
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2021 Wisconsin Act 64 [2021 Senate Bill 15]

Motor Vehicle Instruction Permit and Probationary License Eligibility, Duration, and Behind- the-Wheel Driving Requirements

2021 Wisconsin Act 64 lowers the age at which a person may obtain an instruction permit to operate a motor vehicle from 15 years and six months to 15 years. In line with this change, the act lengthens the amount of time for which an instruction permit is valid from 12 months to 18 months. The act also increases the number of hours, from 30 to 50, of behind-the-wheel practice an individual who is under the age of 18 must have accumulated before he or she may be issued a license to operate Class D motor vehicles. As was the case under prior law, each hour of experience behind the wheel with a qualified instructor, up to a maximum of five hours, is considered to be two hours for this purpose. As was also the case under prior law, at least 10 hours of the required behind-the-wheel experience must be during hours of darkness.

Effective date: July 10, 2021

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