Restricted (work) Licences

Additional requirements for Drink Drivers

**Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program (Interlock Program)**

The Interlock Program applies to mid-range drink drivers with a blood/breath alcohol concentration ((BAC) 0.10-0.149. This means, if a mid-range drink driver is granted a work licence, they will be required to participate in the Interlock Program from the time their work licence is issued.

**What is the Interlock Program?**

The Interlock Program applies to drivers who are convicted of high-risk drink driving offences. The Interlock Program aims to help drink drivers separate drinking and driving when they get their licence back. Interlock Program participants, including those granted a work licence, must hold a valid licence with an interlock condition and only drive nominated vehicles fitted with an interlock.

**What is an interlock?**

An interlock is a device connected to a vehicle's ignition system that requires a breath sample to start the vehicle. The vehicle will only start if no alcohol is detected.

**Is the Interlock Program mandatory?**

No. A person who is subject to the Interlock Program can choose not to participate. However, they will not be able to drive for 5 years from the end of their licence disqualification period (or the day they were granted a work licence). This is called the 'sit-out' period.

**Are there any exemptions from the Interlock Program?**

Exemptions can only be granted if a person meets strict eligibility criteria, which are stipulated in the legislation. An exemption will **not** be granted if a person is unable to install an interlock for employment, educational or financial reasons.

Drink drivers who are granted a work licence by the courts are not exempt and will have to fit an interlock to any vehicle they drive, including work vehicles.

**When can you apply for an exemption?**

A person can submit their application for an interlock exemption when they attend a Customer Service Centre to get their work licence issued. It is important to bring the completed Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program – Interlock Exemption (F4862) application form and supporting documents. The application will be assessed within 3 business days and the applicant will be emailed the outcome. An applicant cannot drive until they either hold a valid interlock exemption or have a nominated vehicle fitted with an interlock.

**Why are mid-range offenders in the Interlock Program?**

Research has shown that the risk of crashing increases significantly and exponentially when drivers have a BAC of 0.10 and higher.

A driver with a BAC of 0.10 is five times more likely to crash than a driver who hasn't had any alcohol. By 0.12 the risk is 9 times greater, by 0.14 it's 16 times greater and by 0.15 the driver is 22 times more likely to crash.

For more information go to qld.gov.au/interlocks

**Plan.Drive.Survive. *Foundations* course**

All drink drivers, including those who are granted a worklicence will need to complete the Plan.Drive.Survive. Foundations course prior to being relicensed. Drivers who don't complete the course will not be able to get their driver licence back for 5 years.

**What is the Plan.Drive.Survive. *Foundations* course?**

Plan.Drive.Survive. *Foundations* is a short online course for drink drivers. It is informative and designed to encourage behaviour change and the separation of drinking from driving.

For more information go to qld.gov.au/DrinkDriving