



Impaired Driving

Keep your young driver safe.

**IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT
YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT**

IN 2018, the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA) launched its **IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT** campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of driving while impaired by drugs, and to promote safer choices. Any time you consume a substance that makes you feel different, you are not safe to drive.
Impaired driving is not a mistake; it is a crime.

PARENTS: YOU are your child's number one influence! ¹

Make sure your young driver is aware of the leading causes of teen crashes.

DRIVER INEXPERIENCE

Most insurance companies classifies someone a "new driver" until they are 25 years-old

DISTRACTED DRIVING

Using electronic devices, eating, or being emotional or upset while driving are all considered forms of distracted driving

NIGHTTIME DRIVING

Schedule extra night-time driving practice with your teen

DROWSY DRIVING

Sleep is often the first thing to go with a teen's busy schedule. To be at their best, teens should average 9 hours of sleep a night

NOT USING SEAT BELTS

Illinois law requires all drivers and passengers, front and back seat, to wear a safety belt

RECKLESS DRIVING

Examples of reckless driving include: a lack of driving skills or experience, or driving while distracted

DRIVING WITH TEEN PASSENGERS

For the first 12 months of licensing, or until the driver turns 18, only ONE passenger under age 20 is allowed in the vehicle unless they are a sibling of the teen driver.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Substances that can impair safe driving include, but are not limited to: alcohol, marijuana, sleep aids, prescription medication, cough medicine and household chemicals

NHTSA FACTS ²

Those who drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, whether obtained legally or illegally, pose a danger to themselves, their passengers, and other road users. NHTSA is determined to put an end to impaired driving - to save lives.

! Impairment is Impairment no matter the substance !

It is incorrect to think driving while high will not affect you. Research shows that Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the chemical psychoactive chemical in marijuana, SLOWS reaction time and IMPAIRS cognitive performance, making it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.

You cannot drive safely while impaired. This is why it is illegal in the US to drive under the influence of any substance (alcohol, marijuana, opioids, methamphetamines, or any other drug) whether it is an illegally obtained, prescribed, or over-the-counter drug. Driving while impaired by any substance puts you and others in harm's way.

Visit **NHTSA.gov** to learn the latest research on impaired driving, misconceptions about marijuana use, and smarter choices YOU can make to drive safely.

¹ 2018 Illinois Youth Survey

² National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration. NHTSA.gov.

Have a conversation with your teen today about safe driving