

Minnesota

Since July 1, 2011, Minnesota has required the use of interlocks for all repeat and first-time convicted drunk drivers with a BAC of .16 or greater. First offenders with a BAC of .08 to .15 are eligible to use an interlock for a 90-day license revocation. However, 80 percent of first offenders plead down their DWI to a 30-day license revocation and avoid an interlock. As of August 2015, there were 10,186 interlocks installed.

How soon can an ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock
First offense .08 to .15 BAC	Upon license revocation	90 days
First offense .16 BAC or more		1 year
Second offense		1 year
First refusal		1 year interlock or a 1 year non-interlock restricted license

How many times an interlock stopped a drunk driving start (.08 BAC or more) in Minnesota?

58,216

From Dec. 1, 2006 to Dec. 1, 2016

Day-for-Day Credit for early installation: Yes.

Compliance based removal? Yes. Time may be extended for violations; last 90 days must have no failed tests recorded on device. An additional 180 days can be added to the revocation period for the following violations: 1) tampering, circumventing or bypassing the device; 2) Operating a vehicle not equipped with an interlock; 3) violation of an interlock license; 4) For canceled drivers, the failure to provide no fewer than 30 initial breath tests each month; 5) Failure to bring the vehicle in for a service appointment every 30 days (or 60 days if the device is wireless); 6) Three failures to take a rolling retest within a seven-day period. An additional 90 days can be added to the license revocation for an alcohol reading greater than .02 BAC.

Indigent Fund: Yes. To apply, the participant must complete a form available on the Department’s website. A participant may only apply once per tax year and must reapply yearly. The reduced fee is effective on the date of approval. The reduced fee applies to only one vehicle.

Interlock user fees (not including leasing costs of the device): No. However, any DWI offender must pay a \$680 license reinstatement fee to the DMV that is not exclusive to ignition interlock use.

Role of Court and Driver’s License Agency Relating to Interlocks	
Court	Driver's License Agency
None	Issues interlock restricted licenses

Does the state advertise the interlock law? No.

How to improve Minnesota’s ignition interlock law?

- ✓ Enact an all-offender ignition interlock law.
- ✓ Allow for the use of ignition interlock after arrest and credit early installation of an interlock toward time ordered on an interlock upon conviction.
- ✓ Advertise the ignition interlock law during twice yearly federally funded crackdowns on drunk driving ([Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over](#)).
- ✓ Require ignition interlocks for refusals (do not allow for a non-interlock driving privilege).
- ✓ Require interlocks in all plea agreements or reductions in DUI charges.

Do plea agreements or reduction in the original DUI charge include the requirement of an interlock? No.

Resources: Minnesota Department of Public Safety: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/programs/mn-ignition-interlock/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/programs/mn-ignition-interlock/Documents/ignition-interlock-program-guidelines.pdf>