

What's up ahead?

An exciting driving adventure that will help you become a good, safe driver – that's what you have to look forward to.

Making learner drivers more experienced has already reduced the number of serious crashes involving young drivers in Queensland, which is great news. The official name of your journey to your open licence is the Queensland graduated licensing system. It's the process of getting an open driver licence. It involves –

- holding a learner licence for at least 12 months
- getting at least 100 hours supervised on-road driving experience recorded in your learner logbook within three years if you are under 25
- gaining plenty of supervised on-road driving experience if you are over 25
- passing the Q-SAFE practical driving test to get a provisional licence
- a two-stage provisional licence (P1 and P2)
- a compulsory hazard perception test to graduate from a P1 licence
- penalties for drivers who don't do the right thing.

Note: Certain requirements and restrictions apply to each licence type and some differ depending on your age.

The practical driving test

If you're under 25 years of age, you can take your Q-SAFE practical driving test after you've held your licence for 12 months and logged 100 hours of supervised on-road driving experience within the previous three years. First you must sign a *Driving Experience Declaration* stating you have completed the necessary hours. This declaration is in your logbook.

You can't take your Q-SAFE practical driving test until your logbook has been checked and passed by the Department of Transport and Main Roads. Details on how and when to lodge your logbook via Australia Post are in your logbook and online at www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au. We will notify you by mail when your logbook has passed. You can also choose to be notified by phone, SMS or email. Your learner licence is valid for three years.

If you are 25 years of age or older, you still need to hold your learner licence for 12 months before you take the Q-SAFE practical driving test. However, while getting 100 hours of supervised on-road driving is still encouraged, it isn't mandatory.



Translating and Interpreting Service

Free assistance is available if you need help reading or speaking English. Call **13 14 50** from anywhere in Queensland at any time for the cost of a local call. Higher rates apply from mobiles and payphones.

口筆譯服務處

如果您用英語閱讀或交談有困難，請與口筆譯服務處(TIS)的工作人員聯繫。請撥下面的電話號碼以便得到幫助。

13 14 50 (任何時間在昆士蘭的任何地方均可撥打)

Dịch Vụ Thông Phiên Dịch

Nếu quý vị gặp trở ngại trong việc đọc và nói tiếng Anh, hãy liên lạc với nhân viên của Dịch Vụ Thông Phiên Dịch (TIS). Xin gọi số dưới đây để được giúp đỡ.

13 14 50 (từ bất cứ nơi nào trong Queensland vào bất cứ giờ nào)

Servicio de Traducción e Interpretación

Si tiene problemas para leer o hablar inglés póngase en contacto con el Servicio de Traducción e Interpretación (TIS). Para obtener asistencia llame al siguiente número:

13 14 50 (desde cualquier lugar de Queensland - atención permanente)

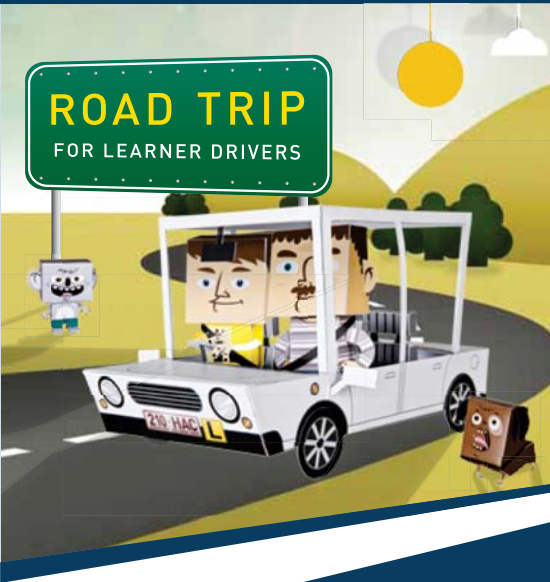


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 www.facebook.com/myroadtrip

For more information visit
www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au
or phone **13 23 80**

Edition one, July 2011



Transport and Main Roads

Road Trip for learner drivers

For more information visit
www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au

Are you ready for your Road Trip?

Nice work on getting your learner licence. Now the Road Trip really begins.

The answers to a lot of your questions can be found in this brochure. But a great place to find out everything you need to know about learning to drive and beyond your open licence is at www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au.

If you can't access this material please contact the Department of Transport and Main Roads on **13 23 80** and we'll send you a hard copy of the information free of charge.

Everything is online

The Road Trip website gives you easy-to-understand information, when you need to know it. There are videos, quizzes and games to help you through the licence process and make you a safe driver.

The website contains information for supervisors too, so let your know about it. There is also a brochure for them. If you have more than one supervisor you can download extra copies at www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au.

Your logbook option

While almost everything you need to get your licence is online, you have a choice when it comes to your learner logbook. You can record your mandatory 100 hours driving experience in a hard copy logbook, or use the electronic version at www.learn2go.com.au.

We do, however, recommend the hard copy logbook because you can take it with you on your driving session and enter the details immediately after. The electronic version is recommended as backup.



What you can and can't do on your learner licence

You can

- Drive! Great. But your supervisor must sit beside you every time you're behind the wheel.
- Keep studying the road rules.
- Talk to your friends who are also learning and encourage each other.

You must

- Carry your licence (or Driver Licence Receipt if waiting for licence to be mailed) at all times when driving.
- Display L-plates at the front and back of the vehicle you are driving.
- Have a zero blood alcohol concentration (0.00 BAC) when driving.
- Make sure your logbook is kept accurate and up-to-date.*
- Park the vehicle safely before making or receiving mobile phone calls or text messages.
- Report any long-term or permanent medical condition that affects your ability to drive safely to the Department of Transport and Main Roads. See details at www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au/factfreeway.

You can't

- Drive on your own under any circumstances.
- Use a mobile phone while driving under any circumstances, including the loudspeaker function, hands-free kits and Bluetooth accessories.*
- Your supervisor and any other passenger(s) must not use a mobile phone on loudspeaker.*

*Does not apply to learner drivers 25 years of age or older.

Choosing a supervisor

A supervisor can be a family member, friend or an accredited driver trainer if they hold and have had an open licence for 12 months for the class of vehicle you're learning in. It's OK to have more than one supervisor.



Finding a driver trainer

Accredited driver trainers can be found in most parts of Queensland and are listed in the Yellow Pages. Keep in mind that lessons with an accredited driver trainer will reduce the 100 hour requirement.

A one hour lesson counts towards three hours in your logbook (up to a maximum of 10 x one hour lessons or 30 logbook hours). See www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au for more information.

Why 100 hours? The harsh reality

Because of inexperience, young drivers are among Queensland's most at-risk road user groups. You are most at risk just after you pass your practical driving test and start driving solo.

It's very important you log the required 100 hours of supervised on-road driving. This supervised time better prepares you for the riskiest period on the road when you start driving on your own. Learner drivers have the lowest crash risk of all drivers, generally because you are supervised.

Why young drivers are at risk

Learners are most likely to have a crash in the first six to 12 months of getting their provisional licence. Young people are vulnerable on our roads because you:

- haven't developed your visual scanning and perception skills
- are less likely to identify and respond to risks or hazards when driving
- are more easily distracted while driving (caused by inexperience in coping with distractions)
- may drive at high risk times (for example at night and with other young people in the car)
- may sometimes deliberately take risks (for example high speed driving and tailgating)
- may sometimes use alcohol or drugs
- can be overconfident.



Your logbook

The logbook must be completed accurately and honestly with each entry signed by your supervising driver. Penalties apply if you record false or misleading information.

There are samples in the logbook that show you how to fill in your logbook plus there's a video and a fact sheet at www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au.

What do I need to practise?

It's important to practise driving in different conditions. In fact, you must log at least 10 hours of night driving in your logbook for it to pass assessment.

Different conditions

- different weather conditions, particularly rain
- country roads
- mountain/range roads
- unsealed roads
- local suburban streets
- main roads and freeways

Go to www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au for a downloadable fact sheet about driving in different conditions.

Different skills

- negotiating roundabouts and intersections
- maintaining your road position and speed in traffic
- hill starts and U-turns
- recognising hazards and responding in time
- changing lanes, merging, overtaking
- reversing and reverse parking

See instructional videos at www.roadtrip.qld.gov.au.



How to spoil your Road Trip

Alcohol and drugs

In Queensland, learner and provisional drivers of any age must have zero blood alcohol concentration (0.00 BAC) while driving. Never drive if you have taken illicit or recreational drugs.

Speeding

Speeding is not only exceeding the speed limit, but also driving too fast for the road, traffic or weather conditions. Speeding increases the likelihood and severity of a crash. You should adjust your speed to match the conditions.

Fatigue/driving tired

Driver fatigue or driving tired affects your level of concentration, alertness and your ability to process information and make decisions. Slower reactions and impaired visual scanning can happen well before you fall asleep. If you are tired, don't drive.

Penalties

From 1 March 2012, if you accumulate four or more demerit points in a 12 month period while on your learner licence you will receive a three month suspension - that's three months when it will be illegal for you to drive.

Be aware that from 1 March 2012, the penalty for driving without a supervisor while on your learner licence will increase from one to four demerit points (and a fine of \$160).

