



Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
**Policy 8.00 Authorization / Licensing of a Minor's
Application for a Driver's License**

Section: 1. Issuance of Driver's License

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 09/04/2018

Authority:

Administrative

[R.S. 9:951 et al](#)

[R.S. 32:407](#)

[R.S. 32:431.1](#)

To view Louisiana Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>

Requirements: When an applicant under 18 years of age applies for a temporary instructional permit (TIP), learner's permit or driver's license for the first time, it shall not be granted unless one of the following requirements is satisfied:

- **Parental Signature**
 - The application is signed by the father or mother of the applicant if no separation or divorce exists; OR
 - The application is signed by the parent having legal custody if a legal separation or divorce exists. However, only the domiciliary parent may sign if joint custody has been awarded.
 - Custody documents must be presented.
- **No Parental Signature:** In lieu of a parent's signature, the application shall not be granted unless one of the following requirements is satisfied:
 - The application is signed by the individual that is granted provisional custody by mandate.
 - Parents are allowed to grant provisional custody by mandate with a written act.
 - If the parents are not judicially separated, both must act together in granting the provisional custody.
 - If the parents are divorced or judicially separated, the parent having legal custody (or both parents if joint custody has been granted) may grant provisional authority. The provisional custodian must submit the "Provisional Custody by Mandate" documentation along with a notarized affidavit executed by the parents, natural tutor, or co-tutors agreeing to notify the Office of Motor Vehicles immediately of any change that would affect the custodial status of the minor during the period shown in the mandate; OR

- A Power of Attorney executed by a minor's parent(s) and awarding legal guardianship of the minor to another person is acceptable (only for foreign exchange students): OR
- The signature of the tutor and the letter of tutorship from the court will be acceptable; OR
- The person having legal custody may sign the application; OR
- If the court has assumed the custody of a minor and placed him in the control of an agency or organization, then the signature of the agency representative or foster parent will be accepted under the following conditions: he must present a copy of the court's judgment making the minor a ward of the agency and/or the assignment from the agency to the foster parent if such is the case. If the court has custody, but has not placed the minor in control of an agency or organization, the judge shall be allowed to sign the application.
- **Note:** The signature of the custodial parent or guardian is required when a minor applies for a duplicate TIP/learner's permit/driver's license/ID card. Proper identification shall be presented.
- **Emancipation:** If the minor is emancipated, the parent/guardian's signature is not required for the issuance of a driver's license (first time, renewal, duplicate, correction, etc.). The emancipation document must be presented. Emancipation gives a minor authority to perform all acts as if he had attained the age of majority.
- **Minor Marriage:** The parent or guardian's signature is not required if the minor is married. The marriage license in addition to the required documents for identification must be presented. The same shall apply for a minor 17 years of age securing a Class "D" license.
- **Upgrading from a Permit to an Intermediate (Age 16):** Effective January 1, 2011, no applicant shall be issued a Class "E" intermediate license unless a signed statement parental certification form by the parent or legal guardian is provided to the department attesting that the applicant has a minimum of fifty (50) hours of behind the wheel driving experience with a licensed parent, guardian, or adult at least twenty-one (21) or older. At least fifteen (15) of these hours must be night time driving.
- **Cancellation:** A minor's TIP/permit/license or his application for a TIP/permit/license may be denied or cancelled if a written request is received by the Department, signed by the parent, tutor, or person having legal custody. The future licensing of a minor whose application/license has been denied or cancelled by the parent, tutor, or legal custodian, is without prejudice. An application for a license may be made at any time after the cancellation.
- **Military Parents:** A parent in military service may sign an application for his minor child. The application may be witnessed and certified by his commanding officer. The commanding officer's rank, position, and military service (serial) number must be shown with his signature.
- **Exemptions:** When it is impractical or impossible for a parent to personally appear to sign the minor's application, then the application may leave the office for a signature. The application (DPSMV 2003) can be obtained from any Motor

Vehicle office and mailed to the parents by the applicant. The signature of the parent must be notarized to be acceptable. The notarized application must be presented to the Motor Vehicle office by the applicant, accompanied by the proper identification.

- **Notes Effective 08/01/2012:**

- An eighteen (18) year old or older or parent or guardian of a seventeen (17) year old first time applicant for a Class "E" license shall provide a signed statement to the department attesting he has completed a minimum of fifty hours of supervised driving practice with a licensed parent, guardian, or adult at least twenty-one (21) or older. At least fifteen (15) of these hours must be night time driving.
- If the applicant for a Class "E" license is seventeen (17) years of age and is emancipated, the applicant shall provide the attestation for himself, provided that the applicant has the necessary identifying information and documentation.

- **Notes Effective 09/16/2013:**

- The minor applicant seventeen (17 years of age) must also present a completed Certification of Required Attendance form indicating his enrollment / attendance status. A current Certificate of Required School Attendance must be submitted or verified each time a minor makes application with the Office of Motor Vehicles (to lift the 02 restriction, be issued a duplicate, be issued a Class E (at age 17) or request a change of address). Effective 08/01/2014, the current school attendance form is valid for 90 days from the date of issuance
- Out of State Certificate of Required School Attendance forms will be acceptable. The out of state certificate must be on school letterhead and contain the applicant's name and current enrollment/attendance status.
- For home study or registered non public school students, the parent/guardian must submit one of the following documents each time a minor makes application with the OMV (as stated above):
 - SBESE home study - signed and approved Home Study Approval Notification Letter. This letter is valid for one year from the date on the letter and must be renewed annually.
 - Private option - signed Registered Non Public School: Registration Confirmation Letter verifying registration of the non public school. This letter is valid for one year from the date of the letter and must be renewed annually.
- If the applicant has graduated or attained the high school equivalency diploma, he may present the diploma upon application in lieu of the Certification of Required Attendance.

- **Notes Effective 09/04/2018:**

- All applicants must apply to the Office of Motor Vehicles for a Class "E" Temporary Instructional Permit (TIP) prior to completing enrollment in a driver education course, driver training program or pre licensing training course. The TIP may be issued to any individual that is at least 14 years of age. The TIP allows a driver education student to operate a motor vehicle

when accompanied by a driver education instructor and when completing the behind the wheel instruction or during administration of a skills test.

- Applicants shall meet all other Office of Motor Vehicles identification requirements.
- This requirement does not apply to applicants enrolled in a National Guard Youth Challenge Program.
- Any student enrolled in a driver education, driver training program or pre licensing course prior to 09/4/2018 is exempt from this requirement.

Related Policies

Section 1, Policy 1.00 [Classes of Licenses and Age Requirements](#)

Section 1, Policy 6.01 [Driver Education Requirements](#)

Section 1, Policy 8.02 [Provisional Custody By Mandate](#)

Section 1, Policy 33.00 [Updates To Drivers License Masters On Cancelled Deceased Or Out Of State Drivers](#)

Section 1, Policy 16.00 [Privileges Cancelled At Parent's Request](#)