

# ABOUT THE ROAD READY DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Accident statistics show that new drivers are three times more likely to be involved in a road crash than experienced drivers. Drivers aged between 17 and 25 also account for more than 30% of serious crash casualties, even though they represent only about 15% of all licensed drivers.

To help prepare new and young drivers for the complex task of driving, the ACT Government developed the 'Road Ready' program, which extends from the pre-learner stage to the period when drivers first go solo. Key objectives of **Road Ready** are to encourage learner drivers to have at least 50 hours of supervised practice and continue learning about safe driving practices after they obtain their Provisional Licence.

**Road Ready** is quite different from the Graduated Licensing Scheme used in NSW. ACT **learner licence** holders driving or riding in NSW **MUST** abide by the 80kph speed restriction that applies to NSW learner licence holders. ACT **provisional licence** holders driving or riding in NSW are permitted to drive or ride at the posted speed limit.

## ACT LEARNER AND PROVISIONAL DRIVER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS



### Questions?

Call Canberra Connect on 13 22 81

A special web site:

[www.roadready.act.gov.au](http://www.roadready.act.gov.au)

Has also been developed to assist learner drivers and their parents.

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Produced by Publishing Services.

Publication No: 06/0920



SEPTEMBER 2006

[www.roadready.act.gov.au](http://www.roadready.act.gov.au)

# ROAD READY COURSE

## WHAT IS 'ROAD READY'?

All Learner Driver applicants must successfully complete a 'Road Ready' course, to qualify for their Learner Licence.

Most ACT secondary school students are able to take the course at their school free of charge as part of the Year 10 curriculum.

Learner Driver applicants who have already left school can do the course at a Road Ready Centre.

If you already have an ACT Motorcycle Licence (Learner, Provisional or Full) and want to get a Car Licence, you do not have to do the 'Road Ready' course again.

## DOES THE 'ROAD READY' COURSE ONLY APPLY TO YOUNG DRIVERS?

No. Everyone, regardless of his or her age, who wants to obtain a Learner Licence will have to successfully complete the course.

## WHAT DOES THE 'ROAD READY' LEARNER LICENCE COURSE INVOLVE?

You will take part in a range of exercises to raise awareness of the complexities of safe driving, and will be assessed on your level of participation and understanding of the topics. The final stage of the course is a computerised, multiple choice road rules knowledge test.

The course is conducted over several sessions and takes up to 15 hours to complete. The course and knowledge test **must** be completed together either at your school or at a Road Ready Centre. (You will **not** be able to undertake the course at your school and then do the knowledge test at a Road Ready Centre).

The **Road Ready** course must be successfully completed once. The Road Rules Knowledge Test is valid for two years.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF I FAIL THE 'ROAD READY' COURSE?

While undertaking the Road Ready course you are allowed three free attempts at the road rules knowledge test. These cannot be taken on the same day. After that, you will have to pay to re-take the knowledge test each time.

If you fail the Road Ready course before taking the road rules knowledge test, you will have to re-take the Road Ready course and pay for it again.

It should be noted that the three 'free' attempts at the road rules knowledge test only applies to applicants undertaking the 'Road Ready' course.

These courses are conducted weekdays, evenings and some weekends, depending on demand.

## DO I HAVE TO DO THE 'ROAD READY' COURSE IF I WANT TO GET A MOTORCYCLE LICENCE?

You will have to do the 'Road Ready' course to obtain a Motorcycle Licence unless you already have an ACT Car Licence (Provisional or Full or a Learner Licence that is current). You will also have to successfully complete a Government approved rider training course.

## WHAT IF I HAVE AN INTERSTATE OR OVERSEAS LICENCE?

You do not have to do the 'Road Ready' course to obtain an ACT licence if you have a current licence from any Australian State or Territory, or New Zealand, unless it is a **Learner** Licence.

If you have a Full Licence from another country, you do not have to do the 'Road Ready' course. However, if you are from a non-approved country, you will have to successfully complete the road rules knowledge test and an eyesight test. You will have to do the 'Road Ready' course and knowledge test if you have an overseas **Learner** or **Provisional** licence. If you are not from an approved country (for licensing purposes), you will be required to either pass a practical driving test with a government licence examiner or undertake training and continuing assessment with an accredited driving instructor (the 'log book' system). A list of approved countries can be obtained from Canberra Connect Shopfronts or visit [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au).

# LEARNER LICENCE



## WHEN CAN I GET MY LEARNER LICENCE?

The minimum age for obtaining a Learner Car Licence in the ACT is 15 years and nine months. For a Learner Motorcycle Licence, the minimum age is 16 years and nine months.

## WILL I BE ISSUED WITH MY LEARNER LICENCE AT THE END OF THE 'ROAD READY' COURSE?

When you successfully complete the course, you will receive a certificate to present at any Canberra Connect Shopfront, where you will be issued with your learner licence.

## HOW LONG DO I HAVE BEFORE MY LEARNER LICENCE EXPIRES?

Learner Licences are valid for two years. Unless you can demonstrate you have successfully completed the Knowledge Test within the last two years, you will be required to retake and pass the Knowledge Test before your learner licence will be renewed.

## HOW DO I BOOK?

Bookings can be made by calling a Road Ready Centre on **(02) 6162 5152 OR (02) 6282 8990**

# PROVISIONAL LICENCE



## WHEN CAN I GET MY PROVISIONAL LICENCE?

The minimum age for obtaining a Provisional Licence for a car or motorcycle is 17 years. You must also have held a Learner Licence for at least six months before you can obtain a Provisional Car Licence, and at least three months before you can obtain a Provisional Motorcycle Licence.

## HOW DO I QUALIFY FOR MY PROVISIONAL LICENCE?

You have the choice of taking a practical driving test with a government licence examiner or training and continuing assessment with an accredited driving instructor (the 'log book' system).

## HOW LONG WILL I BE ON A PROVISIONAL LICENCE?

The Provisional Licence period is three years.

## WHAT IS THE OPTIONAL 'ROAD READY PLUS (P-OFF)' COURSE?

The course is available to new drivers and motorcycle riders once they have held their Provisional Licence for six months, and focuses on the road risks they have experienced during that time.

The course takes five hours to complete. Bookings for a 'P-off' course can be made through a Road Ready Centre, telephone 6162 5152 or 6282 8990.

## WHAT ABOUT DEMERIT POINTS?

Provisional Licence holders must display 'P' plates at all times and your demerit point limit is four points. This means that your licence will be suspended for three months if you accumulate four or more demerit points.

After six months, you may attend an optional 'Road Ready Plus (P-off)' course. Once you successfully complete this course, you may remove your 'P' plates and your demerit points limit will be increased to eight points. If you do not undertake the 'Road Ready Plus (P-off)' course, you must display your 'P' plates for the full three-year provisional licence period and your demerit points limit will remain at four points.

If you are **26 years of age or older** and have **held your provisional licence for at least six months**, your 'P' plates can be removed from your vehicle and your demerit points limit will be increased to eight points. You are not required to complete the 'Road Ready Plus (P-off)' course.

## ARE DEMERIT POINTS THE SAME FOR MOTORCYCLE RIDERS?

Yes. It is applied to everyone who is issued with a Provisional Licence whether you are a car driver or motorcycle rider.