

New Jersey

Since December 1, 2019, Judges are required to order ignition interlocks for all convicted drunk drivers, including those who refuse a test. As of December 2017, there were 3,019 interlocks installed in New Jersey. Between 2006 to 2018, interlocks stopped 87,925 attempts to drive drunk, including 13,518 in 2018.

Why MADD calls the law all-offender? Judges are required to order an ignition interlock for all convicted drunk drivers

Ignition Interlock Law Overview and MADD Legislative Recommendations

How soon can an ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock
First offense .08 to .099 BAC	Upon conviction	3 months
First offense .10 to .14 BAC	Upon conviction	7 to 12 months
First offense .15 BAC plus	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

Compliance Based Removal?

Yes

All convicted drunk drivers who use an interlock must have no recordable violations during the final 30 days on device (such as registering a BAC of .08 or greater) or a Judge could extend the interlock restriction by up to 90 days

Day-for-Day Credit for early installation?

No

Legislative Recommendation *Allow for the use of ignition interlock after arrest and credit early installation of an interlock toward time ordered on an interlock upon conviction.*

Do plea agreements or reductions in the original DUI charge include the requirement of an interlock?

No

Legislative Recommendation *Allow a first-time apprehended drunk driver who did not cause an injury or property damage crash, and successfully completes six continuous months on an ignition interlock and completes other court or department conditions to be granted a plea deal.*

Indigent Program?

Yes

If a 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.

Interlock user fees (not including leasing costs of the device)

None