

## Graduated Drivers Licensing



	CURRENT POLICY	NEW POLICY
<b>PHASE 1</b> Learner's permit  <i>age 14</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available starting at age 14</li> <li>• Permits teen drivers to drive when accompanied by a parent (or an adult age 18+)</li> <li>• Must hold a learner's permit for at least 6 months if choosing to obtain a restricted license (OR) teens may opt to skip the learner's permit and obtain a full license at age 16</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available starting at age 14</li> <li>• Permits teen drivers to drive when accompanied by a parent (or an adult age 18+)</li> <li>• <b><u>Every teen must hold a learner's permit for 12 months before obtaining a restricted license or a full license</u></b></li> </ul>
<b>PHASE 2</b> Restricted license  <i>This phase is optional for Kansas teens</i>  <i>age 15</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available starting at age 15</li> <li>• Teen drivers must successfully complete a drivers education course to obtain a restricted license</li> <li>• Permits teen drivers to drive unsupervised to and from work or school</li> <li>• Allows teen drivers to transport siblings and adult passengers; may not transport non-siblings under the age of 18</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes to existing Restricted License phase</li> </ul>
<b>PHASE 3</b> Full license  <i>age 16</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available starting at age 16</li> <li>• No limits on passengers or late-night driving</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available starting at age 16</li> <li>• <b><u>Limits teen drivers to no more than one non-sibling passenger under the age of 21 during first 6 months of full licensing</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>Limits late-night driving to 9 p.m. during the first 6 months of full licensing unless driving to and from work/school</u></b></li> </ul>
<b>FARM PERMIT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available starting at age 14 to teens who live or work on a farm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes to existing Farm Permit</li> </ul>

*Changes to the law are indicated above in bold underlined*

**The bill also includes the following provisions:**

- WIRELESS DEVICES** — Use of wireless communication devices are prohibited until teen completes the six-month period of passenger and late-night driving restrictions.
- PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION** — 30-day suspension of license for first offense; 90-day suspension of license for second offense; and one-year suspension of license for third offense. Penalties would apply to all teen drivers.
- GRANDFATHER CLAUSE** — Teens entering the licensing system prior to January 1, 2010, would fall under the current licensing guidelines rather than the GDL guidelines.

Four key changes to the existing licensing system:

- **Learner's permit.** Requires every teen to hold a learner's permit for 12 months before obtaining a restricted or a full license.
- **Passenger limitation.** Limits teen drivers to no more than one non-sibling passenger under the age of 21 during the first six months of full licensing.
- **Late-night limitation.** Limits late-night driving to 9 p.m. during the first six months of full licensing unless driving to and from work or school.
- **Cell phones.** Prohibits the use of cell phones while driving until teens complete the six-month period of passenger and late-night driving restrictions. An exception is in place for reporting emergencies.

What doesn't change? This bill:

- **Does not** change the age at which teens may obtain a license
- **Does not** make any changes to the farm permit; and
- **Does not** make any changes regarding drivers education