



## UNDERSTANDING RISK

**Traffic crashes are the No. 1 killer of teens due to:**

- 1 Inexperience
- 2 Nighttime driving
- 3 Driving with passengers

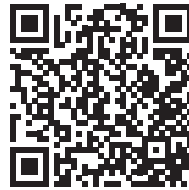
And although 16 can be an exciting milestone for driving, it also comes with the highest risk throughout the first year of independent driving.

**Discover the skills to keep teens safe while driving.**

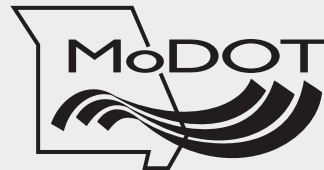
**FIND OR REQUEST A PROGRAM NEAR YOU**

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**LEARN MORE**



This brochure was paid for with federal highway safety funding by the Missouri Department of Transportation.



## SECURING THE FUTURE:

Empowering Missouri Teens with the Tools for Safe and Responsible Driving

**FIRST  
IMPACT**

 **School of Medicine**  
University of Missouri



## FINDING SUCCESS WITH THE GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSE (GDL)

Missouri's GDL Law is a 3-step licensing system, which includes:

- 1 Instruction permit:** laying the foundation for responsible driving
- 2 Intermediate licensure:** gradually expanding driving privileges
- 3 Full licensure:** achieving the pinnacle of driving freedom

The GDL law is the single most effective tool in reducing teen driver crashes. It limits the highest risk factors for teens, including driving:

- At night
- With multiple passengers
- Distracted
- Without a seat belt

By becoming familiar with and enforcing the GDL law, parents can make the First Impact and help safeguard against high-risk scenarios.



## EMPOWERING SAFER FUTURES WITH FIRST IMPACT

First Impact is a 90-minute, evidence-based traffic safety program that educates parents and their teen about Missouri's GDL law. The goal is to reduce new driver crashes and eliminate injuries and fatalities.

Objectives of the program are to increase:

- Awareness of teen driving risks
- Understanding of Missouri's GDL law
- GDL monitoring and enforcement at home
- Importance of being a positive role model

First Impact provides parents with the tools they need to confidently guide, mentor and uplift their new teen driver. The program showcases an engaging video and fosters meaningful discussions, all geared toward highlighting the importance of parents and teens working together.

Ensuring parents understand the risks and responsibilities associated with driving is essential in preventing teen driving tragedies.

This statewide program, guided by law enforcement officers and First Impact facilitators, is available completely **free of charge**.

