

Mandatory License Suspensions (18 Years and Older)

Situation	Explanation	Suspension Period	Fee to Reinstate
Three Speeding Violations	Three speeding violations/ responsible findings within any one-year period.	30 days	\$100
Three Surchargeable Events	Any combination of moving violations and surchargeable crashes that total three surchargeable events within a two-year period.	Must complete Driver Retraining course within 90 days or license will be suspended indefinitely until course is completed	\$100
Seven Surchargeable Events	Any combination of moving violations and surchargeable crashes that total seven surchargeable events within a three-year period.	60 days	\$100
Habitual Traffic Offender	A total of three major moving violations or any combination of twelve major or minor moving violations within a five-year period.	Four years	\$500
Out-of-State Suspension	License has been suspended or revoked in another state.	Until the out-of-state suspension is resolved	\$100

If you have questions about...

- **Child support**, contact the Department of Revenue's Child Support Office at 1-800-332-2733.
- **Registering as a sex offender**, contact the Sex Offender Registry Board at 978-740-6503.

Out-of-State Suspensions

Out-of-state suspensions or revocations affect your Massachusetts license. Your license **will be suspended** in Massachusetts until any out-of-state suspension or revocation is cleared. When your license is reinstated in the other state, you must bring either a reinstatement letter or a current driving record from that state to any RMV Full Service Center. You may also need to give additional information. Your reinstatement letter or driving record cannot be over 30 days old.

Each U.S. state must tell the Massachusetts RMV about any traffic offenses you commit there. **These offenses will be treated as if they happened in Massachusetts if they are a "like" offense.**

To determine a "like" offense, the RMV will look at what the other state's law prohibits. It does not matter if the other state chose to assess a higher or lower penalty, or treat the offense as a civil or criminal infraction.

The RMV must apply Massachusetts suspension rules to out-of-state violations, even if the offense did not cause a suspension in the other state.

When Your License Is Suspended or Revoked. . .

If the RMV suspends or revokes your driver's license, you *must* stop driving immediately. You have lost your driving privileges. It is illegal for you to operate any motor vehicle.

Mandatory PERMIT Suspensions

Junior Operators Only (16 1/2 to 18 years)

Violation	Suspension Period	Reinstatement Requirements	Fee to Reinstatement
Conviction for Driving Without a Licensed Driver (c. 90, §8B)	60 days— first offense 180 days— second offense One year— subsequent offenses	All offenses require you to retake the learner's permit exam. Second offense requires a Driver Attitudinal Retraining course.	\$100
Conviction for Driving During the Night Restriction (c. 90, §10) (c. 90, §8B)	60 days— first offense 180 days— second offense One year— subsequent offenses	All offenses require you to retake the learner's permit exam. Second offense requires a Driver Attitudinal Retraining course.	\$100
Conviction for Speeding (c. 90, §17) (c. 90, §17A) (c. 90, §18)	90 days— first offense One year— second or subsequent offense	All offenses require a new learner's permit exam.	\$100
Conviction for Drag Racing (c. 90, §17B)	One year— first offense Three years— second or subsequent offense	All offenses require a new learner's permit exam and a Driver Attitudinal Retraining course. In addition, you may be required to take a State Courts Against Road Rage (SCARR) course.*	\$500-first offense \$1000-second or subsequent offense
Conviction for the Use of a Mobile Electronic Device (text or phone) (c. 90, §8M)	60 days— first offense 180 days— second offense One year— subsequent offenses	First offense requires a \$100 fine, a new learner's permit exam, and a Driver Attitudinal Retraining Course. The fine is \$250 for a second offense and \$500 for a third offense.	\$100
Conviction for Negligent Operation and Injury from Mobile Phone Use (c. 90, §24)	180 days— first offense One year— second or subsequent offense	Second and subsequent offenses require a new learner's permit exam.	\$500

Note: In addition to any other penalty required by law, Massachusetts General Laws chapter 90, section 24p requires that any Junior Operator who is convicted of Operating Under the Influence (OUI), Operating to Endanger, Leaving the Scene of a Crash, Drinking from an Open Alcohol Container, OUI with Serious Bodily Injury, Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, Reckless/Negligent Operation, Loaning/Allowing Another to Use Your License or Learner's Permit, or Motor Vehicle Homicide will face a 180 day suspension (in addition to any other suspension required by law) for a first offense, or a one year suspension for any subsequent offense. This additional suspension only applies to Junior Operators, and only in cases in which they did not already receive an additional suspension for failing or refusing a breath test.

In addition to the penalties listed, your parent or guardian will be notified of the suspension.

Mandatory LICENSE Suspensions

Junior Operators Only (16 1/2 to 18 years)

Violation	Suspension Period	Reinstatement Requirements	Fee to Reinstatement
Conviction for Violating the Passenger or Night Restriction (c. 90, §8) (c. 90, §10)	60 days— first offense 180 days— second offense One year— subsequent offenses	Second and subsequent offenses require a Driver Attitudinal Retraining course. Third and subsequent offenses require a new learner's permit exam and road test.	\$100
Conviction for Speeding (c. 90, §17) (c. 90, §17A) (c. 90, §18)	90 days— first offense One year— second or subsequent offense	All offenses require a new learner's permit exam, a Driver Attitudinal Retraining course, and a new road test. In addition, you may be required to take a State Courts Against Road Rage (SCARR) course.*	\$500
Conviction for Drag Racing (c. 90, §17B)	One year— first offense Three years— second or subsequent offense	All offenses require a new learner's permit exam, a Driver Attitudinal Retraining course, and a new road test. In addition, you may be required to take a State Courts Against Road Rage (SCARR) course.*	\$500-first offense \$1000-second or subsequent offense
Conviction for Driving Negligently or Recklessly/ Operating to Endanger (c. 90, §24)	180 days— first offense One year— second or subsequent offense (within a three year period)	Second and subsequent offenses require a new learner's permit exam and a new road test.	\$500
Conviction for the Use of a Mobile Electronic Device (text or phone) (c. 90, §8M)	60 days— first offense 180 days— second offense One year— subsequent offenses	First offense requires a \$100 fine, a new learner's permit exam, a Driver Attitudinal Retraining Course, and a new road test. The fine is \$250 for a second offense and \$500 for a third offense.	\$100
Conviction for Negligent Operation and Injury from Mobile Phone Use (c. 90, §24)	180 days— first offense One year— second or subsequent offense	Second and subsequent offenses require a new learner's permit exam and a new road test.	\$500

Note: In addition to any other penalty required by law, Massachusetts General Laws chapter 90, section 24p requires that any Junior Operator who is convicted of Operating Under the Influence (OUI), Operating to Endanger, Leaving the Scene of a Crash, Drinking from an Open Alcohol Container, OUI with Serious Bodily Injury, Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, Reckless/Negligent Operation, Loaning/Allowing Another to Use Your License or Learner's Permit, or Motor Vehicle Homicide will face a 180 day suspension (in addition to any other suspension required by law) for a first offense, or a one year suspension for any subsequent offense. This additional suspension only applies to Junior Operators, and only in cases in which they did not already receive an additional suspension for failing or refusing a breath test.

*A Massachusetts JOL License or Permit holder that commits certain categories of motor vehicle violations is required under law to complete the SCARR program. Drivers may also be mandated to complete SCARR as assigned by a specific court. A Junior Operator will only be required to take the SCARR course one time. Visit Mass.Gov/RMV for more information.

For more information on, or to register for, a Driver Attitudinal Retraining course or a State Courts Against Road Rage (SCARR) course, visit Mass.Gov/RMV and click on “Teens and Parents.”

Criminal Offenses and Suspensions

Criminal Conviction	Suspension Period	Fee to Reinstatement
Operating a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked license	60 days–One year	\$500
Operating a motor vehicle without the owner's authority / larceny of a motor vehicle	One–Three years	\$500
Leaving the scene of a crash when a person is injured	One–Two years	\$500
Leaving the scene of a crash involving property damage	60 days–One year	\$500
Operating to endanger	60 days–One year	\$500
Motor vehicle homicide	15 years–Lifetime	\$500
Vehicular manslaughter	15 years–Lifetime	\$500
Operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs	One year (first) Two years (second) Eight years (third) Ten years (fourth) Lifetime (fifth)	\$500 (first) \$700 (second) \$1200 (third) \$1200 (fourth) N/A
Any drug trafficking related conviction (except a Class D substance) (Operation of a vehicle is not required)	One–Five years	\$100
Defacing real or personal property, spraying paint or applying stickers or other graffiti (Operation of a vehicle is not required)	One year (or delay of one year in obtaining a License)	\$100
Drag racing (by drivers over the age of 18)	30 days–180 days	\$500 - \$1,000
Negligent Operation and Injury from Mobile Phone Use	60 days–One year	\$500

Many of the offenses in the chart above may also require you to serve time in jail.

Additional suspension periods will apply to many of the offenses in the chart above when Junior Operators commit them and alcohol or drugs are involved. For more information, see the *Under 21 Alcohol Offenses* section later in this chapter.

Customers serving a mandatory suspension for certain drug trafficking offenses may seek a hardship license at any time during their suspension period.

Driving Without a License

It is illegal to drive in Massachusetts without a valid driver's license or permit.

Driving With a Suspended License

If your license or permit has been suspended or revoked for any reason, it is *not* valid. You are *not* allowed to drive in Massachusetts or anywhere else. **Driving with a suspended or revoked license is a criminal motor vehicle violation. You may face a large fine and/or jail sentence, as well as additional penalties.**