

STATE-BY-STATE OVERVIEW: Driver Education requirements, Online DE authorization, Requirements Post-18

	Driver's Education Requirements for Driver License under 18	Require DE? To get license 14-18	Online DE allowed?	Post-18 requirements? DE, permit, supervised driving?
Alabama	Teen drivers under age 18 must complete 30 hours of behind-the-wheel driving or take a state-approved driver education course in order to get their unrestricted license.	No		
Alaska	A parent, legal guardian or employer must provide proof that the driver under 18 years old has had at least 40 hours of driving experience. This must include at least 10 hours of driving in challenging circumstances such as inclement weather and nighttime driving.	No		
Arizona	Teen drivers may forego formal classroom training and instead drive a minimum of 30 hours, at least 10 hours of which are at night.	No		
Arkansas	No driver's education requirement.	No		
California	Teens under 18 years of age must show proof of completion of 30 hours of formal classroom driver's education and 6 hours of behind the wheel drivers training to get their license.	Yes	Yes	
Colorado	CO classroom requirements decline with age: up to 15, must take a 30 hour classroom course to get an instruction permit; up to 15.5 years, may take a 4 hour Driver Awareness Course; up to 16.5 years there is no classroom requirement, but must get a 6-hour "Behind the Wheel" (BTW) certificate. (Exceptions for rural areas.) Up to 18 years, must hold permit for at least 12 months.	No	Yes	
Connecticut	Drivers under 18 are required to complete 22-hours of formal classroom training and eight hours of behind-the-wheel training before they can receive their license. In order to better instruct their teens, parents or guardians are required to attend a two-hour formal training class as well.	Yes		Yes (permit)
Delaware	Without taking a driver's education course, a teen in Delaware cannot receive a license until they are 18. In order to get a learner's permit at age 16, a teen must present a Delaware Driver Education Certificate at the DMV. The class must consist of at least 30 hours of formal classroom time and at least seven	Yes		

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	hours behind-the-wheel and seven hours in observing.			
Florida	Novice drivers of all ages must complete a 4 hour Traffic Law and Substance Abuse Education (TLSAE) course before they can receive their license. Intermediate license restrictions continue to age 18.	No	Yes	Yes (DE)
Georgia	Teens under 17 must complete a driver education course approved by the Department of Driver Services in order to receive a Provisional License (law effective 2007). The course must include 30 hours of online or classroom instruction, as well as 6 hours of instructor-taught time behind the wheel, or 40 hours of parent-taught time driving. At least six of those hours must be at night. Those who do not complete an approved driver education course must wait until age 17 to become licensed.	Yes	Yes	
Hawaii	Requires that teens under age 18 provide proof that they have completed a driver's education program and a behind-the-wheel driver training course certified by the Director of Transportation before receiving a driving license. The course must include 30 hours of classroom instruction coupled with either six hours behind-the-wheel or a simulator course and two hours driving.	Yes		
Idaho	Prospective drivers between the ages of 14.5 and 17 must complete 30 hours of formal classroom driver's education along with 12 hours of in-car driver's training. During the driver's training, 6 of the hours are to be spent driving while the other 6 are spent observing. BTW must be concurrent.	Yes	Yes	
Illinois	All students under the age of 18 must have successfully completed a driver education course with 30 hours of classroom and 6 hours of behind the wheel training to receive a license. The course is taught in public schools but is open to all residents between the ages of 15 and 21.	Yes		
Indiana	Taking a driver's education class in Indiana allows a driver to get a learners permit at 15.5 years old rather than 16, and can receive their license at 16, 180 days old rather than at 16 years, 270 days. 30 hours classroom, 6 BTW.	Yes	Yes	

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Iowa	To receive an Intermediate Driver License, drivers under 18 must complete an approved driver education course, hold an instruction permit for at least 12 months, and complete 20 hours of supervised driving. An approved driver education course includes 30 hours classroom and 6 or more hours of behind-the-wheel training.	Yes		
Kansas	To receive a restricted driver's license at age 15, must complete a state-approved driver's training course. At 16, the license has fewer restrictions and driver education is not required. Unrestricted licenses are available to persons 17 years and older. For public schools, the classroom requirement is not hours based; students must demonstrate competency by 80% exam results. For commercial schools, still must document at least 8 hours of classroom time.	Yes	Yes	
Kentucky	There is no driver's education requirement in Kentucky. Teens must complete 60 hours of driving practice with 10 hours of night driving to get their license, however.	No		
Louisiana	First-time license applicants age 15 or 16 must complete a driver's education course consisting of 30 hours of classroom instruction and eight hours of driving time behind-the-wheel.	Yes		Yes (DE)
Maine	For driver's under 18 to get their learners permit, which is a required first step towards a full license, they must complete a driver's training course that includes 30 hours of classroom instruction and ten hours behind-the-wheel training.	Yes		
Maryland	Learner's permit holders under the age of 25 must complete driver education course consisting of 30 hours classroom and 6 hours behind-the-wheel instruction.	Yes		Yes (DE and permit)
Massachusetts	To receive a Class D or M license, teens under the age of 18 must complete a driver's education course consisting of 30 hours of classroom instruction and 18 hours of driving training, six of which are to be spent observing.	Yes		

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Michigan	Teens drivers under age 18 must complete a driver's education course with 24 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind-the-wheel time.	Yes		Yes (permit & practice driving)
Minnesota	Driver's education of 30 classroom hours coupled with 4 on-road driver's training hours is required for persons 18 and under to receive a drivers license.	Yes		
Mississippi	Driver's education is not required to get a driver's license. However, teens may obtain a learners permit at age 14 that exclusively allows them to drive with an instructor.	No		
Missouri	There is no formal driver's education requirement, but the teen must have received 40 hours of driving instruction, including a minimum of 10 hours of nighttime driving instruction between sunset and sunrise, with a parent, legal guardian, grandparent, or qualified driving instructor.	No		
Montana	Teens may get a Traffic Education Learner's License (an instruction permit allowing practice driving with a parent/legal guardian) under 16 if they are enrolled in a state-approved traffic education program (60 hour class, of which 6 must be behind-the-wheel hours). If not, they have to wait until they are 16.	No		
Nebraska	To receive a Provisional Operator's permit at age 16, drivers may either complete a DMV approved driver safety course OR present to the Driver Licensing Staff a 50 Hour Certification form signed by a parent, guardian or licensed driver who is at least 21 years old.	No	Yes	
Nevada	Nevada beginning drivers under age 18 must complete a driver education course; if no course exists within 30 miles of their residence they may complete 100 hours behind-the-wheel with an adult. They can enroll in the driver's education course at age 15.	Yes	Yes	
New Hampshire	Teens under 18 must take a driver's education course with 30 hours of classroom instruction. They must also complete 10 hours of driving with a certified driving instructor, and observe their peers driving for six hours.	Yes		
New Jersey	Teens must show proof of enrollment in a driver training course (6 hours BTW)	No		Yes (permit &

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	to get a learner's license at age 16, otherwise they must wait until 17.			supervised driving)
New Mexico	To receive a graduated driver's license, drivers under 18 must show proof of having completed or of being enrolled in a state-approved driver education program. This course must include 30 hours of classroom instruction and 7 hours of driving.	Yes		Yes (DE)
New York	Before a driver may take a road test to get their license, they must complete a 5-hour pre-licensing class OR a driver education course.	No		Yes (permit and DE)
North Carolina	Driver's education is required for teens under age 18. They must complete 30 hours of classroom instruction as well as six hours of behind-the-wheel training.	Yes		
North Dakota	Teens under 16 must complete driver education (either a 30/6 program through their school or 6 hours of BTW with a commercial school approved by the Highway Patrol).	Yes		
Ohio	Teens under 16 holding a Temporary Instruction Permit must complete driver education consisting of 24 hours of classroom instruction and eight hours of behind-the-wheel driver training.	Yes	Yes	
Oklahoma	Requires driver's ed to get a Learner Permit at 15 1/2. Otherwise may not get learner's permit until 16. Oklahoma accepts Parent Taught Driver Education.	No	Yes	
Oregon	Teens under age 18 in Oregon must either complete 50 hours of supervised driving practice and driver education course consisting of 30 hours classroom and 12 hours in the car with an instructor, OR 100 hours of supervised driving practice.	No		
Pennsylvania	If a teen completes a driver's education course of 30 classroom and 6 behind-the-wheel hours they are eligible to get their unrestricted license at 17.5 rather than 18.	Yes	Yes	
Rhode Island	Teens under the age of 18 will need to complete a 33-hour driver's education course, which they may take as early as 15 years 10 months, in order to get their provisional license at age 16.	Yes		

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South Carolina	For a 15 or 16 year old in South Carolina to receive their license, they must complete a driver's education course with 30 hours of classroom instruction, six hours of behind-the-wheel training, and six hours of observing other driving.	Yes		
South Dakota	Beginning at age 14, a teen may hold a learner's permit. With successful completion of a driver education program may hold the learner's permit for 90 days instead of 180 days before upgrading to GDL or unrestricted license. Driver education courses consist of 30 hours classroom and 6 hours BTW.	No		
Tennessee	Does not require driver's education, but teens must have 50-hours behind-the-wheel before graduating from a learner's permit.	No		
Texas	Teens under 18 must complete a driver education course to get a provisional license. Courses must include at least 32 hours of classroom instruction and 44 hours of skills training (7 hours BTW, 7 hours observation, 30 hours with a licensed adult with at least one year of driving experience).	Yes	Yes	Yes (DE)
Utah	Teens under 18 are required to complete driver's education of at least 18 classroom hours, 6 hours behind-the-wheel, and 6 hours observing. There are two home-study driver's education courses that have been approved by the state.	Yes	Yes	
Vermont	To receive a Junior Operators License at age 16, teens must complete a driver's education course of 30 hours of classroom instruction, 6 hours of behind-the-wheel time, and 6 hours of observing.	Yes		
Virginia	Virginia residents 18 years old and younger must complete driver's education consisting of 36 classroom periods 14 periods of driver's training, 7 periods driving and 7 periods observing. (A period equals 50 minutes.) Classroom and BTW must be concurrent.	Yes	Yes	Yes (permit)
Washington	To receive an intermediate license, teens under 18 must have passed a course of driver education, consisting of 30 hours of classroom instruction and a minimum of six hours behind-the-wheel instruction.	Yes		

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West Virginia	To be eligible for a graduated driver's permit/license, 15 - 17 year olds must prove general school enrollment and certify 50 hours of supervised practice.	No		Yes (permit)
Wisconsin	If under 18 years old, driver education requirements include a minimum of 30 hours of classroom time, a minimum of six hours of behind-the-wheel driver education training and six hours of observation time.	Yes	Yes	
Wyoming	No driver's education requirements, but teens must drive for 50-hours with their parents or guardian, 10 of which must be at night.	No		
District of Columbia	No driver's education requirements. Teens under 18 must show that they have 40 hours behind the wheel, with 10 of those hours at night.	No		
	TOTALS	31	16	11

Assumptions: Driver Education requirement must be for license eligibility (not for a learner's permit). Classroom requirement must be more than 8 hours to be counted (see Florida, New York). If a short course or practice driving hours may be substituted to meet the driver education requirement, not counted as a driver education requirement (see Nebraska, New York, Oregon).

Sources: National Conference of State Legislatures, state agency websites, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 2012 Report.