

GDL – New Drivers Novice Stages (Stage 2) at a Glance

GDL Component		Province/Territory												
		BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	NB	NS	PEI	NL	YK	NWT	NU
Licence Class		7N	5	5 (Novice 1)	5L	G2	5 (Probationary)	7 (Level 2)	5N	5 (Stage 2)	5 (Level II)	5	5P (Stage 2)	
Age Restrictions	Minimum entry age	17 yrs	16 yrs	16 yrs	16 yrs	16 yrs	16-24 ¹	16 yrs, 4 months	16 yrs	16.75 yrs with driver ed course	16 yrs, 8 months	16 yrs	16 yrs	
	Minimum exit age	18.5 yrs	18 yrs	16.5 yrs	17.5 yrs	17 yrs, 8 months	18 yrs, 8 months	18 yrs		17 yrs	17 yrs, 8 months	17.5 yrs	17 yrs	
Entry Requirements	Time completion	12 months, Class 7L ²	12 months, Class 7	9 months, Class 7 ³	9 months, Class 5L ⁴	12 months, Class G1 ⁵	12 months, Class 5 (Learner) ⁶	4 months, Class 7 (Level 1) ⁷	6 months, Class 7 ⁸	Varies ⁹	12 months, Class 5 (Level I) ¹⁰	6 months, Class 7 ¹¹	12 months, Class 7 ¹²	
	Pass test / course	Class 7 road test	Alberta standard road test	Class 5 road test	Class 5 road test	Class G1 road test	Class 5 road test (75%)	Class 7 (Level 1) road test	Class 5 road test	Class 5 road test	Class 5 road test	Class 5 road test	Practical road test	
	Parental consent, age applied						Yes, >18 yrs	Yes, >18 yrs						
Exit Requirements	Time completion	24 months, Class 7N ¹³	24 months, Class 5	6 months, Class 5 (Novice 1) ¹⁴	15 months, Class 5I	12 months, Class G2	24 months or until age 25, Class 5 (Novice)	12 months, Class 7 (Level 2) ¹⁵	24 months, Class 5N	12 months, Class 5 (Stage 2)	12 months, Class 5 (Level II)	18 months, Class 5	12 months, Class 5P ¹⁶	
	Pass test / course	Class 5 road test	Advanced road test			Class G2 road test			Defensive driving course ¹⁷					
Stage Duration	Minimum duration	18 months	24 months	6 months	15 months	12 months	24 months, or until age 25	12 months ¹⁸	24 months	12 months	12 months	18 months	12 months	
	Maximum holding period	No limit ¹⁹				12 months ²⁰		20 months						

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Supervisory Driver	Age	25+										20		
	Licence held	Valid Class 1-5			Full	Full Class G		Full		Full	Full	Full		
	Time licensed					4 years		2 years		4 yrs	4 yrs			
	BAC level while supervising							≤0.08		≤0.05	≤0.05			
	Driver log													
	Location while supervising				See passenger restrictions	Beside driver			Beside driver			Beside driver		
Supervised Driving	Minimum amount													
Driver Restrictions and Conditions	BAC level while driving	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	Zero	
	Night driving				See passenger restrictions				12am-5am ²¹	1am-5am ²²	12am-5am ²³	12am-5am ²⁴		
	Passenger restrictions	Yes ²⁵	Yes ²⁶	Yes ²⁷	Yes ²⁸	Yes ²⁹			Yes ³⁰	Yes ³¹	Yes ³²	Yes ³³	Yes ³⁴	
	Road restrictions													
	Display "N" sign/plate	Yes								Yes ³⁵				
	Other restrictions									Yes ³⁶				

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Suspensions / Prohibitions	Lower driver penalty point threshold	2-6 instead of 15-19	7 instead of 14			9 instead of 15	4 instead of 15	4 instead of 10 ³⁷	6 instead of 12	6	6 instead of 12	7 instead of 15	6 instead of 15	
	Suspensions	Yes ³⁸	Yes ³⁹	Incident-based	Yes ⁴⁰	Yes ⁴¹	Yes ⁴²	Yes ⁴³	Yes ⁴⁴	Yes ⁴⁵	Yes ⁴⁶	Yes ⁴⁷	Yes ⁴⁸	
Driver Improvement Actions			Yes ⁴⁹	Yes ⁵⁰	Yes ⁵¹	Yes ⁵²					Yes ⁵³			
Additional GDL features			Yes ⁵⁴	Yes ⁵⁵	Yes ⁵⁶	Yes ⁵⁷	Yes ⁵⁸		Yes ⁵⁹	Yes ⁶⁰	Yes ⁶¹	Yes ⁶²	Yes ⁶³	

¹ 16-24 years (a probationary licence is not required for those 25+ years)

² Held a Class 7L Learner licence for 12 months without interruption

³ Held a Class 7 Learner licence for 9 months without suspensions

⁴ Held a Class 5L licence for at least 9 months without suspensions

⁵ Held a Class G1 licence for 12 months (or 8 months if driver education course was completed)

⁶ Held a Class 5 Learner licence for 12 months (or 8 months if a practical course was completed)

⁷ 12 months (can be reduced to 4 months if an approved driver education course is passed)

⁸ Held a Class 7 licence for 6 months, or 3 if a driver education course was completed

⁹ Applicants who received their Instruction Permit after March 31, 2007 must wait 1 year before they have their first road test, or if enrolled in a driver education program, 275 days; applicants who received their Instruction Permit before April 1, 2007 have a minimum waiting period before their first road test of 180 days under the old Novice Driver Program rules

¹⁰ 12 months, may be reduced to 8 months if an approved driver education course is passed

¹¹ Held a Class 7 Learner licence for 1 year or 6 continuous months

¹² Hold a Class 7 licence for 12 months, suspension-free

¹³ Held a Class 7 licence for 24 consecutive months without a driving prohibition - reduced by 6 months if an approved driver education course is successfully completed in the learner stage and drivers have no violations (tickets) or at-fault crashes (found to be 50% or more at fault) for the first 18 months of the Novice stage

¹⁴ Hold Novice 1 licence for 6 months without interruptions (i.e. suspension)

¹⁵ 12 months (20 months if driver has successfully completed a driver training course and entered Level 2 after 4 months)

¹⁶ Hold a Class 5P licence for 12 months suspension free

¹⁷ 6 hour Defensive Driving course or complete the full Driver Training Course (25 hours theory, 10 hours driving time)

¹⁸ 12 months (20 months if driver has successfully completed a driver training course and entered Level 2 after 4 months)

¹⁹ No limit (5 year licence, can be renewed without re-qualifying (re-testing) for licence)

²⁰ This period can be extended through driver improvement action. Maximum extension is 200 days at a hearing. Should there be subsequent hearings, a further extension can be imposed at each hearing (max of 200 days per hearing)

²¹ Learners can apply for an exemption from the night time driving curfew for employment purposes, and if granted, the driver must take the most direct route to and from work

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- ²² Stage 2 drivers may apply for an exemption from the driving curfew for work purposes; and may also operate a motor vehicle between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. if they are accompanied by a licensed driver who has held a Driver's Licence for at least 4 years, and does not have a BAC level of .05 or more; this does not apply to individuals who are 21 years of age or older
- ²³ Must be accompanied by a licensed driver with 4 years driving experience if driving between midnight and 5 a.m.; there is an exemption for work purposes and the Novice Driver must produce proof of working hours upon request of a peace officer
- ²⁴ If driving between midnight and 5 a.m., must be accompanied by a qualified co-driver
- ²⁵ Limit of 1 passenger, unless accompanied by a supervisor who is 25 years or older with a valid Class 1-5 licence (immediate family allowed with no supervisor)
- ²⁶ No more passengers than seatbelts
- ²⁷ Limited to number of working seatbelts, only one passenger can be a non-immediate family member, other passengers must be immediate family member
- ²⁸ From 5 a.m. to midnight – one passenger in the front seat, up to the number of functioning seatbelts in the back seat(s); from midnight to 5 a.m. – either one passenger, or when accompanied by a qualified supervising driver in the front seat, additional passengers up to the number of functioning seatbelts in the back seat(s)
- ²⁹ Ensure the number of passengers in the vehicle is limited to the number of working seat belts; initially, G2 drivers 19 or under can carry only one passenger aged 19 or under; after the first six months, and until the G2 driver earns a full G licence or turns 20, they can carry only three passengers aged 19 or under. The passenger restrictions do not apply if the G2 driver is operating a motor vehicle after 5 a.m. and before midnight; these restrictions will not apply if the G2 driver is accompanied by a full "G" licensed driver (with at least 4 years driving experience) in the front seat, or if the passengers are immediate family members.
- ³⁰ Only one front seat passenger; rear passengers limited to the number of available seat belts
- ³¹ Only one non-family member as a passenger; the other passengers must be members of the Stage 2 driver's immediate* family
- ³² The number of passengers in vehicle are restricted to the number of seat belts
- ³³ No more than one passenger who is under 13 years of age; no combination of passengers that includes more than one passenger under 13 years of age and more than passenger who is over 12 but under 20 years of age, unless there is a passenger in the vehicle who is at least 20 years of age and whose ability to supervise the younger passengers is not impaired by alcohol or drugs; no more passengers than there are seatbelts; no passengers in a box of a truck being operated by a novice driver
- ³⁴ No more than one passenger in the front seat and no more passengers than seat belts
- ³⁵ Stage 2 drivers are required to have a Graduated Decal displayed on any motor vehicle they operate; drivers will receive this decal at the time their photo is taken for their Class 5 driver's licence
- ³⁶ No Stage 2 driver shall use a hand-held cellular telephone, headphones, mp3 player or any other hand-held electronic device while operating or having care and control of a motor vehicle
- ³⁷ Drivers start with 4 points on their driving record and they receive an additional 2 points on the anniversary date of their first licence to a maximum of 10 points
- ³⁸ General rules - four penalty points (usually 2 tickets) leads to a 1-month prohibition. More points could lead to a longer prohibition; minimum penalty for violating GLP restrictions: a fine of \$109 plus 3 driver penalty points; violation of the zero BAC limit: 1) An immediate 12-hour suspension and 2) a 1 month driving prohibition (first violation) or 3) extended prohibition for repeat violations; drivers in GLP are also subject to the regular penalties that apply to all drivers.
- ³⁹ 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 results in a 30-day licence suspension; violation of the passenger restrictions results in a \$100 fine and two demerit points on their licence. Novice must have no licence suspensions during the last year of this stage.
- ⁴⁰ See SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION section for Class 5I drivers in MB GDL profile
- ⁴¹ If Class G1/G2 drivers get 2 or more demerit points, they will be sent a warning letter; at 6 points, they may have to go to an interview to discuss their record and give reasons why their licence should not be suspended; if they do not attend the interview, their licence may be suspended; at 9 points, their licence will be suspended for 60 days from the date they surrender it to the Ministry of Transportation; they can lose their licence for up to 2 years if they fail to surrender their licence
- ⁴² See SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION section for Class 5 Learner licence in QC GDL profile
- ⁴³ If the driver in the GDL program is suspended for a period of 3 months or greater, the suspension is followed by a return to the beginning of the GDL period with no credit given for previously passed tests or driver training actions
- ⁴⁴ Suspension will delay your ability to take the road test and more
- ⁴⁵ See SUSPENSION/PROHIBITION section for Class 5 Stage 2 of PEI GDL profile
- ⁴⁶ Licence suspensions are issued at 6 demerit points accumulated over two years, the suspension periods are: 2 months for 1st offence; 4 months for 2nd offence; and 6 months for 3rd offence. Violation of zero-BAC restriction: roadside suspensions issued by the police for exceeding 0 mg% BAC, beginning immediately upon issuance of the notice by the officer; two

suspensions will require the Novice Driver to complete an Alcohol Education Program; three or more suspensions will require the Novice Driver to undergo an alcohol dependency evaluation/treatment program

⁴⁷ See SUSPENSIONS/PROHIBITION section for Class 5 licences in YK's GDL profile

⁴⁸ With an accumulation of 6 or more demerit points, the Registrar shall suspend the driver's licence

⁴⁹ Voluntary – Defensive Driving Course (3 demerit reduction)

⁵⁰ Drivers in any stage who are found at fault for a collision, or who receive traffic convictions, will be placed in the *Graduated Driver's Licensing Improvement Program*. See SK's GDL profile for details.

⁵¹ See MB GDL profile for details on MB's *Driver Improvement and Control program*

⁵² Novice driver program is three-tiered: 1st intervention – Novice Warning letter; 2nd intervention – Novice Driver Course; 3rd intervention – Novice Driver Hearing

⁵³ "Responsible Drivers Workshop", see NL GDL profile for details

⁵⁴ Cannot serve as an accompanying driver; cannot upgrade to a commercial licence or school bus endorsement

⁵⁵ Cannot be a supervising driver; cannot obtain a commercial driver's licence or school bus endorsement

⁵⁶ Novice drivers may: tow vehicles; operate a Class 3 motor vehicle registered as a farm truck; operate off-road vehicles along or across a highway; apply for authorized instruction in licence Classes 1-4 if 18+ years of age and meet the vision/medical standards; novice drivers are only required to complete the novice stage once.; credit for time served in the novice stage in Class 5 will be given for the novice stage in Class 6 and vice versa

⁵⁷ May take instruction for Class 1-4 licences if at least 18 and meets medical standards

⁵⁸ Cannot not 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

⁵⁹ No upgrade to Classes 1-4 while in Novice stage

⁶⁰ No driver may apply for a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4 driver's Licence until they have successfully completed the GDL Program

⁶¹ See NL GDL profile for details

⁶² May drive a vehicle equipped to carry not more than 7 persons, including the driver, with a registered gross vehicle weight not to exceed 4000kg

⁶³ No upgrading to a commercial licence (Classes 1, 2, 3 or 4); cannot serve as an accompanying driver to a learner