



## ALBERTA GDL: PASSENGER VEHICLES

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

To obtain a licence in AB to operate a passenger vehicle, the Class 7 Learner stage precedes the Class 5 Novice stage. It will take a minimum of 3 years to complete both stages.  
 Effective date of program implementation: Since 1998; new rules added May 20, 2003

### LEARNER LICENCE: CLASS 7

### NOVICE LICENCE: CLASS 5

#### AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Minimum entry age: 14 years
- 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: 12 months with a Class 7 licence
- Successfully pass test/course: Alberta basic road test

#### STAGE DURATION

- Minimum duration: Hold a Class 7 Learner licence for 12 months
- Maximum holding period: A Class 7 licence can be renewed indefinitely

#### SUPERVISORY DRIVER

- Age: 18+
- Licence held: Full non-probationary licence
- Time licensed
- BAC level while supervising: 0.08
- Driver log
- Location while supervising: Seated in the front passenger seat next to the driver

#### SUPERVISED DRIVING

- Minimum amount of supervised driving: New drivers are strongly encouraged to have a minimum of 60 hours of driving experience before taking the basic road test

#### DRIVING RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS

- BAC level while driving: Zero
- Night driving: No driving between midnight and 5 a.m.
- Passenger restrictions: No more passengers than seatbelts
- Road restrictions
- Display "L" 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-BAC restriction: 30-day licence

#### 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: Alberta basic road test
- Parental consent

#### EXIT REQUIREMENTS

- Time completion: Hold a Class 5-GDL licence for 24 months
- Successfully pass test/course: Advanced road test

#### STAGE DURATION

- Minimum duration: 24 months
- Maximum holding period: A Class 5-GDL licence can be renewed indefinitely

#### 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 restriction: 30-day licence suspension
- Violation of the passenger restriction: Learner will receive a \$115 fine and two demerit points on their licence
- Must have no licence suspensions during the last year of this stage

#### DRIVER IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

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

<p>suspension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Violation of the night driving restriction: Learner could be fined up to \$115 and two demerit points</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Violation of the passenger restrictions: Learner will receive a \$115 fine and two demerit points on their licence</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Violation of Supervisory Driver conditions: Learner could be fined \$230 and two demerit points</li> </ul> <p><b><u>DRIVER IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voluntary – Defensive Driving Course (3 demerit point reduction)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>ADDITIONAL CLASS 7 FEATURES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cannot serve as an accompanying driver</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cannot upgrade to a commercial licence</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>ADDITIONAL CLASS 5 FEATURES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cannot serve as an accompanying driver</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cannot upgrade to a commercial licence</li> </ul>
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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**Website links**

Alberta Transportation - <http://www.saferoads.com> and [http://www.saferoads.com/drivers/drivers\\_newdrivers.html](http://www.saferoads.com/drivers/drivers_newdrivers.html)

Basic Driver's Handbook: <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/531.htm>

Brochure: Driver's Licence (Class 5) Alberta's Graduated Driver's Licensing Program: <http://www.saferoads.com/pdf/Class5licence.pdf>