

NEWS RELEASE

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Unrestricted driver's license age would be 16 ½ under bill sent to Gov. Sebelius

The age teens in Kansas could obtain an unrestricted driver's license would be changed from 16 to 16 ½ under the provisions of a bill that has been passed by the Legislature and sent to Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

“We’ve been hearing about a lot of confusion concerning the graduated driver’s licensing (GDL) bill passed last week and we want to clarify the key points in this legislation,” said Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller. “The main point is the bill pushes back by six months when a 16-year-old can get a full driver’s license.”

Currently, a full license can be obtained at 16 with no limits on passengers or late-night driving. Key provisions under the bill at age 16 are:

- Teen drivers are limited to no more than one non-sibling passenger under the age of 18 during the six first months after turning 16.
- Late-night driving is limited to 9 p.m. during the first six months after turning 16, unless driving to and from work/school.

The chart below depicts the eligible driving activities for 16-year-olds and shows what activities are restricted for six months.

Age	Allowed to drive unsupervised?	Can transport siblings and 1 underage passenger?	Can drive after 9 p.m. if coming from a school or work activity?	Can transport multiple underage passengers who aren't siblings?	Can drive after 9 p.m. at all times.
16 years	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
16.5 years	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

More information about teen driving and what a GDL system would mean for Kansas can be found on KDOT's web site at www.ksdot.org under the news release 'Teen Driving.'

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