



Highway Transportation System & Graduated Driver Licensing Law

Session Goals

1. Classify risk factors present in the Highway Transportation System (HTS) and why attitude is important to driving.
2. Understand the phases of the New York State Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Law, along with associated requirements and restrictions.

Key Vocabulary and Topics

- Highway Transportation System (HTS)
- Roadway
- Vehicles
- Road Users
- Risks of Driving
- Causes of Risk
- New York State Graduated Driver's Licensing Law
- MV-285
- MV-262
- License Revocation
- License Suspension

The Highway Transportation System (HTS)

- The HTS is designed for the movement of people and freight safely and efficiently.
- It is continually updated to make it more efficient and safer by improving the roads, producing vehicles equipped with more safety features, and continually educating its users.

What Makes Up the HTS?

- Roadways
- Vehicles
- Road Users



Federal Highway Administration. HEPGIS Maps-National Highway System

What makes up the HTS? - Learning Activity

- Name the different kinds of roadways that we travel on, then list the environments that these roadways are located in.
- Name the different vehicles on the HTS
- Name the different users of the HTS

Did You Know?

- Roadways
 - The US has 3.9 million miles of roadway, of which 3 million miles are rural roads. The Interstate system accounts for only 1.2% of total mileage but carries 23.8% of total travel.
- Vehicles
 - There are approximately 272 million vehicles using US roads.
- Road Users
 - Roadways are used by approximately 225 million licensed drivers, in addition to those using public transportation, cyclists, and pedestrians.

HTS is always evolving – For Example Roadways Improvements

- Federal & State Standardization of traffic controls and laws
- Construction of limited access roads like highways



New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Pre Licensing Course
Instructor's Manual, Unit II The Task of Driving Within the Highway
Transportation System.

HTS – Vehicle Improvements

- Vehicle safety devices and systems are continually improved with the intention of reducing the risk of injury and death.
- Can you name some of these safety devices and systems?
- [Let's take a look at a few over time](#)

HTS – Improvements for Users

- Licensing procedures
 - Introduction of the Graduated Driver Licensing Law
 - Special Class Licenses
- Development of Driver Safety Programs (1950's)
- Stricter legislation regarding driving behaviors

HTS – Standards and Enforcement

- Federal, state, and local government agencies work together to manage the HTS
- Example: The National Highway Safety Act sets guidelines about vehicle registration, driver licensing, traffic laws, traffic courts, highway construction and maintenance.
 - State, County, and City agencies work together to establish laws based on data collected
 - Laws are enforced by state and local law enforcement agencies

Driving is Based on Trust

- You trust that all drivers know the “Rules of the Road”
- This knowledge allows you to predict what other drivers will do, as well as allows other drivers to predict what you are going to do.

YOU Are the Most Important Part of the HTS

- You CAN'T control the following:
 - Other drivers behaviors
 - The weather
 - The condition of the roads
 - The position of the sun
 - Animals crossing the roads
- You CAN control:
 - Your behaviors
 - Your mental well-being
 - Your physical well-being
 - Your reactions to other drivers, road conditions, and types of vehicles on the road

Class Discussion

- What does it mean to be physically fit to drive?
- What does it mean to be emotionally fit to drive?
- Can you be emotional or physically fit to drive sometimes and not other times?

Class Discussion

- How does a driver's attitude affect their driving?
- What are some skills a person must have to drive safely?
- How do habits affect driving?

The Responsibilities of Driving

- Ensure your vehicle is in good mechanical condition
- Continually update your knowledge of laws, vehicle features, roadway conditions/changes
- Have self-control to make rational decisions
- Properly adjust and adapt to different situations (mental flexibility)
- Maintain physical and mental well-being
- Constantly be aware of your surroundings (place your head on a swivel)

The Risks of Driving

- What is risk?
 - Exposure to dangerous situations
 - It is ALWAYS present when you drive
- How do we access risk?
 - By acting and reacting to the actions and conditions of other users of the HTS, the environment, and condition/design of the roads
- How do we manage risk?
 - By making adjustments in steering, braking, and speed; avoiding distraction and impairment

Sources of Risk in HTS

- Driver
 - Inexperienced drivers, distraction, fatigue, impairment
- Vehicle
 - Bad tires, headlight out, snow/icy windshield
- Roadway
 - Heavy traffic, pot holes, traffic accident

Determine whether the following are Driver Contributed (D), Vehicle Contributed (V), or Roadway Contributed (R)

D Angry

D Talking to Passengers

R Narrow Bridge

R School Zone

V Broken Windshield

D Speeding

R Loose Gravel

V Tire Blowout

D Swerved Over Center Lane

D Drinking and Driving

R No Painted Lane Lines

R Traffic Jam

D Using Cellphone

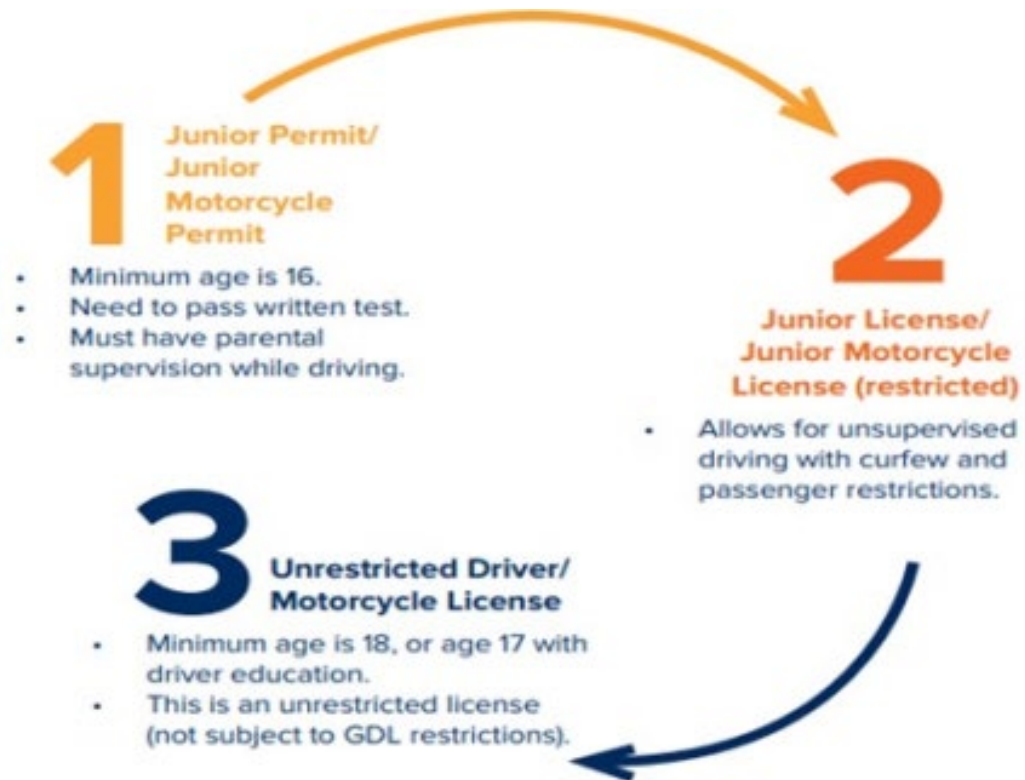
V Stuck Accelerator

R T-Intersection

D Competitive Behavior

Phases of Licensing for Young Drivers in NYS

New York State uses a graduated licensing process for young drivers



Graduated License Law Restrictions

The restrictions depend on whether you have a junior learner permit or a junior driver license:

Junior Learner Permit

- Supervised Daytime driving (5am – 9pm)
- Front seat passenger must be a supervising licensed driver that is 21 and over
- Supervised Nighttime driving (9pm – 5am)

Junior Driver License

- No Supervision during Daytime driving (5am – 9pm)
- No more than one passenger under the age of 21 unless family
- Unsupervised nighttime driving if you are coming to and from work/school (must have ID)
- Supervised nighttime driving (9pm – 5am) otherwise

Where Will You Be Driving?

Restrictions will vary depending on which of the three following geographic regions you drive in:

- Upstate New York (defined as any county north of the NYC border)
- New York City (defined by the five Boroughs)
- Long Island (defined as Nassau and Suffolk Counties)

Learn More

Review the applicable version(s) of the New York State Department of Health's A Brief Overview of New York State Graduated Licensing Law (GDL) for more information

- [Upstate New York](#)
- [New York City](#)
- [Long Island](#)

Junior Permit to a Junior License

To move from a permit to a junior license you must:

- Hold a junior permit for a minimum of 6 months
- Take a pre-licensing course driver education course
- Complete at least 50 hours of parent supervised driving, with 15 hours after sunset
- Complete a [MV-262](#) (Certification of Supervised Driving)
- Schedule and pass the road test

Recommended Hours of Driving

It is recommended that at least 10 hours of the supervised practice be in moderate to heavy traffic.

Supervised practice should occur in a variety of driving environments and weather conditions.

Junior License to Unrestricted License

Under 18

- If you are 17, you are eligible for an unrestricted license (Class D or M) if you have a junior driver license or limited junior driver license and have completed a state-approved high school or college driver education course
- To change your junior license to a senior license, bring your junior license and Student Certificate of Completion ([MV-285](#)) that you received from your instructor
- You must return your certificate and junior license to receive the senior license

Junior License (Restricted) to Unrestricted License

A full unrestricted license will be sent in the mail to anyone holding a junior license after their 18th birthday.

Did you recall these points?

- What is the purpose of the HTS
 - To move people and freight quickly, economically, and safely
- How has New York State managed the risk of young drivers entering the HTS?
 - The Graduated Drivers Licensing Law is designed to prevent crashes by helping young drivers gradually and safely build their skills behind the wheel by progressing through a series of licensing stages

How did you do?

B Phase 1

A. Unrestricted Driver/Motorcycle License. Must be 18 years of age or 17 with a Driver and Traffic Safety Course completion

C Phase 2

B. Junior Permit or Junior Motorcycle permit. Must be 16 years of age, pass a written permit test and drive under parental supervision.

A Phase 3

C. Junior License or Junior Motorcycle License with restrictions. Allows for unsupervised driving with curfews and limits on numbers of passengers.

Review

- What are the three types of risk factors present in the HTS?

Driver, Vehicle, Roadway

- How can your attitude effect driving?

Your attitude can affect your driving by changing the way you assess risk and make driving decisions. For example, strong emotions such as anger, can affect your ability to make good decisions, increasing the chances that you may make a mistake.

References

- Federal Highway Administration Research and Technology. Public Roads., Vol 60 No 1. From 1916 to 1939: The Federal-State Partnership at Work.
- Federal Highway Administration. Highway Statistics 2017. Chart DV-IC: Licensed Drivers, Vehicle Registrations, and Resident Population (In Millions).