TEEN DRIVER PARENT TASK FORCE

STEPS TO A SAFE TEEN DRIVER

**CHILD (Age 3–10)**
Model safe driving behaviors

**STEP 1**
- **Seat belt.** Everyone, every trip wears a seat belt.
- **Eliminate distractions.** Parents should not use the phone, eat, read or do anything they wouldn’t want their teen driver to do while driving.
- **Courteous attitude.** Parents must demonstrate courteous & patient driving behavior.

**TWEEN (Age 10–15)**
Continue to model safe driving behaviors

**STEP 2**
- **Teach.** Share defensive driving examples when riding together in vehicle
- **Conversation.** Begin discussing future driving expectations with your teen

**TEEN**
Instructional driving permit

**STEP 3**
- **Graduated Driver Licensing Law (GDL).** Know & enforce the GDL law protections. [www.reduceohcrashes.com/teen-driver-laws](http://www.reduceohcrashes.com/teen-driver-laws)
- **Log more than 50 hours of drive time in the vehicle with teen driver.**
  
  TIME = EXPERIENCE = LOWER CRASH RATES
- **Use Resources.** Parents should use proven resources to assist in teaching teens to drive.
  - **DRN App drvnapp.com**
    The DRVN app tracks time, helps structure driving lessons, and strengthens your teen’s understanding through skill checks.
  - **AAA Keys to Drive teendriving.aaa.com/OH**
    AAA offers tools and resources to help facilitate the learning-to-drive process for parents of new and futurteen drivers.

**TEEN**
New licensed driver

**STEP 4**
- **Student Driver.** A new teen driver is still an inexperienced student driver
- **Graduated Driver Licensing Law (GDL).** Know & enforce the GDL law protections. [www.reduceohcrashes.com/teen-driver-laws](http://www.reduceohcrashes.com/teen-driver-laws)
- **Driving Contract.** Parents and teen should make a driving contract outlining agreed upon expectations and consequences.
- **Mentor.** Parents must continue to teach defensive driving to new teen drivers. Continue to spend time riding in the vehicle with a newly licensed teen driver.
- **Monitor.** Teen driving apps are merely applications that you install on your teen’s phone to monitor or prevent specific behaviors that could cause dangerous driving conditions.
- **Additional Training.** Teens should participate in a teen defensive driving program that provide driving techniques not found in a typical driver’s education class.

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**RESOURCES:**
- Checkpoints Program Young Driver Parenting Agreement [youngdriverparenting.org](http://youngdriverparenting.org)
- Life360 life360.com Driver Reports give a snapshot of how (and what) your drivers are doing on the road.
- MOTOsafety motosafety.com Call now! Know they’ve arrived safely. Monitor speeding, harsh braking and rapid starts. Track from your phone.
- Better Ohio Teen Drivers betterohiateendrivers.org
- Mid-Ohio Teen Defensive Driving [mid.oh.com/courses/defense-driving/teen-defensive-driving](http://mid.oh.com/courses/defense-driving/teen-defensive-driving)