



**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
PARENT/NEW DRIVER AGREEMENT**

I (New Driver) understand:

- _____ Driving is a privilege, not a right.
- _____ That if the vehicle(s) I drive is the property of my parent(s)/guardian(s), I will only use it when have been given permission.
- _____ The terms of this agreement must be reached in order for me to use a vehicle. If the terms of this agreement are not followed, my privilege to drive may be revoked or limited for a period of time.
- _____ That this agreement can be renegotiated at a set time agreed upon by all parties involved.

New Driver must:

1. Provide destination and time of return. Must call if more than 30 minutes late.
2. Abide by the Vehicle and Traffic Laws of the State of New York.
3. Understand the Graduated Licensing Law and how it affects my driving privilege. I will abide by all the restrictions at all times.
4. Wear a seat belt and require all of my passengers to do so (including back seat passengers).
5. Not use my cell phone to talk or text while driving. I will only use my cell phone in the car for emergencies.
6. Never drive after using ANY alcohol, drugs (including over-the-counter medications) or anything else that may impair my driving.
7. Never drive recklessly and avoid speeding.
8. **NOT** lend the car or allow others to drive it.

New Driver will be responsible: (Check those that apply)

- _____ For keeping car clean (inside and out) when using vehicle.
- _____ For reporting problems with the vehicle.
- _____ For checking the car prior to all trips—fluid levels, tire pressure, windows are clean and clear.
- _____ For informing parent(s)/guardian(s) about any accidents/crashes or encounters with the police. For damage due to abuse/collisions and agrees to pay for damages that they incur not covered by insurance.
- _____ For traffic violations--fines and penalties they incur when the vehicle was in their possession. (All court fines/surcharges, costs due to driving record, etc.)
- _____ Other _____

Parent(s)/Guardian agrees to:

- _____ Act as a good driving role model (follow the rules of the road, wear seat belt, stay calm, etc.)
- _____ Invest the time in coaching and training my new driver so they will become a safe and responsible driver.
- _____ Read and understand the Graduated License Law and how it pertains to my new driver. I will reinforce all of the restrictions at all times.
- _____ Include rules about knowing where your teen is going, with whom, and when he or she will be back. Add an agreement on what to do if plans change.
- _____ Review the agreement from time to time.
- _____ Other _____

Negotiable items (Parent/Teen: write in % desired, if applicable):

- _____ Cost of vehicle (purchase of separate vehicle/family car)
- _____ Vehicle License/Registration/Inspections/___ % of Insurance Coverage (circle those that apply)
- _____ Repair and routine maintenance costs of vehicle and under what circumstances:

- _____ Cost of fuel when using the vehicle
- _____ Acceptable academic progress (grade point average above_____ in all courses)
- _____ New driver must conduct himself/herself in a mature manner, and must observe the rules and duties of home and school.
- _____ Other Stipulations: (e.g., specified curfews, limit smoking in vehicle, school attendance, etc):

Failure to comply with any of the rules in this agreement will result in a loss of my driving privilege for a length of time determined by my Parent(s)/Guardian(s).

FACT: You are legally responsible for your actions as a driver.

FACT: We, as vehicle owners, are legally liable for damages done by you as a driver.

FACT: We, as parent(s)/guardian(s), have the legal right to ask the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles to suspend your license for any period of time until you reach the age of 18.

SAFE DRIVING PROMISE:

New Driver: If I am ever in a dangerous or uncomfortable situation as a driver or a passenger, I will call home for a ride or sober driver without fear of punishment.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): I promise to pick you up if you ever call me for a ride. I also promise not to start a conversation about the incident at that time.

We have read the above document and have come to an agreement for use of the family vehicle(s).

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Newly Licensed Driver_____

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

Sources: NYS DMV-New Driver Parent Teen Contract, Triple AAA, The Cool Way to Learn; Franklin County Traffic Safety Parent/Teen Driving Agreement; David Lennox; The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Created and produced by the St. Lawrence Co. Traffic Safety Program, 80 SH 310, Suite 1, Canton, NY 13617. Phone: 315-386-2207/379-2306. 1/10 Funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a grant from the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee.