



STATE OF MICHIGAN
RUTH JOHNSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 5, 2016
To: Driver Education Teen Providers and Third Party Testers
From: Driver Programs Division
Subject: Driving log requirement

IMPORTANT CHANGE OF PROCEDURE

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recently facilitated an assessment of Michigan's driver education program. The assessment report included a recommendation to require parents to document the mandatory 50 hours of supervised driving practice and for that driving log to be checked. This NHTSA recommendation will be implemented through changes in procedures for providers and testers.

Teens will be required to present a log documenting their supervised practice driving prior to beginning a Segment 2 class. The provider is responsible for ensuring that the instructor—or other designated party—confirms the driving log shows the student completed at least 30 hours of driving (including 2 hours of nighttime driving).

Teens holding a Level 1 GDL also will present the driving log prior to taking a driving skills test. The examiner will confirm that the driving log shows the teen completed at least 50 hours of driving (including 10 hours of nighttime driving) before attempting the driving skills test.

The driving log in the *Parent's Supervised Driving Guide* (SOS-191) and the free mobile app *RoadReady* are the preferred formats, but any written or electronic format may be accepted. The driving log must, at a minimum, show the dates of each practice drive, the number of hours/minutes of each drive, and a designation when a practice drive was at night. The provider and examiner will not be required to make or keep copies of the driving logs.

If proof of the minimum hours of supervised driving time is not presented, the teen will not be allowed to begin a Segment 2 class or take the driving skills test (except during the grace periods described below).

TIMELINE FOR THE PROCEDURE CHANGE

March

- Secretary of State Branch Offices began informing parents and teens when applying for the Level 1 GDL of this new requirement.

Immediately

- Driver education instructors should begin informing Segment 1 students and their parents that the driving practice time must be logged in the *Parent's Supervised*

Driving Guide or in an alternative format, and that the driving log will need to be presented before attending a Segment 2 class and before a driving skills test.

Next

- The Department of State's web site will reflect the change and publications will be updated when current stocks are depleted.

June 15

- Driver education instructors begin requesting the log prior to admission into a Segment 2 class.

September 15

- Examiners begin requesting the log prior to conducting a skills test of teen testing on a Level 1 GDL.

GRACE PERIODS

Teens should be prepared to present their driving logs prior to the two stated deadlines--June 15 for a Segment 2 class and September 15 for a skills test. However, this new procedure will have a "soft" introduction with a one-month grace period after both deadlines.

During the grace period June 15 to July 14, instructors must request to see the driving log, but a teen shall be allowed in a Segment 2 class without a log.

During the grace period September 15 to October 14, examiners must request to see the driving log, but a teen shall be allowed to take a driving skills test without the log.

The purpose of the grace period is to assess the effectiveness of the message about the new procedure to parents and teens and to confirm that a one-month grace period is sufficient. Providers, instructors, testers, and examiners are encouraged to report to the department what they observe, such as the percentage of their customers who have the driving logs.

Send reports and comments to drivered@michigan.gov, using "Driving log report" in the subject line of the message.

Providers and instructors with questions regarding this procedure should contact the Driver Education Section by phone at (517) 241-6850 or email at drivered@michigan.gov. Testers and examiners should contact the Driver Testing Section by phone at (517) 241-6850 or email at thirdpartytesting@michigan.gov.