

# North Dakota Teen Licensing Changes

*Effective: Jan. 1, 2012*

## **Instructional Permit:**

- Teens that are eligible and receive their permit prior to Jan. 1, 2012 will be eligible to apply for a license after a minimum six-month holding period. They will not be required to hold the permit for 12 months (though, as always, it is an option).
- Teens 14 years of age that apply for a permit after Jan. 1, 2012, will be required to hold the permit for a minimum of 12 months. The 50 hours of supervised driving experience will also apply.
- Teens 15 years of age that apply for a permit after Jan. 1, 2012, will be required to hold the permit until age 16 or a minimum of six months, whichever is longer. The 50 hours of supervised driving experience will apply.
- The ban on cell phone use\* will apply to all teens issued a permit after Jan. 1, 2012.

**Penalty:** Failing to comply with requirements for an instructional permit – 2 points, up to \$500 fee.

## **Restricted License (under age 16):**

- The night driving limit will apply *only* to teens under the age of 16 in possession of a restricted operator's license issued after Jan. 1, 2012.
- The ban on cell phone use\* will apply to teens issued a restricted license after Jan. 1, 2012.

**Penalty:** Violating restrictions of a restricted license -- \$20 fee and 4 points.

**Note:** Teens under age 16 issued a restricted license prior to Jan. 1, 2012 could not be charged for violating the cell phone restriction.\*

## **Class D License (Age 16 and over):**

- The ban on cell phone use\* will apply to teens age 16-17 issued a Class D license after Jan. 1, 2012.

**Penalty:** Using an electronic communications device while operating a motor vehicle in motion -- \$20 fee, no points.

**Note:** Teens age 16-17 issued a Class D license prior to Jan. 1, 2012 could not be charged for violating the cell phone restriction.\*

**Farm Exemption:** The farm exemption applies to anyone holding a license no matter at which age obtained.

\* **Note:** A ban on texting-driving went into effect Aug. 1, 2011 and applies to all drivers regardless of age or when their license/permit was issued. **Penalty:** \$100 fee, no points.