

Driving yourself to school is an adult responsibility that you need to take seriously to keep you and other safe and protect your privilege to drive

HOW DO I GET A MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE?

- Be at least 14 ½ years old.
- Complete an Iowa-approved driver education course.
- Hold an instruction permit and a clean driving record for at least six consecutive months immediately before applying for your minor school license.
- Live 1 mile or more from the school you are enrolled in, unless a special need exists. If you have more than one residence, where you live is the location you reside the majority of the time.
- You must have your school superintendent, principal, or school board chair AND your parent or guardian sign an Affidavit for School License (form 30021) available at any driver's license issuance site or by searching the form number at <https://forms.iowadot.gov/BrowseForms.aspx>.
- You may also be required to complete a drive test at the driver's license issuance site.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS LICENSE?

This license allows you to drive *without* adult supervision between the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. for the following.

- Drive from your home to your school(s) of enrollment or school sponsored activities using the most direct and accessible route. Activities must be at the school(s) you are enrolled in.
- Drive to a school that is not your school of enrollment to participate in extracurricular activities conducted at that school under a sharing agreement with your school of enrollment.
- Drive to and from your home to the closest school bus stop.
- Stop for fuel on route or at the closest station off route.

You may also drive at any time with adult supervision. Adult supervision means your parent, guardian, custodian, an immediate family member at least 21 years of age, a driver education instructor, or a person at least 25 years of age with written permission from your parent, guardian, or custodian. The supervising adult must possess a valid driver's license.

WHAT CAN'T I DO WITH THIS LICENSE?

- Use any electronic communication or entertainment device while driving.
- Carry more than one minor passenger that is not a relative when driving *without* adult supervision.
A relative means someone that is your brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, or another minor living in your household.
- Drive to a school district you are not enrolled in for school or school-sponsored activities, unless your school has an extracurricular sharing agreement with that school district.
- Carry more passengers than the number of seat belts in your vehicle, even when driving with adult supervision.

HOW DO I ADVANCE TO THE NEXT STEP: AN INTERMEDIATE LICENSE?

- Be at least 16 years old.
- Hold an instruction permit (or instruction permit and minor school license) for a total of 12 months.
- Maintain a clean driving record for at least six consecutive months immediately before applying for an intermediate license.
- Your parent or guardian must provide written consent.
Either in person at a driver's license issuance site or complete the Parent's/Guardian's Written Consent Form (form 430018).
- Complete 20 hours of supervised driving in addition to any driving you completed in driver's education. At least two of those hours must be between sunset and sunrise.

WHAT IF I MESS UP?

Your license will be suspended if you are convicted of a traffic violation (including, but not limited to, speeding, reckless driving, failure to obey a traffic sign), violate any of the restrictions on your license, or are involved in a crash you caused or contributed to.

- **First offense:** Your license will be suspended for 30 days and you must pay a fee to reinstate your minor school license.
- **Second offense:** Your license will be revoked for 30 days and you must pay a fee to reinstate to an instruction permit for six months before you are eligible for a minor school license.

Any time you have a violation, or any time your license gets suspended or revoked, your six-month period to have a clean driving record will start over.

WHERE A STUDENT MAY DRIVE

CAN A MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE BE USED TO DRIVE TO CLASSES IN A BORDERING DISTRICT IF THERE IS A SHARING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THAT SCHOOL AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE?

Yes. Iowa Code section 321.194(3)(b), as amended by HF 2437, allows for a minor school license to be issued for purposes of attending school which is not in the school district of residence if the district is contiguous and there is a sharing agreement between the school in the contiguous district and the school district of residence or if the student has open enrolled into the contiguous school district.

CAN A STUDENT USE A MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE TO ATTEND AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY THEY DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN?

Yes. As long as the extracurricular activity is taking place within the school district of enrollment. If the student wishes to use a minor school license to attend an extracurricular activity outside the school district of enrollment, they may only do so if they are actually participating in the activity, not merely spectating, and they are still geographically limited to driving only to a contiguous school district.

CAN A STUDENT DRIVE TO TEAM PRACTICES IN A NON-CONTIGUOUS DISTRICT IF THE TWO SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE A WHOLE GRADE SHARING AGREEMENT?

No. While the law does allow use of the minor school license for purposes of driving to a school because of a grade-sharing agreement, it must be in a contiguous district.

CAN A STUDENT USE A MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE IF THEY ARE OPEN-ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT WHICH IS NOT CONTIGUOUS TO THEIR DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE?

No. The open enrollment school must be in a contiguous district.

CAN THE MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE BE USED TO DRIVE TO PRACTICE AT ANOTHER SCHOOL IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ENROLLMENT? ARE THERE ANY PASSENGER RESTRICTIONS?

Yes. The student may drive to practice at another school as long as it is within the school district of enrollment or within a contiguous (bordering) school district. The student is restricted to one minor unrelated passenger unless accompanied by an adult. Minor unrelated passengers do not include siblings, step-siblings or other children residing in the same household.

CAN THE MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE BE USED TO DRIVE TO "UNOFFICIAL" PRACTICES PRIOR TO THE START OF SCHOOL-SANCTIONED PRACTICES?

No. Driving must be for school sponsored activities and does not include "unofficial" practices that are sometimes conducted as teambuilding events before official school-sanctioned practices begin.

CAN THE MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE BE USED TO DROP-OFF SIBLINGS AT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH THE LICENSEE IS NOT PARTICIPATING OR SPECTATING?

No. Iowa Code section 321.194 states that the "holder" of the license may use the minor school license for purposes of attending school and for the purposes of attending or participating in extracurricular activities, and does not permit driving for any other purpose.

CAN THE MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE BE USED TO DRIVE TO WORK?

No. Iowa Code 321.194 states that the "holder" of the license may use the minor school license for purposes of attending school and for the purposes of attending or participating in extracurricular activities, and does not permit driving for any other purpose.

CAN ANY STUDENT WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE COMPLETE THE FORM AND DRIVE TO AND FROM BOTH PARENT'S HOMES IF THEIR PARENTS ARE LEGALLY DIVORCED OR SEPARATED REGARDLESS OF WHERE THEIR PARENTS LIVE?

No. The additional parent's address must be within the school district or a contiguous school district of where the student attends school. If a parent's address is outside of these zones, the student may not drive from that parent's home.

CAN THE STUDENT DRIVE BETWEEN THEIR PARENT'S HOMES?

No. As stated on the minor school license affidavit, the student may not drive between two residential addresses. A student may drive to and from "Address 1" and approved school and extracurricular activities and to and from "Address 2" and approved school and extracurricular activities, but they may not drive from one residential address to another as there is no legal authority in Iowa Code that permits this.

IF A STUDENT WHOSE PARENTS ARE LEGALLY DIVORCED OR SEPARATED WISHES TO DRIVE FROM BOTH PARENTS HOMES, DO BOTH PARENTS HAVE TO SIGN THE AFFIDAVIT?

No, only one parent with legal custody needs to sign the form and provide their consent for the license, including driving to both addresses, if applicable. Additionally, the signing parent will be signing under penalty of perjury that the address(es) listed on the form are within the school district or contiguous school district.

WILL THE STUDENT'S LICENSE SHOW THE ADDITIONAL ADDRESS THAT THEY CAN DRIVE TO AND FROM?

Yes, if a student submits a completed affidavit for school license showing they will be driving to and from an additional address of another parent, a restriction will be added to their license and will list the second address that they may drive to and from on the back of their license. This will also help law enforcement understand where the student is eligible to be driving if the student is stopped or involved in a traffic incident.

The "J" restriction should read "Also valid to drive to and from [insert second address, city, state, zip] in compliance with 321.194".

WHAT IF BOTH PARENTS LIVE WITHIN THE STUDENT'S SCHOOL DISTRICT BUT ONE LIVES MORE THAN ONE MILE AWAY FROM THE SCHOOL AND ONE LIVES LESS THAN ONE MILE AWAY?

If a student splits time between two homes and one home is greater than one mile away from the school and the school would approve a Minor School License to be issued to the student if that were the student's only home, there is no reason a minor school license should be denied simply because one home is closer than one mile away. However, keep in mind that school administrators maintain the responsibility to know where these students are driving and should make sure they are on the same page about where the student will be driving to and from throughout the week, particularly in instances where the student may need to drive to school from mom's house and go home from school to dad's house. Keep in mind that both residences must be within the student's district or contiguous district.

MAKE GOOD DECISIONS

Drive at a safe speed, keep your eyes on the road, and your hands on the wheel. Put phones and other distractions away.

Be sure your passengers are wearing seat belts and limit your number of passengers – every passenger you add drastically increases your risk of being in a crash.

Don't abuse your privilege – Drive only for permitted school activities using the most direct route.

Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of teen deaths – don't let it happen to you and your friends!