic violation such as speeding or violation of any restrictions on your license, the following will happen:

- **First offense:** Your license will be suspended for 30 days and you must pay a fee to reinstate your minor school license.
- **Second offense:** Your license will be revoked for 30 days and you must pay a fee to reinstate to an instruction permit for six months before you are eligible for a minor school license.

Any time you have a violation or your license gets suspended or revoked, your six-month period to maintain a clean driving record will start over **after you have reinstated** your driving privilege.