

North Carolina

Since December 2007, ignition interlocks have been required for all repeat and first-time offenders with a blood alcohol concentration of .15 or greater for at least one year. As of August 2015, there were 11,289 interlocks installed in North Carolina.

How soon can an ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock
First offense .15 BAC or more	45 days after conviction	1 year
Second offense		
First refusal		

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

16,701

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

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

Compliance based removal? No.

Indigent Fund: No. DMV can waive the interlock order for an offender who cannot afford the device.

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

Role of Court and Driver's License Agency Relating to Interlocks	
Court	Driver's License Agency
Judges order interlocks	Issues interlock restricted licenses

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 North Carolina'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 ignition interlocks for refusals.
- ✓ Create an indigent fund so poor interlock users have access to these devices. This fund should be paid for by interlock vendors or non-indigent interlock users.
- ✓ Require interlocks in all plea agreements or reductions in DUI charges.

Resources: North Carolina Statutes: 20-179.3: http://www.ncleg.net/enactedlegislation/statutes/html/bysection/chapter_20/gs_20-179.3.html;
 20-17.8: <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/statutes/statutelookup.pl?statute=20-17.8>
<http://www.nccourts.org/forms/Documents/131.pdf>