

# QUEBEC GDL: PASSENGER VEHICLES

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

To obtain a driver's licence to operate a passenger vehicle in QC, there are two stages to the GDL program: Class 5 Learner and a Class 5 Probationary licence.

Effective date of program implementation: June 30, 1997

## LEARNER LICENCE: CLASS 5

### AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Minimum entry age: 16 years
- Minimum exit age: 16 years, 8 months

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Vision test
- Knowledge test: Must achieve 75% for each of the three parts on traffic rules, road signs and traffic signals
- Parental consent: If driver is under 18 years
- Driver education: Voluntary; optional driving course offered by a driving school recognized by CAA-Québec or the Quebec Safety League

### EXIT REQUIREMENTS

- Time completion: Hold a Class 5 Learner licence for 12 months (or 8 months if a practical course was completed)
- Successfully pass test/course: Class 5 road test

### STAGE DURATION

- Minimum duration: 12 months with a valid licence (can be reduced to 8 months if a practical course in a driving school recognized by CAA-Québec or the Québec Safety League is passed)
- Maximum holding period

### SUPERVISORY DRIVER

- Age
- Licence held: Valid Class 5 driver's licence
- Time licensed: At least 2 years with a driver's licence
- BAC level while supervising: Not exceeding 0.08
- Driver log
- Location while supervising: Seated next to the learner so as to be in a position to give assistance and advice to the learner, and to encourage good driving habits

### SUPERVISED DRIVING

- Minimum amount of supervised driving

### DRIVING RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS

- BAC level while driving: Zero
- Night driving
- Passenger restrictions
- Road restrictions
- Display "L" sign/plate when driving
- Other restrictions

### SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION

- Lower driver penalty point threshold: 4 instead of 15; a learner's

## PROBATIONARY LICENCE: CLASS 5

### AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Minimum entry age: 16 years, 8 months
- Minimum exit age: 18 years and 8 months

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Time completion: Held a Class 5 Learner licence for 12 months (or 8 months if a practical course was completed)
- Successfully passed test/course: Class 5 road test (75%)
- Parental consent: If driver is under 18 years of age

### EXIT REQUIREMENTS

- Time completion: See Minimum duration section below
- Successfully pass test/course

### STAGE DURATION

- Minimum duration: 24 months or until age 25, whichever comes first; drivers aged 25+ qualify for a driver's (regular) licence
- Maximum holding period

### SUPERVISED DRIVING

N/A

### DRIVING RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS

- BAC level while driving: Zero
- Night restrictions
- Passenger restrictions
- Road restrictions
- Display "N" sign/plate when driving
- Other restrictions

### SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION

- See SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION section for Class 5 Learner licence

### DRIVER IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

N/A

### ADDITIONAL CLASS 5 NOVICE FEATURES

- The holder of a probationary licence is not allowed to act as an accompanying driver; the years during which a person holds a probationary licence cannot be counted as part of the two years of necessary experience for supervisory drivers

licence is suspended for 3 months following the accumulation of 4 demerit points rather than 15 points for the driver's licence

- Once suspension is over, the licence is valid again but the length of the period of validity of the learner's licence is extended by 3 months
- Violation of the zero BAC restriction: A new driver who consumes alcohol and drives will have their learner's licence suspended; if an offence is committed, 30 days of immediate suspension (by the police officer) will result; 4 demerit points are entered on the driver's record resulting in a 3-month licence suspension and a \$300 - \$600 fine
- If the new driver refuses to provide a breath sample or submit to a blood test or if his/her BAC exceeds 0.08, he/she will be charged under the Criminal Code and Highway Safety Code
- Driving without a valid licence, or driving with a revoked licence will lead to vehicle seizure and additional fines

**DRIVER IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS**

N/A

**ADDITIONAL CLASS 5 LEARNER FEATURES**

- Driver can only drive class 5 vehicles

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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