

GRADUATED LICENSING PROGRAM

In order to reduce the number of teen fatalities, the Louisiana Legislature authorized the graduated licensing program (GLP). All applicants under age 17 will be licensed utilizing a graduated licensing system. This system will carry a youthful, inexperienced driver through two preliminary stages of special restrictions and limitations before allowing the driver to progress to a permanent license. Driver Education is required before obtaining a learner's permit.

FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS – 15 and 16 Years of Age – must provide one of the following:

- Certificate of completion of a driver education course consisting of a minimum of thirty (30) hours classroom instruction and eight (8) hours of behind-the-wheel instruction which has been approved by the Department of Public Safety & Corrections. A list of driving schools in your area may be obtained from your local OMV or on the web at www.expresslane.org.
- Official transcript from a Louisiana school which indicates that high school course credit has been earned for a driver's education course

STAGE 1 - Learner's Permit (02 restrictions) Fee: \$21.50 (+ service fee up to \$4.00, if applicable).

An applicant for a learner's permit:

- shall be at least 15 years old;
- shall present certificate of completion of an approved 38-hour driver education course, as outlined above.
- shall pass knowledge test and a vision screening;
- shall maintain the learner's permit for a minimum of 180 days and cannot upgrade to Stage 2 until licensee turns 16 years old;
- shall drive with a licensed parent, guardian, or adult at least 21 years old, or a licensed sibling at least 18 years old or older.

STAGE 2 - Intermediate License (61 restrictions) Fee: \$13.00 (+service fee up to \$4.00, if applicable).

An applicant for an intermediate license:

- shall be at least 16 years old, have a valid learner's permit issued at least 180 days prior and complete a minimum of fifty hours of supervised driving practice, at least fifteen of which must be nighttime driving. The supervised practice must be with a parent, guardian or adult at least 21 or older;
- shall pass the road skills test;
- shall not drive between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a. m. UNLESS accompanied by a licensed parent, guardian, or adult at least 21 years old or a licensed sibling at least 18 years old or older. Unless accompanied by a licensed adult 21 or older, the teen may not transport more than one passenger under age 21 and who is not an immediate family member, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

Note: An applicant with a previous out-of-state permit or license may begin at the intermediate (61) stage if he meets all other requirements for licensure in Louisiana.

STAGE 3 – Permanent License Fee: \$13.00 (+ parish fee up to \$4.00, if applicable).

An applicant for a permanent license:

- shall be at least 17 years old and have a valid intermediate license.
- shall not have any at fault accidents during the intermediate stage.
- shall not have had any convictions for moving, seat belt, or curfew violations during the intermediate stage.