



### NEVADA YOUNG DRIVER LAWS

#### NRS 483.2521 - 483.280

Drivers who are 16 or 17 years of age are required to complete a course in automobile driver education or a course provided by a school for training drivers; log 50 supervised hours of driving with a learner's permit, 10 hours of which must be driving at night; have not been convicted of a traffic violation or been responsible for a crash for 6 months prior; and hold an instructional permit for at least 6 months. Drivers who are 16 or 17 years of age have restrictions on transporting certain passengers under 18 years of age.

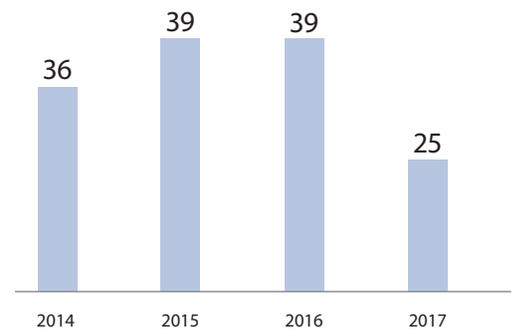
#### NRS 483.2521

Statute requires driver training and an instructional permit only when a driver is under the age of 18. The trend for Nevada young drivers is to delay the application process until 18 years of age to apply for a drivers license. Young drivers, who delay the application process, circumvent all GDL laws, and only need to pass a written and driving test without any formal driver training.

#### NRS 484B.165

Young drivers have no additional requirements for cell while driving: using a handheld wireless communications device to type or enter text, send or read data, engage in nonvoice communication or engage in voice communications without use of hands-free device unlawful.

Current law in Nevada requires those seeking a driver's license under the age of 18 must enter a graduated driver's license program. While the truth of the matter is, too many young drivers aged 15 – 20 are dying on Nevada roads.



### FATALITIES AMONG YOUNG DRIVERS IN NEVADA

# WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR NEVADA?

Young drivers lack experience on the road and often don't realize how dangerous certain driving behaviors, like improper seat belt use, can be.



There is only 80% observed seat belt use among 16 to 24-year-olds—the lowest of any age group



Over 50% of young people involved in fatal crashes were unbuckled

Distracted or inattentive driving has become a national epidemic, and young drivers are at the greatest risk. Currently 38 States ban all cell phone use for GDL drivers. Nevada isn't numbered among them.



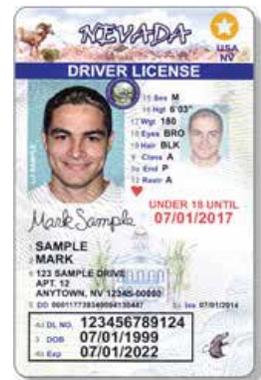
Teens have the highest crash risk of any age group, and research confirms that distraction is often a factor



Current Nevada GDL laws do not specifically ban all cell phone use for drivers less than 18 years of age

## SHOULD NEVADA CHANGE ITS GDL LAWS?

GDL systems are intended to gradually increase the exposure of new drivers to more complex driving situations in as safe a manner as possible. New drivers are not just 16 or 17 years old, they're every age. With troubling national trends recently highlighted in the Governors Highway Safety Association report "Mission Not Accomplished: Teen Safe Driving, the Next Chapter" it is clear that focus must be placed on new drivers not just teens. This data revealed that older teen drivers (18-20), were involved in 12% more fatal car crashes when compared to younger teen drivers (15-18). We believe this upward trend is the result of teens waiting until they are 18 to get their license, and bypassing the GDL laws. By updating some of our laws, we can make sure that every driver who gets behind the wheel is educated and trained to avoid any behavior that could put their life at risk, including young drivers.



To save more lives on Nevada roads, there are three options we can consider:

- 1 Change NRS 484B.165 to restrict all cell phone use, including hands-free devices, for drivers less than 18 years of age.
- 2 Amend NRS 484D.495 to include seat belt usage for young drivers and their passengers as a condition for continued licensure within Nevada's graduated driver licensing system.
- 3 Remove the age restriction to current GDL laws, thereby requiring all new drivers to obtain practical driving experience in a lower risk situation.

For more information contact:

State of Nevada | Department of Public Safety | Office of Traffic Safety  
T: 775.684.7470 | E: tsafety@dps.state.nv.us