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The Driver Training & Certification

Driver Training Industry

Bulletin



Graduated Licensing Program Enhancements Implemented October 6, 2003

The latest enhancements to the Graduated Licensing Program (GLP) are being implemented on October 6, 2003.

Although the current program has been successful in reducing the crash rate amongst novice drivers by 26%, new drivers are still 45% more likely to be involved in a crash than more experienced drivers. These crashes also tend to be more severe.

For these reasons, the following new rules have been brought in for both the learner and novice stages. **It is important to note that all drivers currently in the GLP Program will follow the old rules until they reach a transition point:**



Learner Stage



In this stage of the GLP program, new drivers:

- must be accompanied by a supervisor aged 25 or more who holds a Class 1-5 licence (for passenger vehicle learners) or Class 6 licence (for motorcycle learners)
(NOTE: Driver Training Instructors under the age of 25 are exempt from the supervisor age requirement)
- must have a zero blood alcohol content while driving
- must display an official "L" new driver sign
- may carry one passenger in the vehicle in addition to the supervisor
- can drive between 5 a.m. and midnight only



An unsatisfactory driving record can result in sanctions by the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles. New drivers in the learner stage must wait a minimum of 12 months to take the Class 7 or 8 road test and move to the novice stage (this may be reduced by three months with ICBC-approved driver education).

Novice Stage



In this stage of the program, new drivers:

- must have a zero blood alcohol content while driving
- must display an official “N” new driver sign
- may carry only one passenger in the vehicle unless the other passengers are immediate family or there is a supervisor aged 25 or older who holds a valid Class 1-5 driver’s licence (**Driver Training Instructors under the age of 25 are exempt from the supervisor age requirement**)

NOTE: “immediate family” is defined as: mother, father, sister, brother, spouse, child, or grandparent—this includes step or foster relationships

- If a novice driver gets a prohibition, the driver will lose his or her accumulated driving time and must begin the novice stage over again from the beginning

Again, sanctions apply for an unsatisfactory driving record. New drivers in the novice stage must wait a minimum of 24 months to take the Class 5 or 6 road test and be granted a full-privilege driver’s licence.

Additional information about the GLP Enhancement Program, including the transitional strategy for drivers currently in the program, is enclosed with this bulletin.

Certification Program—Rules Governing the Issuance of a Driver Certification Form

Background

The intent of the Driver Certification Program is to authorize Facilities to conduct on-road and/or air brake pre-trip assessments of drivers wishing to upgrade their driver’s licence.

Drivers who successfully complete a Certification Program are then issued a *Driver Certification* (MV2067) form by the Facility which can allow the driver to receive a waiver of the testing requirements by ICBC.

When can a Driver Certification Form be Issued?

In order for a Facility to issue a *Driver Certification* Form, a training portion and an Assessment (as defined in the Facility’s agreement) must be completed prior to issuing this form. A *Driver Certification* form cannot be issued until both of these requirements have been satisfied.

Facilities participating in the Driver Certification Program are advised to carefully read their agreement to ensure that they understand the terms and conditions attached to this program.

In Memoriam—Ranjit Sokhi

We regret to announce the recent passing of Driver Training Instructor and owner of Sokhi Driving School, Ranjit Sokhi.

Mr. Sokhi who had suffered from a recent stroke, passed away on August 20, 2003. He had been a Driver Training Instructor since 1996.

We would like to offer our sincere condolences to his family and friends for their loss.

Commercial Driver Medical Examination Processing Fee

The Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles has recently introduced a \$28 processing fee for the review of Commercial Driver Medical Examinations. The fee covers the administrative cost for processing the increased frequency of medicals now required for commercial drivers.

As you are aware, there is no fee associated with medicals reviewed by our department (Driver Training & Certification) for the purpose of maintaining/obtaining an instructor's licence. However, the Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles will apply their processing fee if they choose to review an Instructor Medical Evaluation form (provided by our department) as an alternative to their standard Driver Medical Examination form (A PDF document outlining the new Driver Fitness Requirements can be downloaded from the internet at [www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/osmv/publications/factsheets/Commercial Drivers.pdf](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/osmv/publications/factsheets/Commercial%20Drivers.pdf)).

Auto\$mart Student Driver Program

To encourage Canadian drivers to consider fuel efficiency when purchasing, operating and maintaining their vehicles, a number of initiatives have been undertaken by the Office of Energy Efficiency of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan).

One of those initiatives is the Auto\$mart Student Driving Program. Its purpose is to improve awareness on the importance of fuel efficient driving practices among novice drivers and to promote positive fuel efficient behaviours before they get behind the wheel.

How Driver Educators can help

An integral part of the Auto\$mart Student Driving Program is the development of a module that provides driver educators with information to help teach student drivers how to drive safely while saving fuel, money and protecting the environment. The module contains a 35 minute video, an interactive CD-ROM and driver instructor manual.

How to Register

If you are interested in incorporating this module into your training program, you can register for your free *Auto\$mart Student Driving Kit* by calling toll free at **1-800-387-2000**, or you may register on-line at http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/vehicles/driversEd/driversEd_educators.cfm.



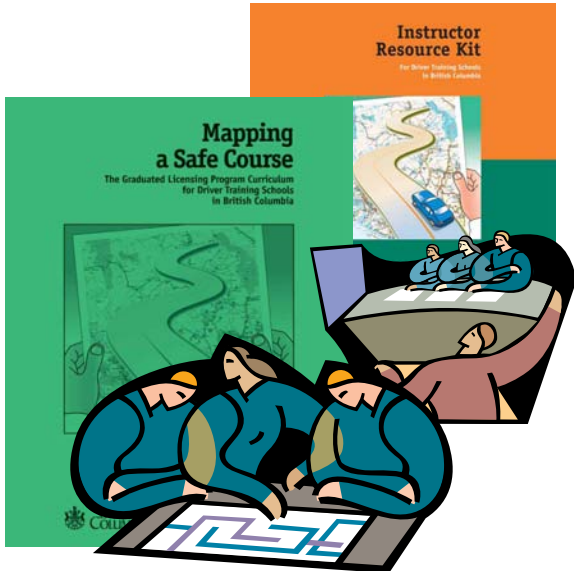
Idle-Free Zone Web Site

NRCan has launched Canada's first anti-idling Web site, called the Idle-Free Zone. This site is dedicated to helping municipalities and community groups take action to reduce unnecessary vehicle idling.

Idle-Free Zone: <http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/idling/>

GLP Instructor Course Update

The final GLP Instructor Course of 2003, is scheduled for October 20 - 24 at the Justice Institute located in New Westminster. Depending on industry demand, one additional course may be scheduled in November or December at an appropriate location. The course schedule for 2004 will be developed and made available during the month of December this year.



How to Register

To register for an upcoming GLP Instructor Course, contact the Justice Institute at **604-528-5590** or send an email to **register@jibc.bc.ca**.

For more information about the GLP instructor Training Course, visit the Driver Training & Certification Web site at **www.dtcbc.com** or contact our office using the contact information provided below.



*Offered by the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia
in cooperation with the Justice Institute of British Columbia*



About Us

The Driver Training & Certification Department is responsible for the administration of ICBC's Driver Training programs.

It is also responsible for monitoring and ensuring compliance within the driver training industry of British Columbia and providing guidance and information to help educate the industry in the conduct of driver education to British Columbians.

For more information about our department and programs, visit our Web site at:

<http://www.dtcbc.com>

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