



## The Facts

- Car crashes are the leading cause of death and hospitalization for 15 to 19 year olds in Sonoma County
- Two out of three teens who die as passengers are in vehicles driven by other teenagers
- The crash rate for teen drivers increases with each additional passenger
- The majority of teenage deaths from car crashes occur between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- In Sonoma County, the teen death and hospitalization rate from car crashes is higher than the California state average

Are you providing your child the guidance he needs to be a good driver?

Learn about the Provisional Driver License Law. Teach your children about it.



[www.teensanddriving.org](http://www.teensanddriving.org)

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Car crashes **are the**  
**number one killer**  
**of teens in Sonoma County.**

## What's the new law?

### Effective January 1, 2006

For the first **12 months** (or until the driver turns 18):

- No passengers under age 20 are allowed in the car unless a licensed driver age 25 or older is present.
- No driving is permitted between **11 p.m. and 5 a.m.**, unless accompanied by a licensed driver age 25 or older.



## Tips For Parents

It's important to be proactively involved in shaping the driving habits of your teen. The following are tips to help teach your teen to develop good driving skills so they can practice them when you are not there.

### Step 1 - Teach by example

- Don't drink and drive.
- Obey traffic laws and speed limits.
- Don't drive aggressively or act disrespectful to the drivers on the road.
- Always wear your seat belt and make sure everyone else in the vehicle does too.

### Step 2 - Use time in the car to talk about rules of the road

When driving with your teen, ask them what they know and see on the road. For example, do they know what speed limits are for certain roads? Do they see traffic signals or potential hazards? By engaging your teen while you are driving, they learn to be in that mind set even before they get behind the wheel.

### Step 3 - Think before you teach

- Find a place to teach your teen how to drive. Drive it without your teen to get familiar with potential lessons you may want to talk about.
- Talk to your teen about what you are going to teach them before every lesson or practice drive. For example, entering the freeway, parallel parking, changing lanes, etc.
- Always start in an empty parking lot before heading into streets with traffic.
- Do not raise your voice. Mistakes will happen when teaching your teen. It's important to keep your teen calm and focused.
- Use the word "right" only for directions, not for confirming questions or actions.
- Give direction with plenty of time ahead.



Log on to:

[www.teensanddriving.org](http://www.teensanddriving.org)

to find:

- Information About the Campaign
- Tips for Parents
- Tips for Teens
- Resources and Links about Teen Driving
- Specifics of the Provisional License Law