

Your Teen Driver and the Law

Due to the higher percentage of vehicle crashes being caused by teen drivers, the California legislature enacted the Brady-Jared Teen Driver Safety Act of 1997. This law created special provisions in the California Vehicle Code (section 12814.6) for teen drivers between 16 and 18 years of age. Newly licensed teens are subject to the special and stricter requirements of this code, and are therefore called “provisional licensees.”



Most notably, for the **first six months** after obtaining their license, a provisional licensee **may not transport any passengers under the age of 20 and may not drive between the hours of 12:00 a.m. (midnight) and 5:00 a.m.*** without being accompanied by a, “*licensed* parent, guardian, driving instructor or *licensed* adult over 25.”

During the **second six months**, a provisional licensee may transport other juveniles during the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., but is still required to be accompanied by a licensed parent, guardian, driving instructor or licensed adult over age 25 if driving between the hours of 12:00 a.m. (midnight) and 5:00 a.m.*

This law was specifically designed to reduce the number of injuries and deaths of juvenile passengers, siblings or school mates, of newly licensed drivers.

*Some exceptions are provided for, but *only* on a case by case basis. Refer to the California Vehicle Code, section 12814.6, or contact the Redding Police Department at (530) 225-4200 for further information.