Section: 2. Driver’s License Laws

Effective Date: 06/29/2021

Revised Date: 11/30/2021

Authority:
R.S. 32:378.2 (M)(N)

Background: Effective August 1, 2019, an individual who had an ignition interlock device installed by an interlock manufacturer approved by Louisiana State Police, Applied Technology, as a requirement of bail, a part of a pre-trial diversion program, or a term of suspended or deferred sentence (Article 894), for an offense involving the operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of alcohol and drugs and is subsequently convicted for such an offense, shall receive credit towards suspension time or any reinstatement requirement that may be imposed.

Definitions:
- **Alcohol Violations** – An alcohol related offense, including Refusal, Submit, Driving While Intoxicated (DWI), Underage Driving Under the Influence (UDUI), Submit Underage, and Vehicular Negligent Injury.
- **Ignition Interlock** – An in-car alcohol breath screening device that is connected to the engine’s ignition system used to prevent a vehicle from starting if it detects a blood alcohol level above a preset limit.

Requirements:
- To receive ignition interlock credit, an applicant must provide the following documents to the Office of Motor Vehicles:
  - Completed Application for Ignition Interlock Credit form signed by the applicant and the Violation Information section completed and signed by the court official.
  - A form from the interlock manufacturer, on company letter, which verifies if any interlock violations have been reported.
    - Must indicate the applicant has not had two or more of the violations listed below in a thirty (30) day period.
      - Tampering with the ignition interlock device
      - Circumventing the ignition interlock device
      - Failure to bring the ignition interlock device in for required service
      - Failure to take or pass a re-test
      - Failure to pass a breath test
      - Use of the emergency override feature without justification
      - Unauthorized removal of the device
Sample:

Eligibility:
- An applicant may apply for a driver’s license with the interlock restriction, provided he/she is eligible for issuance due to reinstatement or for a hardship license in accordance with Section 2, Policy 11.09, Ignition Interlock as a Condition of Reinstatement.
- An applicant may apply for a driver’s license with the interlock restriction “57” provided his/her record is a valid status. The following additional documentation will be required:
  - Interlock installment/lease agreement
  - Proof of registration
  - Proof of insurance
  - Pay a duplicate license fee to add the restriction
A license with the “57” restriction is not required to be issued, if the credit given will satisfy the interlock time required.
- Credit will not be allowed for any time the applicant had an ignition interlock device installed prior to August 1, 2019.
- Credit will not be given for any disqualification period on commercial driver’s license (CDL) privileges.
Exceptions:
- If an individual is charged or arrested for any offense involving the operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of alcohol and drugs, during the period in which the individual is required to have an ignition interlock device as a requirement of bail, a part of a pre-trial diversion program, or a term of a suspended or deferred sentence (Article 894), then credit will not be given.

Related Policies:
Section 2, Policy 11.00 Submit-Refusal
Section 2, Policy 11.09, Ignition Interlock as a Condition of Reinstatement
Section 2, Policy 11.10 Violation of Interlock Requirements – Condition of Reinstatement
Section 2, Policy 29.00 Eligibility of Hearing and Hardship by Statutes and Driver's License Class
Section 2, Policy 30.00 Hardship License Requirements