OKLAHOMA GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSING (GDL) GUIDE

What Every Parent Needs to Know.

Keep this in an easily accessible place for reference!

Parent Checklist

Rules of the Road

• It is illegal for learner’s permit and intermediate license holders to use any hand-held electronic device while operating a motor vehicle, except in a life-threatening emergency.

• It is illegal for any driver to compose, send, or read messages on any electronic device while driving.

• It is illegal for a person under age 21 to drive after consuming any alcohol. Even prescription medicines or over-the-counter medication taken in the proper dosages can impair you as much as alcohol or illegal drugs. Driving while impaired may result in drivers losing their license for at least 6 months, paying court fines, performing community service, having to attend a treatment program, or facing any combination of these penalties.

• Every driver and front seat passenger must wear a seat belt at all times while the vehicle is being operated. No seat belt use means the driver can be stopped and ticketed without any other offense.
What is GDL?
Graduated driver licensing is a program that allows teens to increase driving privileges as they gain experience behind the wheel.

Why GDL?
Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in Oklahoma. GDL programs are effective at reducing the crash risk of young drivers on the road. High-risk behaviors, such as carrying teen passengers and nighttime driving, are limited through the GDL program.

GDL applies to...
Drivers between the ages of 15 and 18.

How does GDL work?
GDL has three stages: learner, intermediate, and unrestricted. Teen drivers, ages 15-18, move through each stage based on their age, length of time having a driver license, and experience and training behind the wheel.

What can parents do?
• Extend your teen’s behind-the-wheel training time.
• Set the rules of the road.
• Enforce the rules with a parent-teen driving agreement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:
The Oklahoma State Department of Health
http://gdl.health.ok.gov or call 405.271.3430
The Oklahoma Department of Public Safety
www.dps.state.ok.us/dls/gdl.htm
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/teen_drivers/

Motor vehicle crashes can happen to anyone - even “good teens.” ALL new drivers lack experience and are, therefore, more likely to crash.