



ALBERTA GDL: MOTORCYCLES

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The GDL program applies to motorcycles only if it the applicant's first licence or if they are currently in the GDL program. GDL does not apply to fully-licensed drivers who apply for a Class 6 licence.
 Effective date of program implementation: Since 1998, new rules added May 20, 2003

LEARNER LICENCE: CLASS 7 or 5

NOVICE LICENCE: CLASS 6-GDL or Class 5/6-GDL

AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Minimum entry age: 14 years to receive a Class 7 Learner's Licence, however, applicants must be 16 years old to begin learning to ride a motorcycle.
- Minimum exit age: 16 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Vision test
- Knowledge test
- Parental consent: If driver is under 18 years of age
- Driver education: Voluntary

EXIT REQUIREMENTS

- Time completion: Held a Class 7 Learner licence for 12 months
- Successfully pass test/course: On-road motorcycle road test

STAGE DURATION

- Minimum duration: 12 months
- Maximum holding period: While the Learner stage lasts for one year, it can be renewed indefinitely

SUPERVISORY DRIVER

- Age: 18+
- Licence held: Class 6; if the accompanying driver is following in a vehicle, they must have both a Motorcycle Licence (Class 6) and a Driver's Licence (Class 5).
- Time licensed
- BAC level while supervising: 0.08
- Driver log
- Location while supervising: On the motorbike with the Learner, or following behind on their own motorbike or in a vehicle

SUPERVISED DRIVING

- Minimum amount of supervised driving

DRIVING RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS

- BAC level while driving: Zero
- Night driving: No driving between midnight and 5 a.m.
- Passenger restrictions: Limited to the supervisory driver
- Road restrictions
- Display "L" sign/plate when driving
- Other restrictions

AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Minimum entry age: 16 years
- Minimum exit age: 18 years

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Time completion: Held a Class 7 Learner licence for 12 months
- Successfully passed test/course: on-road motorcycle test
- Parental consent: If under 18 years of age

EXIT REQUIREMENTS

- Time completion: Held a Class 6-GDL or Class 5/6-GDL Novice licence for 24 months
- Successfully pass test/course: Advanced road test

STAGE DURATION

- Minimum duration: 24 months
- Maximum holding period

SUPERVISORY DRIVER

N/A

SUPERVISED DRIVING

N/A

DRIVING RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS

- BAC level while driving: Zero
- Night restrictions
- Passenger restrictions: No more passengers than seatbelts
- Road restrictions
- Display "N" sign/plate when driving
- Other restrictions

SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION

- Lower driver penalty point threshold: 7 instead of 14; licence will be suspended at 8 points. Any time spent suspended will have to be made up before moving on to the next stage.
- Violation of the zero-blood alcohol limit: 30-day licence suspension.
- Must have no licence suspensions during the last year of this stage

DRIVER IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

- Voluntary – Defensive Driving Course (3 demerit point reduction)

SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION

- Lower driver penalty point threshold: 7 instead of 14; licence will be suspended at 8 points. Any time spent suspended will have to be made up before moving on to the next stage.
- Violation of the zero-BAC limit: 30-day licence suspension
- Violation of Supervisory Driver conditions: The Learner could be fined \$230 and two demerit points if a supervisory driver in an accompanying motor vehicle does not hold both Class 5 and Class 6 licences
- Violation of the night driving restriction: The Learner could be fined up to \$115 and two demerit points if riding after sunset

DRIVER IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

- Voluntary – Defensive Driving Course (3 demerit point reduction)

ADDITIONAL CLASS 6 LEARNER FEATURES

- Cannot serve as an accompanying rider to a Learner
- Upgrade to a commercial licence is not possible

ADDITIONAL CLASS 6 NOVICE FEATURES

- Cannot serve as an accompanying rider to a Learner
- Upgrade to a commercial licence is not possible

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Websites

Alberta Transportation - <http://www.saferoads.com>;

Brochure: Motorcycle Licence (Class 6) New Rules for New Riders – Alberta's Graduated Driver Licensing Program:
<http://www.saferoads.com/pdf/Class6licence.pdf>

Operator's Driver Handbook for Motorcycles, Moped's and Power Bicycles: <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/531.htm>