

Parent/Teen Driving Agreement*

Supervised Driving

- PARENT WILL ensure the young driver gets at least 50 hours of supervised on-road practice under different kinds of driving conditions before allowing any unsupervised driving.

Unsupervised Driving

DRIVING RULES FOR EVERY TRIP - Mark each with a check to indicate agreement

YOUNG DRIVER WILL:

- Always obey all traffic laws
- Never speed, tailgate, or cut others off
- Always wear a seatbelt and make sure all passengers wear seatbelts
- Never drive after taking any drugs or alcohol, or ride with a driver who has taken any drugs or alcohol
- Always give complete attention to the task of driving, e.g., no cell phones
- Always tell a parent the trip plan before driving
- Always call a parent if going to be late
- Always call a parent if for any reason it is not safe to drive or ride

PARENT WILL:

- Be a good role model behind the wheel
- Point out and discuss safe and dangerous driving situations and behaviours
- Apply driving rules fairly and consistently
- Consider necessary exceptions to the driving limits
- Provide a safe ride home, no questions asked at the time

DRIVING PRIVILEGES - Fit these to the young driver's progress

- Fill out the table below, one level at a time starting with Level 1.
- For each level, discuss and decide driving privileges and a review date. Use the recommendations given for each level or write your own. Discuss the consequences if rules or privileges are not followed.
- On the review date, complete the QUICK CHECK on the right.
 - ✓ If progress is satisfactory, discuss and decide new driving privileges and a review date for the next level.
 - X If progress is not satisfactory, set another review date for the current level.
- Continue until all three levels are completed.

QUICK CHECK

The young driver:

- Followed the driving rules
- Followed the driving privileges
- Had enough driving practice
- Improved driving skills and judgment
- Took no unnecessary risks

Driving privileges start date	Teen passengers	Night time curfew	Road types	Weather conditions	Review date
Level 1 - first 3-6 months ____/____/____	None	Sundown or 9 pm	Local	Dry	____/____/____
Level 2 - next 3-6 months ____/____/____	None (except family members)	9 pm	All roads but highways and freeways	Moderate	____/____/____
Level 3 - next 3-12 months ____/____/____	No more than one (except family members)	10 pm	Most	Most	____/____/____

We agree

Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Young Driver



PARENTS

You can make a BIG difference!

As a parent, you are involved in your teenager's driving in many ways - from coaching and supervision to paying for insurance and controlling access to the family vehicle. You have the right to set rules for your family and you will not be alone. Most parents set rules - whether their teens admit it or not!

For many teenagers, learning to drive is part of growing up. But it is one of the riskiest activities they will ever do. In Alberta, car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens.

Parents can help teens by

- setting a good example behind the wheel
- providing teens with experience in low risk situations before going on to more challenging conditions

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

Driver education programs will help your teen learn the most up to date information on avoiding collisions and smart driving. However, new drivers need at least 50 hours of supervised on-road practice in different kinds of driving conditions, including night time and winter conditions. **Make sure your teen gets lots of supervised driving practice.**

L.E.A.R.N.*

Crash rates are especially high during the first year of unsupervised driving. Research shows that teens have fewer crashes when there are limits on unsupervised driving that are gradually relaxed as young drivers gain experience. By placing limits on your new young driver you will protect your own child and help make the road a safer place for everyone. **Here are five ways you can help your teen safely L.E.A.R.N. to drive.**

Limit the number of passengers

Passengers increase the crash risk for new young drivers.

The risk of a fatal crash increases with every additional teen passenger in the vehicle.

PARENTS

Consider a no-passenger rule for at least the first 6 to 12 months of unsupervised driving. New drivers need time to practise without the distraction of teen passengers.

Everyone wears a seatbelt every time

Young drivers are the least likely to wear seatbelts and the most likely to crash.

Seatbelts provide the best protection in a crash, reducing the chance of injury or death by more than 50%.

PARENTS

Your teen should only drive when everyone in the vehicle is buckled up. It's not about avoiding a ticket - it's about saving lives.

After dark, it's time to park

Teen drivers and passengers are at a higher risk of serious crashes between 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Studies show that night time curfews reduce the number of crashes.

PARENTS

Consider restricting your teen's night time driving. You can renegotiate this rule as your teen gains driving experience and shows responsibility.

Restrict driving in rural areas

In Alberta, over 75% of serious injury crashes involving teen drivers happen in rural areas. Rural driving exposes drivers to more hazards.

The low level of traffic in rural areas may lead young drivers to take more risks.

PARENTS

If your teen drives on rural roads, consider setting rules on where, when, and with whom he or she can drive.

No alcohol or drugs ever

Among those tested, half of the Alberta teen drivers involved in serious collisions had been drinking alcohol.

Alberta law enforces a zero alcohol level during the learner and probationary license periods.

PARENTS

To further protect your teen driver, make your own rule about zero alcohol and drug use - even after your teen has a full-privilege licence.

* Adapted from the brochure *Help Your Teen L.E.A.R.N. to Drive*.

By working as a team, parents and teens can accomplish their shared goal - a safe, successful teen driver. Turn over the page for an agreement that can help you make a plan you both can live with.

For more information about young driver safety, go to www.calgaryhealthregion.ca/smartrisk.