

Georgia

Since May 1999, Judges are required to order an interlock for all repeat offenders for a period of 12 months. Effective July 2017, first-time offenders and first refusals have an option to go on an interlock in lieu of a restricted or suspended license. Users who choose the interlock experience reduced reinstatement fees, avoid the costs of a DUI school and Administrative License Suspension hearing fees. As of December 2017, there were 2,245 interlocks in use in Georgia. Between 2006 to 2018, interlocks stopped 35,496 attempts to drive drunk, including 4,339 in 2018.

Why MADD does not call the law all-offender? We do not classify the law as all-offender as first-time offenders can obtain a time/route restricted license for the duration of a four month license suspension.

Ignition Interlock Law Overview and MADD Legislative Recommendations

How soon can an ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock	Legislative Recommendation
First offense	Upon arrest	4 months	<i>Only allow interlock driving privileges and eliminate route/time restricted option for first-time offenders.</i>
Second offense	120 days after conviction	12 months	
First refusal	Upon arrest	12 months	
Compliance Based Removal?			No
Legislative Recommendation	<i>Add a compliance based removal component to the law (a user must prove a certain period of sober driving before exiting the interlock program).</i>		
Day-for-Day Credit for early installation?			No
Legislative Recommendation	<i>Allow for the use of ignition interlock after arrest and credit early installation of an interlock toward time ordered on an interlock upon conviction.</i>		
Do plea agreements or reductions in the original DUI charge include the requirement of an interlock?			No
Legislative Recommendation	<i>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.</i>		
Indigent Program?			No
Legislative Recommendation	<i>Create an indigent program so low-income interlock users have access to these devices. This program should be paid for by interlock vendors or non-indigent interlock users.</i>		
Interlock user fees (not including leasing costs of the device)			Yes

Ignition Interlock Driving Permit fee is \$25.00. Upon completion of interlock program, person must also pay a \$100 fee. Both of these fees go to DDS (DMV).