

PARENT-TEEN DRIVING AGREEMENT

preparing new drivers for the road ahead

Traffic crashes are the #1 killer of teens. They cause more teen deaths than homicide, suicide and drugs. The highest risk is at age 16 during the first year of independent driving.

Parents make the first impact on their teen's driving behavior, so it's important to model good driving behavior. Teens observe how their parents drive and mimic those habits.

PTDA

To help parents and teens make safer driving decisions, First Impact has created this Parent-Teen Driving Agreement (PTDA).

A PTDA is a formal written agreement between parents and their new teen driver that outlines specific rules that parents and teens agree to follow.

- Parents and teens should sit down together and discuss the rules of the road.
- It is important to talk about each item and make sure that both the parents and the teen understand the risk and consequences for violating what is in the agreement.
- After you talk over each issue, fill out the PTDA, sign and date.
- Keep the PTDA in a visible area of the home so you can reference it frequently.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For more tips and information on keeping your teen driver safe, please visit:

www.driveithome.org

<http://dor.mo.gov/drivers/teens/gradlaw.php>

http://dor.mo.gov/forms/Driver_Guide.pdf

MISSOURI GDL

The Missouri GDL law is a three-step licensing system to ease teens into licensure so they can build skills in an environment that minimizes the greatest risk for new drivers.

MISSOURI GDL INCLUDES:

- Under age 16, teens may drive only when with a qualified person at least 25 years of age who has been licensed for a minimum of 3 years and received written permission from parent.
- At age 16, teens may drive only with a qualified person at least 21 years of age and holding a valid driver license.
- Teens must receive a MINIMUM of 40 hours behind the wheel driving instruction with 10 hours as nighttime driving with a qualified person.
- Everyone in the vehicle must wear safety belts at all times.
- Newly licensed drivers younger than 18 years of age may NOT drive alone between 1 am and 5 am except to and from a school activity, job or for an emergency, unless accompanied by a licensed driver 21 years or older.
- During the first 6 months, teens may not operate a motor vehicle with more than one passenger who is under 19 years old and who is not a member of your immediate family.
- After the first 6 months, teens may not operate a motor vehicle with more than three passengers who are under 19 years old and who are not members of your immediate family.
- Missouri law prohibits drivers 21 years of age and younger from sending, reading, or writing an electronic message while behind the wheel.

State laws are minimum standards to keep your teen safer on the road.

TALK WITH YOUR TEEN

Start the conversation about driving early with your teen to help prepare them for the road ahead. The way teens and parents communicate and approach rules about safety is strongly linked with teen crashes and risky driving behaviors such as cell phone use, failure to wear safety belts, and drinking and driving.

PARENT-TEEN DRIVING AGREEMENT

Inexperience is the leading cause of teen crashes.

Driving impaired, whether by drugs (legal or illegal) or alcohol, is illegal.



8 SIMPLE KEYS TO THE CAR:

1. I will increase practice driving with my parent(s). Practice time will include different times of day and weather conditions.

2. I will not drive alone between 1 and 5 am.

3. I will abide by Missouri GDL passenger restrictions.

4. I will never use a cell phone or other electronic device when driving.

5. I will not drive distracted or fatigued. I will call for a ride if it's not safe to drive or ride.

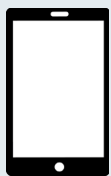
6. I will always wear my safety belt and require all passengers to do so.

7. I will never drive impaired.

8. I will abide by all traffic safety laws.

Between 2004-2014, 76% of teens killed in Missouri traffic crashes were not belted. What a difference a belt makes!

4 out of 10 teen fatal crashes are due to excessive speed.



Drivers who text are 23 times more likely to crash.

Distracted driving increases crash risk because it takes eyes, mind and focus away from driving.

Consequences for breaking the agreement:

sign and date

Teen Driver or Passenger

I promise to abide by the agreement outlined above. If I break any part of this agreement, I will accept the consequences. During any time that I cannot drive, I will be responsible for making other safe arrangements to get around.

sign and date

Parent/Guardian

I promise to be a good role model and coach to help my teen become a safe and responsible driver. I understand this is an evolving agreement. I commit to discussing these rules as my teen becomes more experienced behind the wheel.