Teen Driving

New Driver

Nighttime Driving

When the sun goes down, risks increase on the road. From reduced visibilty to deer or other animals, there are many hazards to watch for, which is why nighttime driving is restricted for new drivers. According to the National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration, states with nighttime restrictions in place have reported up to a 60 percent reduction in crashes during the restricted hours.

How Wisconsin Law Protects

- In Wisconsin, Graduated Driver Licensing Law requires that new drivers must have a minimum of 30 hours of supervised driving with a *qualified adult* before they can apply for a Probationary License. Ten hours or more of experience must be at night.
- During the Probationary License period, for the first nine months or until age 18, the following driving restrictions apply:

    From 5 a.m.-midnight: drivers may be unsupervised and without destination limits. Passengers allowed are immediate family, one non-family member, and one qualified adult.

    From midnight-5 a.m.: drivers may be unsupervised only when driving between home, work, and school. A qualified adult must be in the passenger seat for all other trips. Passengers allowed are immediate family, one non-family member, and one qualified adult.

    These restrictions are extended 6 months for moving violations or violation of restrictions.

    Qualified adult: a person with two years driving experience who holds a valid, regular license and sits in the front seat. If this person is an instructor, parent/legal guardian, or spouse they must be at least 19; other adults must be 21 years of age.

    Source: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Reduce Your Risk

- Always wear a seat belt.
- Get lots of practice driving at night so you feel confident in many different situations.
- Know the hours during which you are allowed to drive, and plan ahead.
- Keep the windshield clean and make sure headlights and taillights are clean and bright.

For more information about teen driving safety, visit **crossroadsteendriving.org.**