

Distracted Driving Laws by State

Updated April 2019

State	Hand-held Ban	All Cell Phone Ban		Text Messaging Ban
		School Bus Drivers	Novice Drivers	
Alabama			16, or 17 w/ Intermediate License <6 months (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Alaska				Yes (Primary)
Arizona	Yes (Primary) <i>Warning period through 01/01/21</i>	Yes (Primary)	Under 18 w/ intermediate permit (Secondary)	Yes (Primary)
Arkansas ¹	18 - 20 years old (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Secondary)	Yes (Primary)
California	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Secondary)	Yes (Primary)
Colorado			<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Connecticut	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Delaware	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
D.C.	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Learners Permit (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Florida	School and work zones only. Primary law. (eff. 10/1/19)			Yes (Primary eff. 10/1/19)
Georgia	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Guam	Yes (Primary)			Yes (Primary)
Hawaii	Yes (Primary)		<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Idaho				Yes (Primary)
Illinois	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<19 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Indiana			<21 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Iowa			Restricted or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Kansas			Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Kentucky		Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Louisiana	Learner or Intermediate License	Yes	1st year of License	Yes

	(regardless of age)	(Primary)	(Primary for <18)	(Primary)
Maine			Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Maryland	Yes (Primary)		<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Massachusetts		Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Michigan		Yes (Primary)	Level 1 or 2 License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Minnesota	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 w/ Learner or Provisional License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Mississippi		Yes (Primary)		Yes (Primary)
Missouri				<21 only (Primary)
Montana				
Nebraska			<18 w/ Learner or Intermediate License (Secondary)	Yes (Secondary)
Nevada	Yes (Primary)			Yes (Primary)
New Hampshire	Yes (Primary)		<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
New Jersey	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Permit or Provisional License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
New Mexico	In State vehicles		Learner or Provisional License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
New York	Yes (Primary)			Yes (Primary)
North Carolina		Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
North Dakota			<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Ohio			<18 (Primary)	Yes (Secondary)
Oklahoma	Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)			Yes (Primary)
Oregon	Yes (Primary)		<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Pennsylvania				Yes

				(Primary)
Puerto Rico	Yes (Primary)			Yes (Primary)
Rhode Island	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
South Carolina				Yes (Primary)
South Dakota			Learner or Intermediate License (Secondary)	Yes (Secondary)
Tennessee	School zones only, while warning lights flashing	Yes (Primary)	Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (while vehicle in motion) (Primary)
Texas ²		Yes, w/ passenger <17 (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Utah		Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Vermont	Yes (Primary)		<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Virgin Islands	Yes (Primary)			Yes (Primary)
Virginia		Yes (Primary)	<18 (Secondary)	Yes (Primary)
Washington	Yes (Primary)		Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
West Virginia	Yes (Primary)		<18 w/ Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Wisconsin			Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)
Wyoming				Yes (Primary)
Total States	18 + D.C. PR, Guam, Virgin Islands All Primary	20 + D.C. All Primary	39 + D.C. Primary (32 + D.C.) Secondary (7)	All Drivers: 48 + D.C., PR, Guam, Virgin Islands Primary (45 + D.C., PR, Guam, Virgin Islands) Secondary (3) Novice Drivers Only: 1