



Highway Transportation System & Graduated Driver Licensing Law

Purpose of the Highway Transportation System (HTS)

- The purpose of the HTS is to move goods and people as efficiently, economically and safely as possible from one place to another.
- Efforts are continually being made to improve the environment of the HTS, the vehicles that are on the HTS, and the users of the HTS.

What makes up the HTS?

- Roadways
- Vehicles
- Road Users



Learning Activity

- Name the different kinds of roadways that we travel on. Then list the environments that these roadways are in.
- Name the different vehicles on the HTS.
- Name the different users of the HTS.

What makes up the HTS?

- Roadways

The US has 3.9 million miles of roadway, of which 3 million miles are rural roads. The Interstate system accounts for only 1.2% of total mileage but carries 23.8% of total travel.²

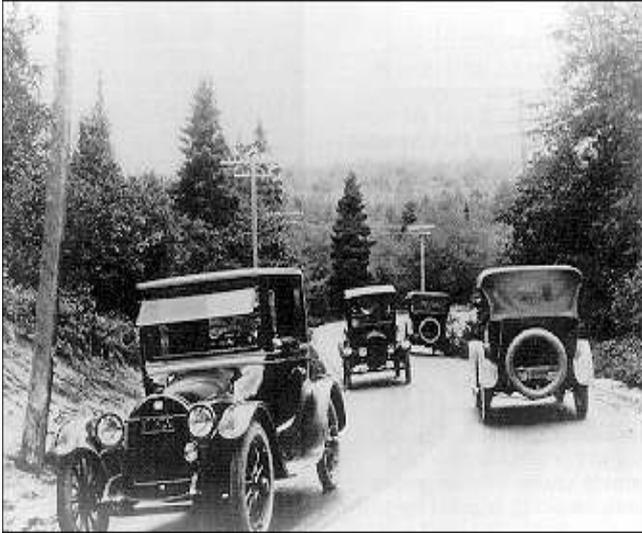
- Vehicles

There are 272 million vehicles on US roads.³

- Road Users

225 million licensed drivers in addition to those using public transport, cyclists, pedestrians.³

HTS-Roadway Improvements



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- Standardization of traffic controls and laws
- Construction of limited access roads like highways



HTS-Vehicle Improvements

- Vehicle safety devices and systems have improved over time, reducing the risk of injury and death.
- Can you name some of these devices and systems?

HTS-Improvements for Users

- Licensing procedures
 - Introduction of Graduated Driver Licensing Law
 - Special Class Licenses
- Development of Driver Safety Programs (1950's)
- Stricter legislation regarding driving behaviors

HTS Regulations

Federal, state, and local government agencies work together to regulate HTS

Example:

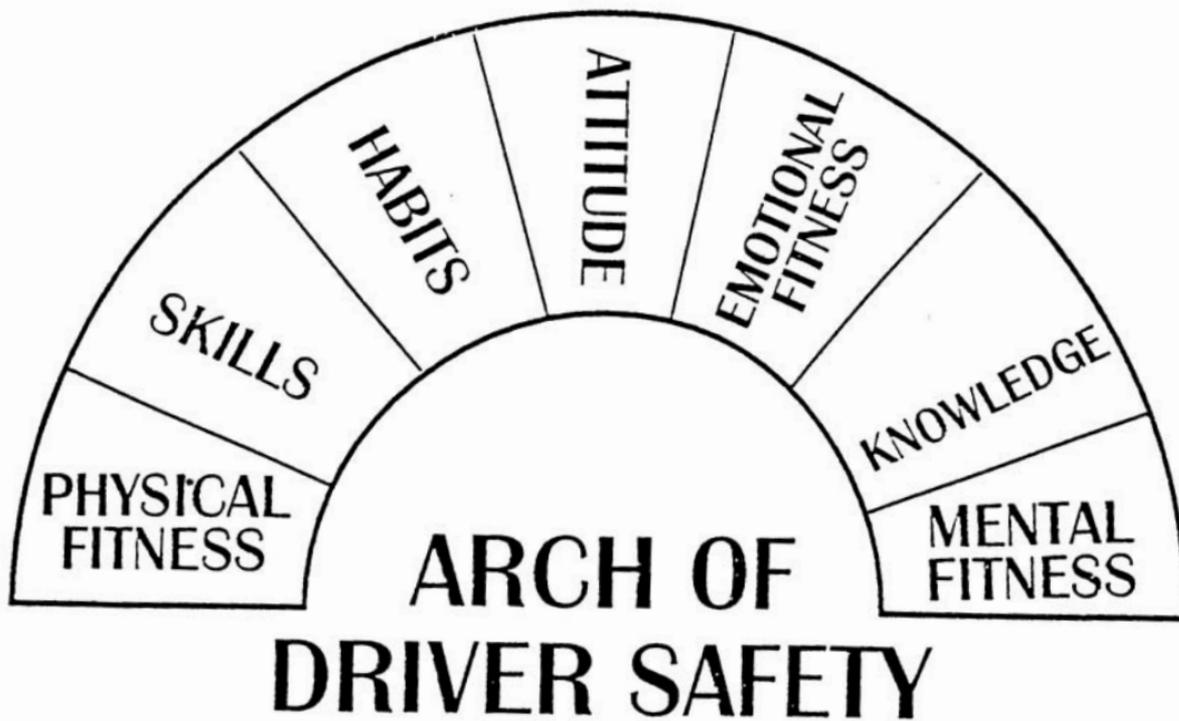
- The National Highway Safety Act sets guidelines about vehicle registration, driver licensing, traffic laws, traffic courts, highway construction and maintenance
- State statutes or laws informed by these guidelines
- Laws enforced by state and local law enforcement agencies

Driving is Based on Trust

- You expect others to know the “Rules of the Road”
- Trust that you can predict the actions of others
- Trust that other people can predict what you will do
- Knowing the “Rules of the Road” allows you to best predict the actions of others

You are the most important part of the HTS

- You can't control many things like weather or breakdowns in the HTS. You can't control the condition of other drivers, their actions, and the condition of other vehicles.
- However, **you can control your actions** and **your reaction to situations** presented in the HTS.





Class Discussion

- What does it mean to mean to be physically fit to drive?
- What does it mean to be emotionally fit to drive?
- Can you be emotionally or physically fit to drive sometimes and not others?



Class Discussion

- How does a driver's attitude affect their driving?
- What are some skills a person must have to drive safely?
- How do habits affect driving?

The Responsibilities of Driving

- Ensuring vehicle is in good condition
- Knowledge of rules and regulations for operating a motor vehicle
- Anticipating the actions of others using proper visual skills
- Managing space around vehicle and properly adjusting and adapting

The Responsibilities of Driving

- Respect for other road users in the HTS
- Driver and passenger protection – seat belts, headlights, passive and active restraints
- Physical and mental condition of driver
- Dedication to improve and increase driving skills and processes

The Risks of Driving

What is risk?

- The chance of injury, death, or property damage to you or others from a vehicle collision
- Risk is ALWAYS present when you drive

How do we assess risk?

- By anticipating and evaluating the actions and conditions of other users of the HTS, the environment, and condition/design of the roads

How do we manage risk?

- By making adjustments in steering, braking, and speed; avoiding distraction and impairment

Sources of Risk in HTS

- Driver Contributed

Examples: inexperience, distraction, fatigue, impairment

- Vehicle Contributed

Examples: broken tail light, bald tires, headlight out

- Roadway Contributed

Examples: heavy traffic, pot holes, traffic light not functioning

Determine whether the following risk factors are Driver Contributed (D), Vehicle Contributed (V), or Roadway Contributed (R)

D Angry

V Broken Fan Belt

D Talking to Passengers

R Narrow Bridge

R School Zone

V Broken Windshield

D Speeding

R Loose Gravel

V Worn Shocks

V Tire Blowout

D Swerved Over Center Line

V Broken Power Steering Belt

D Drinking and Driving

R No Painted Lane Lines

R Traffic Jam

D Using Cell Phone

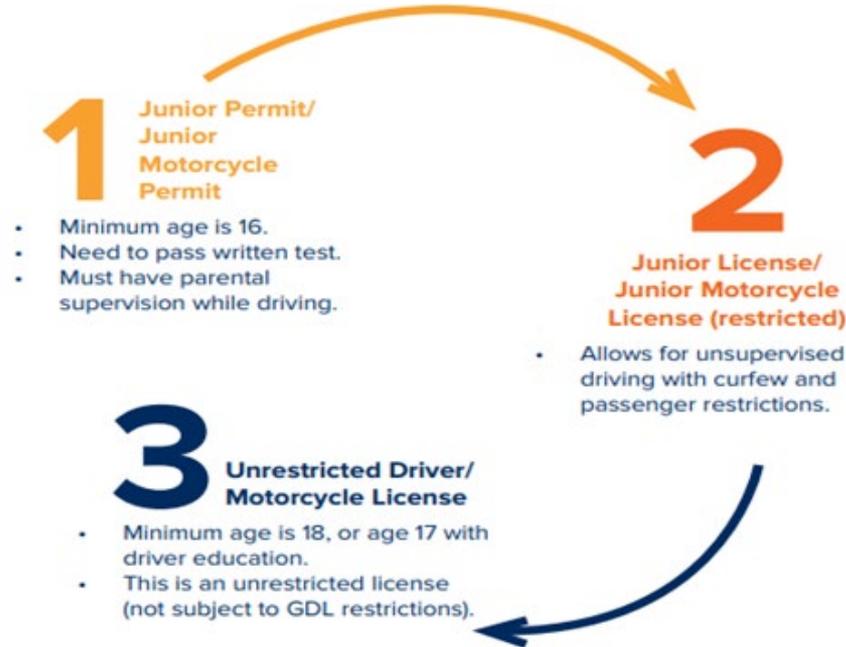
V Stuck Accelerator

D Improper Lane Position

R T-Intersection

D Competitive Behavior

Phases of Licensing for Young Drivers in NYS



Graduated License Law Restrictions

The restrictions depend on:

- whether you have a junior learner permit or junior driver license;
- where and when you will be driving in New York State.

If you do not comply with these restrictions, your junior learner permit or junior driver license could be suspended or revoked for 60 days.

Where Will You Be Driving?

Restrictions will vary depending on which of the three following geographic regions you drive in:

- Upstate New York (defined as any county north of the NYC border)
- New York City (defined by the five Boroughs)
- Long Island (defined as Nassau and Suffolk Counties)



Learn More

Review the applicable version(s) of the New York State Department of Health's A Brief Overview of New York State Graduated Driver Licensing Law (GDL) for more information:

- [Upstate New York](#)
- [New York City](#)
- [Long Island](#)



Junior Permit to Junior License

To move from a permit to a junior license you must:

- Hold junior permit for a minimum of 6 months
- Take a pre-licensing course or driver education course
- Complete **at least** 50 hours of parent supervised driving, with 15 hours after sunset
- Complete a MV-262 (Certification of Supervised Driving)
- Schedule and pass the road test

Recommended Hours of Driving

It is recommended that at least 10 hours of the supervised practice be in moderate to heavy traffic.

Supervised practice should occur in a variety driving environments and weather conditions.

Junior License to Unrestricted License

Under 18

If you are 17, you are eligible for unrestricted license (Class D or M) if you have a junior driver license or limited junior driver license and have completed a state-approved high school or college driver education course.

- To change your junior license to a senior license, bring your junior license and the Student Certificate of Completion (MV-285) that you received from your instructor to any [DMV office](#).
- You must return your certificate and junior license to receive the senior license. Otherwise you will still be considered a junior license holder and subject to GDL restrictions.

Junior License (Restricted) to Unrestricted License

- A full unrestricted license will be sent in the mail to anyone holding a junior license after their 18th birthday



Review

- What is the purpose of the HTS?
To move goods and people efficiently,
economically and safely from one place to
another.
- What are the three components of the HTS?
Roadways, Vehicles, Users

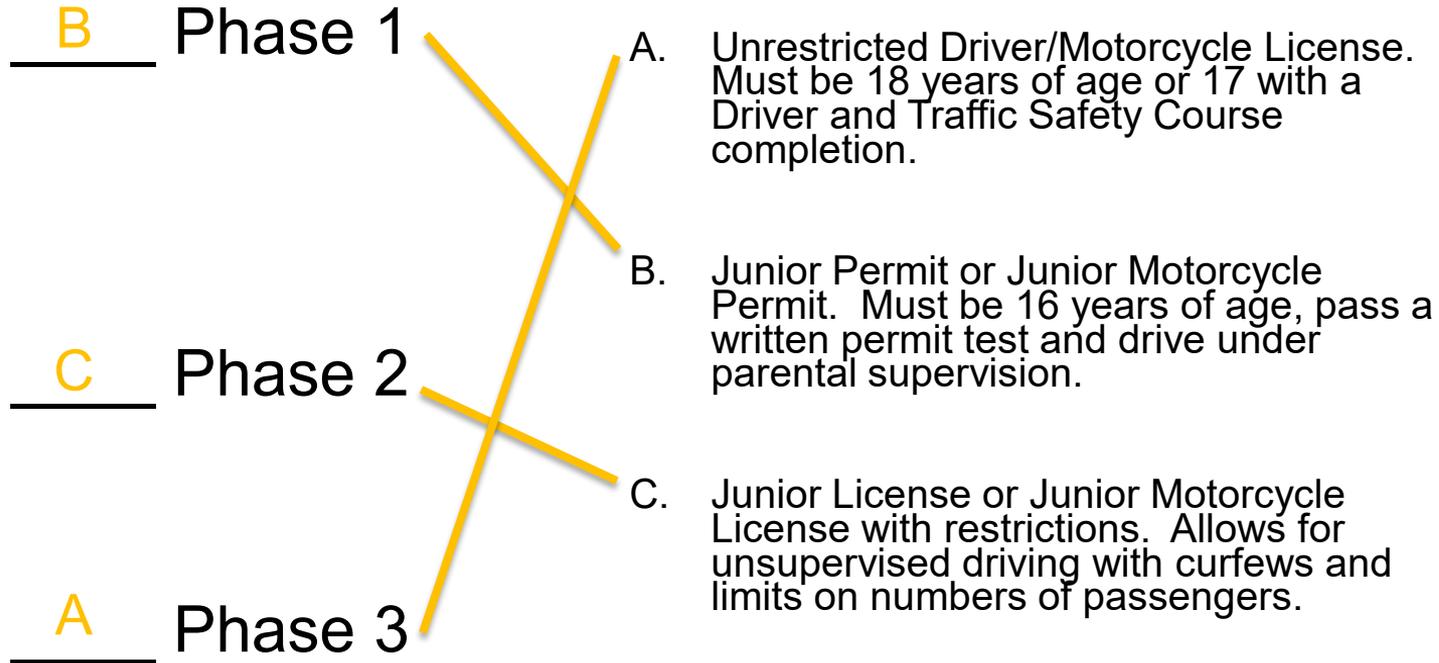


Review

- How has New York State managed the risk of young drivers entering the HTS?

New York State has managed the risk of young drivers entering the HTS by implementing the Graduated Driver Licensing Law, which is designed to prevent crashes by helping young drivers gradually and safely build their skills behind the wheel by progressing through a series of licensing stages.

Review





Review

- What are the three types of risk factors present in the HTS?

Driver, Vehicle, Roadway

- How can your attitude effect driving?

Your attitude can affect your driving by changing the way you assess risk and make driving decisions. For example, strong emotions such as anger, can affect your ability to make good decisions, increasing the chances that you may make a mistake.

References

1. Federal Highway Administration. HEPGIS Maps-National Highway System. <https://hepgis.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwagis/>
2. Federal Highway Administration Research and Technology. Public Roads., Vol 60 No 1. From 1916 to 1939: The Federal-State Partnership at Work. <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/publicroads/96summer/p96su7.cfm>
3. Federal Highway Administration. Highway Statistics 2017. Chart DV-IC: Licensed Drivers, Vehicle Registrations, and Resident Population (In Millions). <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics/2017/dv1c.cfm>
4. New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Pre-Licensing Course Instructor's Manual, Unit II The Task of Driving Within the Highway Transportation System, pg. 24. <https://dmv.ny.gov/forms/mv277.pdf>