MINNESOTA IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE PROGRAM GUIDELINES
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Minnesota Ignition Interlock Device Program Guidelines

Scope

The purpose of this document is to establish program guidelines pursuant to Minnesota Statute section 171.306 subd. 3 for participation in the Minnesota Ignition Interlock Device Program. These program guidelines do not apply to any probation or court requirements, nor is the State involved in any agreements with probation and/or the courts regarding use of the ignition interlock device. The Minnesota Ignition Interlock Device Program is administered by the Department of Public Safety (Department) Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS). The State reserves the right to change these guidelines as necessary.

What is the Ignition Interlock Device Program

Effective July 1st, 2011, first time alcohol offenders with a 0.16 BAC or above and all second time offenders have the option of regaining their driving privilege back sooner if they enroll in the ignition interlock device program and receive a restricted\(^1\) driver’s license. No limited\(^2\) licenses will be issued for these offenders. Drivers canceled and denied as inimical to public safety are required to enroll in the ignition interlock device program to get their driving privilege back. During that time, abstinence must be verified by use of the ignition interlock device.

What is an ignition interlock? An ignition interlock is a small device that is installed in a vehicle to measure an individual’s alcohol concentration level. The device is installed near the steering wheel and connected to the engine. When a person blows into the device his/her alcohol concentration level is detected. If the individual has been drinking and tries to start the vehicle, the vehicle will not start. The device is also designed to collect random breath samples while the vehicle is being driven. When the person is driving, the device signals with a beep for the driver to breathe into it. If any alcohol is detected during a breath sample, the device will record the violation and DVS will be notified.

The length of time a participant must be on the ignition interlock device program depends on the number of prior offenses on the driving record and the length of time the participant has lost their driving privilege. This time period can be extended for any additional ignition interlock violations.

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\(^1\) A restricted license allows a person to only drive a vehicle equipped with ignition interlock with the exception of some employer-owned vehicles.

\(^2\) A limited license is a paper license that is issued while driving privileges are revoked. Limited licenses allow driving to work, school and abstinence-based support programs.
A person whose driving privilege has been revoked may choose to enroll in the ignition interlock device program. The time on the program is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restricted License with Ignition Interlock*</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Alcohol Offense</td>
<td>Second Alcohol Offense in 10 Years or Third Alcohol Offense on Record (Revoked)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 0.16</td>
<td>90 days/180 days if under age 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.16 or over</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test refusal</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Time may be extended for violations; last 90 days must have no failed tests recorded on device

A person whose driving privilege has been canceled and denied as inimical to public safety is required to enroll in the ignition interlock device program in order to get their driving privilege back. The time on the program is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canceled and Denied as Inimical to Public Safety*</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Third Alcohol Offense in 10 Years or Fourth on Record</td>
<td>3 years (1 year with a limited license and 2 years with a restricted license)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Alcohol Offense in 10 Years</td>
<td>4 years (1 year with a limited license and 3 years with a restricted license)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth or Subsequent Alcohol Offense</td>
<td>6 years (1 year with a limited license and 5 years with a restricted license)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Time may be extended for violations

**Enrollment Procedures**

Individuals that have had their driver’s license revoked under Minnesota Chapter 169A for an impaired driving incident or canceled under Minnesota Statute section 171.04 subd. 1, clause (10) may apply for the ignition interlock device program if they meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Must be at least 18 years old and in possession of a driver’s license.
- ✓ Own/drive a vehicle with valid insurance. The device can be installed on cars, pickup trucks and vans that can be operated with a Class D license requiring no further endorsements. It cannot be installed on rental vehicles, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, mopeds or scooters.
- ✓ Have no outstanding withdrawals which would prohibit the issuance of a limited license or full license.
Must have no existing withdrawal in any other state.

If driving privilege was revoked prior to age 18, must not be subject to Vanessa’s Law.

Individuals that qualify and decide to enroll in the ignition interlock device program should first complete the following steps.

- Pass the DWI knowledge test.
- Pay the $680 reinstatement fee and retain the receipt.
- Apply for a new class D driver’s license, pay the application fee and retain the receipt. Any CDL class holders must submit a signed statement to drop to a class D driver’s license.
- Satisfy all requirements for any prior withdrawals.

After completing the requirements above, the application process may begin. To enroll, gather the following application materials.

**For Persons Revoked – First Alcohol Offense, Second Alcohol Offense in 10 Years, or Third Alcohol Offense on Record**

- Sign and date the Ignition Interlock Participation Agreement.
- Submit a Certificate of Insurance for the vehicle(s) to be equipped with the ignition interlock device that is non-cancelable for a period not to exceed 12 months. The Certificate of Insurance must note the name of the participant, if he/she is not the registered owner.
- Submit a copy of the reinstatement fee receipt.
- Submit a copy of the driver’s license application fee receipt.
- If required, submit a Special Review Awareness form.

**For Persons Canceled and Denied as Inimical to Public Safety**

- Sign and date the Ignition Interlock Participation Agreement.
- Sign and date the Application for Ignition Interlock Limited License.
- Complete a chemical use assessment and if needed, enroll in a treatment or other program. The treatment center, the assessor, or the alcohol and drug counselor must fax the assessment and/or proof of enrollment directly to DVS at (651) 797-1738.
- Sign and date the Last Use Statement.
- Submit a Certificate of Insurance for the vehicle(s) to be equipped with the ignition interlock device that is non-cancelable for a period not to exceed 12 months. The Certificate of Insurance must note the name of the participant, if he/she is not the registered owner.
- Submit a copy of the reinstatement fee receipt.
- Submit a copy of the driver’s license application fee receipt.
The VIN of the vehicle(s) equipped with the ignition interlock device MUST match the VIN on the Certificate of Insurance.

Application materials can be found on the DPS website at [http://dvs.dps.mn.gov](http://dvs.dps.mn.gov) or by calling (651) 296-2948. Submit application materials to:

Mail: Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services Ignition Interlock Unit, Suite 177 445 Minnesota St. St. Paul, MN  55101
Fax: (651) 797-1299
E-mail: dvs.ii@state.mn.us
Drop off: Visit [http://dvs.dps.mn.gov](http://dvs.dps.mn.gov) for a list of exam locations.

**Installation of the ignition interlock device**

Please Note: While the device may be installed at any time during the process, a participant CANNOT drive until receiving a limited or restricted driver’s license. In addition, time on the program begins when the license is issued, not when the device is installed. If the application is ineligible or incomplete, there is no credit for installing the device. All fees associated with this program are the responsibility of the participant.

After successfully submitting all application materials, DVS will send a letter authorizing the installation of the ignition interlock device. With this authorization:

- Select an ignition interlock provider from the following list. The following providers have been certified by the Department. The Department does not regulate cost. Each provider will be able to answer questions regarding cost and location.

  - LifeSafer Interlock, Inc.
    - [http://www.lifesafecom](http://www.lifesafecom)
    - Ph: (800) 745-0331
  - Draeger Safety Diagnostics, Inc.
    - [http://www.dsdi-interlock.com](http://www.dsdi-interlock.com)
    - Ph: (800) 332-6858
  - 1A Smart Start
    - [http://www.smartstartmn.com](http://www.smartstartmn.com)
    - Ph: (952) 224-7050
  - Consumer Safety Technology, Inc.
    - [http://www.intoxalock.com](http://www.intoxalock.com)
    - Ph: (877) 777-5020
  - B.E.S.T. Labs, Inc.
    - [http://www.1callinterlock.com](http://www.1callinterlock.com)
    - Ph: (855) 800-3748
  - Guardian Interlock
    - [http://www.guardianinterlock.com](http://www.guardianinterlock.com)
    - Ph: (800) 499-0994

- Set up an appointment with an ignition interlock service provider. The participant must have someone drive them to the appointment. *The participant can only drive a vehicle equipped with the ignition interlock device and may not drive until receiving a limited or restricted license.*
The service provider will install the ignition interlock device on the vehicle(s).

During the installation appointment, the service provider will provide training on how to use the device. Other persons who may be driving the vehicle(s) such as a spouse, etc. should attend the training session. **Anyone driving the vehicle(s) will be required to blow into the ignition interlock device.**

Once the ignition interlock device has been installed, DVS will issue the participant’s limited or restricted license. A participant can check their driving status by visiting [www.mndriveinfo.org](http://www.mndriveinfo.org). However, a person on a limited status cannot drive until the limited license is in their possession.

The length of time required on the ignition interlock officially begins on the day the limited or restricted license is issued.

**Remember** – A participant can only drive once the ignition interlock device is installed AND the license has been issued.

### Scheduled Service and Monitoring Visits

The ignition interlock device records data on the breath tests and any violations, as well as information about how often the vehicle is used. The vehicle(s) must be taken to a service provider for regular service appointments for maintenance, calibration, and downloading of the data. Information from the device is downloaded by a computer program for analysis. The service provider sends a report to DVS with the data. Service appointments are scheduled every 30 days. For a participant who chooses to install a wireless ignition interlock device, service appointments are every 60 days.

During the service appointments:

- Data will be downloaded from the ignition interlock device. Action may be taken by the Department on breath samples of 0.02 or greater. Wireless devices will send data to the Department daily.

- The device will be checked for signs of tampering, circumventing or otherwise misusing the ignition interlock device. Any suspected violation will be evaluated by the Department and sanctions may be imposed.

- A calibration check will be performed to verify the device is working as intended and the device will be recalibrated.
In addition, there may be times when it is required to visit the service provider before the 30 or 60 days have passed. This is called an early recall. An early recall may happen in the following cases:

a. Two (2) lockouts due to alcohol readings above the startup set point during a 30 day period;
b. Two (2) rolling retest violations of failure to take a test during a 30 day period;
c. One (1) rolling retest violation of a positive alcohol concentration;
d. One (1) event of tampering;
e. One (1) illegal start violation;
f. Any equipment malfunction; or
g. Any other violation of restrictions placed upon the offender.

When the device goes into an early recall, there is a 5 days grace period to return to the service center. After 5 days, the device will enter into a permanent lockout condition and the participant may be required to pay for towing and/or an emergency override code.

**Participation Requirements**

**Verification of abstinence**

If the participant’s driving privilege is revoked:
During the last 90 days on the ignition interlock device program, a person whose driver’s license is revoked must not have any failed breath tests recorded on the device. A failed breath test may extend the end of the program by 90 days from the date of the failed recorded breath test.

If the participant’s driving privilege is canceled and denied:
A person whose driving privilege is canceled and denied must not have any failed breath tests recorded on the device. A failed breath test will require the participant to reenroll in the program and start their revocation time over.

In addition, a person whose driving privilege is canceled and denied must demonstrate abstinence by regular and consistent use of the ignition interlock device. DVS defines regular and consistent use as evidenced by 30 initial breath tests per month. This does not include rolling retests. If a participant’s license is withdrawn for an unrelated offense during the time on the ignition interlock device program, the participant can continue to meet this requirement by blowing into the device but not driving the car. **Failure to provide 30 initial breath tests per month is a program violation.**
Rolling Retests

A participant is required to submit rolling retests while driving. After blowing into the device and passing the initial test to start the vehicle, the device will require a second random test within 5 to 7 minutes. While driving, the device will continue to require additional rolling retests at random intervals between 15 and 45 minutes for the duration of travel. A warning light or tone will be activated to alert you that a retest is required. A participant will then have 6 minutes to retest.

Use CAUTION when conducting a rolling retest. While it is not difficult to do a rolling retest while driving, DVS encourages participants to find a safe and legal area to pull over to take the rolling retest.

The failure to take a rolling retest is recorded and will activate an audible signal inside the vehicle. Failure to take 2 rolling retests will result in an early recall of the device. Failure to take 3 rolling retests within a 6 month period will result in a program violation.

Changing Vehicles or the Ignition Interlock Device Vendor

If the participant wants or needs to change to a different ignition interlock vendor or needs to switch the device to a different vehicle, it is the participant’s responsibility to notify DVS of these changes and submit a Change of Record form. The Change of Record form can be found on the website at http://dvs.dps.mn.gov. Failure to do so may result in cancelation of driving privileges.

Please remember:
- DVS must receive data from the device every 30 days. A wireless device will transmit data continuously. If DVS does not receive a data report, the participant may be subject to a program violation.
- If the participant switches the device to a different vehicle within the first 12 months on the program, DVS will require a new Certificate of Insurance. The VIN of the vehicle and the VIN on the Certificate of Insurance must match. If the participant is not the registered owner of the vehicle, the Certificate must reference the program participant by name.

Employment Exemption

A participant may drive an employer-owned vehicle not equipped with an ignition interlock device while in the normal course and scope of employment duties. The employer must apply for an employment exemption variance with DVS and provide written consent. The employment exemption variance will not be granted to:
- a participant who is self employed; or
• a participant who wholly or partially owns an entity that owns an employer owned motor vehicle.

A participant, who is granted an employment exemption variance, shall not drive, operate, or be in physical control of any of the following:

• a Type III vehicle within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes 169.011, for transporting children under age 18 or vulnerable adults within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes, section 626.5572, subdivision 21;
• an employer-owned motor vehicle for personal use; or
• a rental car in the normal course and scope of employment duties.

If the participant is subject to license plate impoundment, he/she will be required to display special registration plates on any and all vehicles he/she operates including any employer-owned vehicles. The participant must notify DVS within 15 days of changing or terminating employment.

Limited Licenses

If the participant’s license has been canceled and denied, the participant must be on a limited license for at least one year before receiving a restricted license on ignition interlock. A limited license is a paper license that is issued to a person while their driving privilege is withdrawn. A description of the limitations can be found on the Application for Ignition Interlock Limited License. In addition, a program participant may also drive to and from a service provider for ignition interlock servicing and calibration.

The participant must be on a limited license status for a minimum of one year with no violations. Treatment or other programs (if applicable) must be completed in order to be eligible for the restricted driver’s license. If the participant has been on a limited license for a minimum of one year but is still attending treatment or other programs, the participant must remain on the limited license until treatment or other programs are completed. Once complete, the treatment center, assessor, or alcohol and drug counselor must fax verification of successful completion of treatment or other programs directly to DVS at (651) 797-1738. If no treatment was necessary, a chemical use assessment stating that treatment was not required must be on record at DVS. After reviewing the verification of successful completion of treatment or other programs and the participant’s monitoring reports, a restricted driver’s license will be issued.

Service and Monitoring Fees

The participant is responsible for all costs associated with participation in the ignition interlock device program. Costs are set by the ignition interlock provider. The State of Minnesota does not charge any program fees to the participant, nor does it collect any fees from the ignition interlock provider. The participant must still pay fees associated with reinstatement of the driver’s license.
A participant may qualify for reduced fees associated with the service and monitoring of the ignition interlock device. To apply for reduced service and monitoring fees, the participant must complete the Reduced Fee for Ignition Interlock Service and Monitoring form. After DVS reviews the application, the participant will be notified if he/she is eligible for the reduced service and monitoring fees. An approval letter from DVS can be taken to the service center as proof of eligibility. A participant must reapply yearly for the reduced service and monitoring fees.

**Special Registration Plates**

In the event the participant is subject to license plate impoundment, he/she will be required to display special registration plates on any and all vehicles he/she operates including any employer-owned vehicles. For questions regarding special registration plates, contact the plate impound unit at 651-297-5034.

**Destroyed or Stolen Device**

In the event the device is either destroyed in a car accident or stolen, DVS will allow the participant 7 days to reinstall the device. The participant should notify DVS of the situation as soon as possible.
Violations and Administrative Sanctions

When the participant takes his/her vehicle to a service provider for calibration and/or maintenance appointments, information is downloaded by a computer program for analysis. This allows DVS program staff to monitor violations.

Below is a table of violations and the administrative sanctions that apply to each violation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Number of Offense</th>
<th>Administrative Sanction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Tampering, circumventing or bypassing the device or attempting to tamper, circumvent or bypass the device</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Offense</td>
<td>An additional 180 days added to the revocation period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Operating a vehicle without ignition interlock</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Offense</td>
<td>An additional 1 year added to the most recent revocation period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Violation of the ignition interlock limited license</td>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; and Subsequent Offenses</td>
<td>An additional 545 days added to the most recent revocation period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Failure to provide at least 30 initial breath tests each month (verification of abstinence)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Three (3) failures to take a rolling retest within a six (6) month period</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• An alcohol reading at or greater than .02 with no retest within 35 minutes</td>
<td>Revoked Status</td>
<td>An additional 90 days from the date of the violation (only applies to last 90 days of the program)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• An alcohol reading at or greater than .02 during with a retest</td>
<td></td>
<td>Canceled and Denied Status</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The participant is still subject to all laws pertaining to maintaining their driving privilege. A participant whose driver’s license is withdrawn for more than one year for a non-alcohol related offense will be removed from the ignition interlock device program. After serving the revocation time, the person may reenroll in the ignition interlock device program, but will have to restart their time on the program.

**Administrative Review**

If a participant disagrees with action taken by DVS on a violation, the participant has the right to request an administrative review. The participant may request an administrative review at any time. DVS will review the participant’s driving record only upon written request. The written request must include the participant’s name, date of birth, driver’s license number, and signature. In addition, the request must include a detailed explanation of the incident including any additional information that will assist DVS in making a decision. All administrative review decisions are final.

**Completion of the Ignition Interlock Device Program**

The participant must have a final service appointment before being authorized to remove the device. The device should not be removed until DVS has received and reviewed the final monitoring report which will be downloaded and sent to DVS at the participant’s final service appointment. If any failures are noted, a participant’s time on the program is extended.

**Revoked – First, Second, or Third Offense**

DVS will notify the participant prior to the end date of the program and remind them to set up an appointment for a final calibration, however, the device should not be removed. If the last 90 days on the ignition interlock device program show no failed tests or other program violations recorded on the device, then the program has been successfully completed. A letter will be issued to the participant authorizing the removal of the device.

Upon receiving this letter, a participant can:

- Schedule an appointment to remove the device.
- Apply for a new driver’s license without the ignition interlock restriction.

**Canceled and Denied as Inimical to Public Safety**
DVS will notify the participant prior to the end date of the program and remind them to set up an appointment for a final calibration, however, the device should not be removed. If the participant has proven abstinence by use of the ignition interlock, then the program has been successfully completed. DVS will run a background check to verify abstinence and if it indicates no abstinence violations, a letter will be issued to the participant authorizing the removal of the device.

Upon receiving this letter, a participant can:

- Schedule an appointment to remove the device.
- Apply for a new driver’s license without the ignition interlock restriction.

**Non-Residents**

A person who has an ignition interlock restriction from another state and who wants to become a resident of Minnesota must first apply for a Minnesota class D driver’s license. When DVS receives the driving record from the previous state of residence, staff will take action based upon the number of alcohol offenses. This may result in withdrawal of the driving privilege. Depending upon the number of offenses, a person may be required to participate in the ignition interlock device program. If the person can provide verifiable proof of completion of any or all of the program requirements, credit or partial credit on the program may be given. In any case, a person canceled and denied as inimical to public safety based on Minnesota law will be required to enroll in the ignition interlock program for a minimum of one year with a limited license.

A Minnesota resident who moves to another state with the intention of becoming a resident of that state must comply with the requirements of the new state. The ignition interlock restriction will stay on the Minnesota driving record. If the person ever decides to return to Minnesota, the ignition interlock device program requirements must be completed at that time.

A Minnesota resident who moves to another state but does not become a resident of that state can continue to have the ignition interlock device calibrated by an ignition interlock provider. The ignition interlock provider must be certified by the State of Minnesota and monitoring reports should continue to be sent to Minnesota in order to continue receiving credit in the program.

**Non-Alcohol Related Offenses**

If a participant’s driver’s license is withdrawn for an unrelated non-alcohol offense during the participant’s time on the ignition interlock device program, the participant can continue to receive credit on the program with some exceptions. Although the participant cannot drive, the participant can still continue to have the ignition interlock device serviced and calibrated to meet program requirements. However, because the participant cannot legally drive during withdrawal, a legally licensed person must drive the vehicle to and from service and calibration appointments. A person whose driving privilege has been canceled and denied must demonstrate abstinence by regular and consistent use of the ignition interlock device. The participant can continue to meet this requirement by blowing into the device but not driving the vehicle.
A participant whose driver’s license has been withdrawn for more than one year due to an unrelated offense will be terminated from the program by the Commissioner of Public Safety. After completing the withdrawal requirements of the offense, the person may reenroll in the ignition interlock device program, but will not receive any credit for time previously on the program.

**Voluntary Withdrawal from the Program**

To avoid a program violation, a participant must notify DVS of their intention to withdraw from the program before the device is removed from the vehicle. If the participant wishes to voluntarily withdraw from the ignition interlock device program, the person must sign the Voluntary Withdrawal form. Credit will be given for time spent on the program.
Frequently Asked Questions

How much does the ignition interlock device cost?
Contact the vendors for a list of their pricing. Each vendor has its own rates.

How long is the lease for the ignition interlock device?
Check with the vendor. Some vendors do a yearly lease, some go month to month.

Is a camera required?
Yes. You must have installed or been transferred to an ignition interlock device with a camera. This includes all current participants in the pilot program. For participants in the pilot program, there should be no installation cost for transferring to a camera device. However, the monthly fee may increase. Vendors who are currently certified in the state must ensure that all devices installed on participants’ vehicles meet the new performance standards by September 1, 2011.

How much does the State charge?
The State of Minnesota does not charge any program fees to the participant, nor does it collect any fees from the ignition interlock provider.

Who should I contact if I am having problems with my ignition interlock device?
If you have a complaint or concern regarding the service you are receiving from a certified ignition interlock vendor or service provider, please contact that provider directly and request to speak to a manager or supervisor in their central office. If, after contacting the provider, you are still not satisfied with their response, please email your concerns to the Driver and Vehicle Services Division at dvs.ii@state.mn.us. Please make sure to include your contact information including your name, current interlock provider, and a brief description of the issue.

When am I eligible to drive my vehicle equipped with the ignition interlock device?
You must have a limited or restricted license from DVS before you are legally allowed to drive. Therefore, you must have someone drive you to the service provider to install the device. After you have completed your paperwork and installed the device, DVS will process your license application. You are not legally able to drive until you have received notification from DVS that you have been reinstated with the ignition interlock restriction or you have been issued a limited license.

When will I get my plastic driver’s license?
Once you have been issued your restricted driver’s license your plastic driver’s license will be issued with the ignition interlock restriction on it.

Can I apply for an identification card?
If you want to apply for an identification card while on a limited license you may do so. However, the identification card must be invalidated before your plastic driver’s license can be issued.

Who do I contact regarding special registration plates?
Contact the plate impound unit at 651-297-5034.
What if I am enrolled in the partial pay program?
You will be allowed to participate in the ignition interlock device program after you have complied with the requirements of the partial pay program and have paid your first installment. If you fail to make the second payment, you are no longer eligible to participate in the program.

What if I drive more than one vehicle?
You must have ignition interlock installed on any vehicle you drive. It is your decision whether to install the device on multiple vehicles. However, you are responsible for all costs.

What if we only have one vehicle in our family and have multiple drivers?
Someone else can drive your car when the ignition interlock has been installed; however, anyone who drives the vehicle must be able to pass the breath test. It is important to remember that you are responsible for all readings registered by the interlock, whether you are driving or not. It is recommended that anyone who will be driving the vehicle with the ignition interlock attend the training session during the installation appointment.

What if I don’t own a vehicle?
In order to participate in the ignition interlock device program, you must install an ignition interlock device in a vehicle that you own or drive. Without a vehicle, you cannot participate.

Can the interlock unit drain my battery?
Problems occur only if your vehicle has an existing electrical problem or if the vehicle’s battery has died.

Will the installation of the interlock device damage my vehicle?
No. The device is only connected to the wiring under the dash and under the hood. At the end of the program, this wiring is restored to its original condition.

Will the interlock shut off my engine or stop my vehicle?
No. The ignition interlock device will not shut off your engine if a breath test is failed. It is designed to prevent the car from starting without a passing breath test. If you fail a test while driving, the device records a violation but will not stop your car.

Can I start my vehicle without taking a test?
No. The driver must blow into the device in order to start the car, and the device must record an alcohol concentration level below the pre-set level of 0.02 before the vehicle will start.

What if I try to trick the device by having someone else blow into it?
Rolling retests are required while you are driving the vehicle. In addition, the ignition interlock device includes a camera that is installed in the front of the car facing the driver. The camera will
take a picture (or a series of pictures) during the initial breath sample to start the car, during any rolling retests, and during any violations.

**What happens if someone else drives my vehicle and the ignition interlock device detects alcohol use?**
You are responsible for all breathe samples provided. The device will register the breath sample as a failure and may send the vehicle in for an early recall. The Department will take action as appropriate, but you may request an administrative review. During the administrative review, DVS will review your data reports and also any pictures taken by the camera installed on the device to determine if the action taken was appropriate.

**Can I start my vehicle if I only had one beer, a glass of wine, or one cocktail?**
Many factors affect how fast a person metabolizes alcohol, including the size and gender of the person. The average person metabolizes about one ounce of alcohol per hour. The important thing to remember is that everyone metabolizes alcohol at different rates under different circumstances. Any alcohol violations will be recorded on your monthly data reports.

**How will the things I eat, drink, smoke, or put on my body affect the interlock test?**
The ignition interlock device is very sensitive, and a number of everyday items may give you a failed alcohol reading. Your service provider should explain this to you during your installation appointment. To avoid this problem, always rinse your mouth out with water before blowing into the device. If you have a failure, rinse your mouth out, take a few deep breaths, and take the retest.

**What happens if I fail the breath test?**
If you fail the breath test and haven’t been drinking it is very important to take the second test. Taking the second test (a confirming blow) will allow the vendor’s monitoring equipment to determine if the failure was an actual failure or was the result of ambient effects or other contaminants. If you do not take the second test, the failure may be considered a violation.

**Can I install the ignition interlock device on a motorcycle?**
No.

**Can I install the ignition interlock device on a commercial vehicle?**
No.

**Can I install the ignition interlock device on a boat, snowmobile, ATV, lawn mower, recreational vehicle, etc.?**
No.
Am I eligible to get off the program early for good behavior?
No. There is no reduction in the length of your enrollment.

What if I don’t have a driver’s license? What if I only have an instruction permit?
You can apply for an ignition interlock instruction permit.

What happens if my driving privilege is withdrawn and I cannot drive my vehicle?
Since you cannot drive, you must have someone else drive your vehicle to service and calibration appointments. If your driving privilege has been canceled and denied, you must continue to demonstrate abstinence by regular and consistent use of the ignition interlock device. You can continue to meet this requirement by providing 30 breath tests per month to start but not drive the car.

How long is the certificate of insurance required?
The certificate of insurance is required for 1 year. However, you should be aware that if you switch the device to a different vehicle within the first year of the program, you must provide a new insurance certificate. In any case, you will continue to be subject to Minnesota no-fault insurance laws.

Can I rent a car?
You must drive a vehicle equipped with the ignition interlock device at all times.
Contacts

Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Driver and Vehicle Services
Ignition Interlock Unit
445 Minnesota St., Suite 177
St. Paul, MN  55101

Phone: (651) 296-2948
Fax: (651) 797-1299
E-mail: dvs.ii@state.mn.us
Website: http://dvs.dps.mn.gov
## Ignition Interlock Participation Agreement

This form can be faxed to (651) 797-1299. You may also bring this form to any Driver Exam Station (Visit the DVS Website for all Office Locations) or mail this form to Driver and Vehicle Services, Ignition Interlock Unit, 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 177, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101. Please retain a copy for your own records. Your application will not be complete until all enrollment documents have been received by DVS. For questions, contact DVS at (651) 296-2948 or visit [http://dvs.dps.mn.gov](http://dvs.dps.mn.gov)

### Driver Information

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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Telephone Number/Cell Phone</th>
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### Certification

I understand that I must have an ignition interlock device in each vehicle that I operate during the entire time that I am subject to an ignition interlock restriction and that the device must be calibrated and maintained in accordance with Minnesota law. The only exception to this is an approved employment variance granted by Driver and Vehicle Services.

I acknowledge that I have received, reviewed and agreed to abide by the Minnesota Ignition Interlock Device Program Guidelines.

I understand that any violation of the conditions outlined in the Program Guidelines may result in sanctions being imposed. These sanctions may include an extension of my time on the program and/or non-credit for the revocation time period spent using the ignition interlock device. Violations include:

- Tampering, circumventing or bypassing the device or attempting to tamper, circumvent or bypass the device
- Operating a vehicle without ignition interlock
- Violation of the ignition interlock limited license
- Failure to provide at least 30 initial breath tests each month (verification of abstinence)
- Three (3) failures to take a rolling retest within a six (6) month period
- An alcohol reading at or greater than .02 with no retest within 35 minutes
- An alcohol reading at or greater than .02 with a retest within 35 minutes at or greater than .02

I agree that the State of Minnesota, its representatives and employees are not liable for any result of property damage and/or injury or death to persons which may arise, directly or indirectly, during the use of an ignition interlock device. I verify the information on this document is truthful and accurate. I understand that any false information provided may result in termination of my participation in the Minnesota Ignition Interlock Device Program.

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**Signature**

**Date**