

Tennessee

Tennessee's all-offender interlock law went into effect on July 1, 2013. First-time offenders who refuse an alcohol test can choose to use an interlock instead of being restricted to driving in certain locations at specific times. As of August 2015, there were 5,971 interlocks installed in Tennessee.

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

44,966

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

How soon can ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock
First offense	Upon conviction	6 months
Second offense	Upon conviction	Unclear
First refusal	Unclear	Unclear

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

Compliance based removal? Yes. During the final 120 days on an interlock, a person cannot violate any of the following conditions: 1) Tampering with, circumventing, or attempting to start the vehicle with a BAC in excess of a .02 BAC; provided, however, that a person shall not be in violation for attempting to start the vehicle, if a subsequent retest within 10 minutes shows a BAC of .02 or less and review of the digital images associated with each test confirms that the same person performed both tests; 2) Failing to take or skipping a rolling retest; provided, however, that a person shall not be in violation for failing to take or skipping a rolling retest if a review of the digital images associated with the test confirms that the vehicle was not occupied by the driver at the time of the retest; 3) Failing a rolling test with a BAC in excess of .02 BAC; provided, however, that a person shall not be in violation of this subdivision for failing a rolling test, if a subsequent retest within 10 minutes shows a BAC of .02 or less and review of the digital images associated with each test confirms that the same person performed both tests; 4) Removing or causing to be removed the interlock at any time during the 365 consecutive day period; and 5) Failing to appear at the interlock provider when required for calibration, monitoring, or inspection of the device.

Upon completion of the period on the interlock, the person shall request that the interlock provider certify that the person has complied with the interlock order.

Indigent Fund: No. The Department may establish a payment schedule for the interlock cost.

Interlock user fees (not including leasing costs of the device): Must pay \$100 administrative fee to the DMV upon installation.

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 Tennessee's 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.
- ✓ Require interlocks in all plea agreements or reductions in DUI charges.

Resources: Tennessee Statutes 55-10-401 to 55-10-423.

Act 888 of 2016: <http://share.tn.gov/sos/acts/109/pub/pc0888.pdf>