

March 2024

THE PENNSYLVANIA POINT SYSTEM FACT SHEET

PennDOT maintains a driving record for every licensed driver in Pennsylvania. Points are added to a driving record when a driver is found guilty of certain driving (moving) violations.

The purpose of the point system is to help to improve driving habits and to ensure safe driving. PennDOT begins to take corrective action when a driving record reaches 6 or more points. The following sections explain what happens when a driving record reaches 6 or more points:

Under the Age of 18

The driving privilege of a person under the age of 18 will be suspended if that person accumulates six (6) or more points or is convicted of driving 26 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit. The first suspension will be for a period of 90 days. Any additional occurrences will result in a suspension of 120 days. This suspension is in addition to the requirements of the point system found below.

First Accumulation of 6 Points

When any driving record reaches 6 or more points for the first time, the driver will receive a written notice to take a special written point examination or attend a Driver Improvement School.

The examination will address:

- 1. Knowledge of Safe Driving Practices,
- 2. Knowledge of Departmental Sanctions, and
- 3. Knowledge of Related Safety Issues.

The driver has 30 days to successfully pass the exam or complete the Driver Improvement School. At the end of the 30 days, the driving privilege will be suspended until the exam or Driver Improvement School is passed.

Upon successful completion of the exam, 2 points will be removed from the driving record or 4 points for completion of the Driver Improvement School

Second and Subsequent Accumulation of 6 Points

When any driving record is reduced below six points and then reaches six or more points for a second or subsequent time, the driver will have to attend a Departmental Hearing and a Driver Improvement School. The driver will receive a written notice of the requirement to attend the hearing and Driver Improvement School

After the hearing, the Department may recommend one or more of the following:

- 1. Driver to take a special on-road driver's examination.
- 2. The driving privilege be suspended for:
 - a. A period not exceeding 15 days, for the 2nd accumulation of six or more points.
 - b. A period not exceeding 30 days, for the third or subsequent accumulation of six or more points.

If a person's driving privilege is suspended or a special driver's exam is recommended, 2 points will be removed from the driving record if the driver passes the exam within 30 days or 2 points will be removed once the suspension has been served, provided the driver has satisfactorily completed a driver improvement school.

Failure to attend the hearing or comply with the requirements of attending the Driver Improvement School will result in the suspension of the driving privilege until the requirements have been successfully completed.

Excessive Speeding

When a driver is convicted for speeding 31 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit, the driver will have to attend a Departmental Hearing and a Driver Improvement School. The driver will receive a written notice of the requirement to attend the hearing and Driver Improvement School. The hearing examiner will review the driving record. Upon the Department's review of the hearing file, one or more of the following may be recommended:

- 1. Take a special on-road driver's examination
- 2. The driving privilege will be suspended for a period of not exceeding 15 days

No points will be removed for passing the Driver Improvement School

If a 15 day suspension is recommended, the driving record will show 5 points upon restoration from the suspension. No points are removed if a special driver's examination is recommended and completed.

Failure to attend the hearing or comply with the Driver Improvement School shall result in the suspension of the driving privilege until the requirements have been successfully completed.

Accumulation of 11 Points or More

When any driving record reaches 11 or more points, the driver's license will automatically be suspended. The length of suspension depends on how many times the license was suspended in the past. The suspension schedule is as follows:

- 1. First Suspension 5 days per point
- 2. Second Suspension 10 days per point
- 3. Third Suspension 15 days per point
- 4. Subsequent Suspensions One year

Point Removal for Safe Driving

Three (3) points are removed from a driving record for every 12 consecutive months a person drives (from the date of the last violation or date of restoration, whichever is more recent) without a violation which results in points, license suspension or revocation. Once a driving record is reduced to zero and remains at zero points for 12 consecutive months, any further accumulation of points is treated as the first accumulation of points.

License Suspension and Restoration

If a person's driving privilege is to be suspended, a written notice will be mailed to the driver listing the date when the suspension will begin. The driver may appeal the suspension to his or her county's Court of Common Pleas. The appeal must be made WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER the mailing date of the notice. The most recent product (ie, license, permit(s) and/or camera card) must be returned to the Bureau of Driver Licensing by the effective date of suspension listed on the notice or the State Police, local police or other authorities that have been delegated by the Department will be notified to pick up the license. In addition to serving the suspension or revocation, the appropriate restoration fee must be paid before the license will be returned. After the driving privilege is restored, the driving record will show 5 points, regardless of the number of points which appeared on the record before the license was suspended (except in the case of a 15 day suspension resulting from a hearing for the second accumulation of 6 points).

The following schedule indicates the violations and the number of points given for committing each violation:

Vehicle Code	Description	# o	f Poin
1512	Violation of restriction on driver's license - wearing glasses, etc		2
1571	Violation concerning license		3
3102	Failure to obey authorized persons directing traffic		2
3111.1	Obedience to traffic control devices warning of hazardous conditions		2
3112(a)(3)(i) or (ii)	Failure to stop for a red light		3
3114(a)(1)	Failure to stop for a flashing red light		3
	Failure to yield half of roadway to oncoming vehicle		
3303	Improper passing, overtaken driver to maintain speed; passing driver to pull in at safe distance		3
3304	Improper passing on the right		3
3305	Improper passing on the left, clear distance ahead		3
	Improper passing on a hill		
	Improper passing at a railroad crossing or intersection.		
. , . ,	Improper passing at a bridge or tunnel		
	Improper passing in a no-passing zone		
	Following too closely		
	Failure to yield to driver on the right at intersection		
	Failure to yield to oncoming driver when making left turn		
	Failure to stop for stop sign		
, ,	Failure to yield at yield sign		
` '	Failure to yield when entering or crossing roadway between intersections		
	Improper passing in emergency response area		
	Failure to reduce speed in emergency response area		
	Improper passing of disabled vehicle		
, ,, ,	Failure to reduce speed passing disabled vehicle		
	Improper turning around - illegal U-turns		
	Failure to obey signal indicating approach of train		
	Failure to comply with crossing gate or barrier30-day suspension		
	Failure to stop at railroad crossings		
	Failure to stop when entering from alley, driveway or building		
	Failure to stop for school bus with flashing red lights60-day suspension		
	Driving too fast for conditions(if violation occurs in an active work zone and in		
	conjunction with an accident, 15-day suspension)	and	2
3362	Exceeding maximum speed (Miles over Speed Limit):		
	6 to 10		2
	11 to 15(if violation occurs in an active work zone, 15-day suspension)		
	16 to 25(if violation occurs in an active work zone, 15-day suspension)	and	4
	26 to 30(if violation occurs in an active work zone, 15-day suspension)	and	5
	31 and over Departmental Hearing and Sanctions provided under Section 1538(d)	and	5
	(if violation occurs in an active work zone, 15-day suspension)		
3365(b)	Exceeding special speed limit in school zone		3
. ,	Exceeding special speed limit for trucks on downgrades		
3542(a)	Failure to yield to pedestrian in crosswalk		2
3547(a)	Failure to yield to pedestrian on sidewalk when entering from a driveway or alley		3
3549(a)	Failure to yield to blind pedestrians		3
3702	Improper backing		3
3714(a)	Careless driving		3
0745	Leaving scene of accident involving property damage only		4