

New Jersey

Since January 2010, judges have been required to order ignition interlocks for all refusals, repeat and first-time offenders with a BAC of .15 or greater. Judges have the option to order interlocks for first-time offenders with a BAC of .08 to .14. As of August 2015, there were 4,960 interlocks installed in New Jersey.

How soon can ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock
First offense .08 to .099 BAC	3 months after conviction	6 to 12 months
First offense .10 to .14 BAC	7 to 12 months after conviction	6 to 12 months
First offense .15 BAC or more	7 to 12 months after conviction*	6 to 12 months
Second offense	2 years after conviction*	1 to 3 years
First refusal	7 to 12 months after conviction*	6 to 12 months

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

56,143

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

**Interlock is required to be installed during suspension but the user cannot legally drive until the suspension period concludes.*

Day-for-Day Credit for early installation: No.

Compliance based removal? No.

Indigent Fund: Yes. If a person is required to install an interlock and that person's family income does not exceed 100% of the federal poverty level, the monthly leasing fee shall be 50% of the fee established by regulation for persons who do not qualify for the reduced fee. If that person's family income does not exceed 149% of the federal poverty level, the monthly leasing fee shall be 75% of the fee established by regulation for persons who do not qualify for the reduced fee. Offenders who qualify for a reduced fee shall not be required to pay the installation fee, the cost for monitoring of the device, or any fees for calibration or removal of the device.

Role of Court and Driver's License Agency Relating to Interlocks	
Court	Driver's License Agency
Judges order interlocks	Issues interlock restricted licenses. Failure to have an interlock installed when ordered by a Judge could result in an additional one year driving privilege suspension. If a person does not have access to or plan to operate any vehicle, it is not necessary to restore your New Jersey driving privilege.

Interlock user fees (not including leasing costs of the device): None.

Does the state advertise the interlock law? No.

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

How to improve New Jersey's ignition interlock law?

- ✓ Enact an all-offender ignition interlock law.
- ✓ Add a compliance based removal component to the law (a user must prove a certain period of sober driving before exiting the interlock program).
- ✓ 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 interlocks in all plea agreements or reductions in DUI charges.

Resources: New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission: http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/Violations/dui_ignition.htm
Ricci's Law: http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/PL09/201_.PDF