

Texas

Effective September 2015, any arrested drunk driver can go an interlock occupational license following arrest or choose not to drive. Since September 2005, Judges are required to order ignition interlocks for all repeat offenders for first-time offenders with a BAC of .15 or greater as a condition of probation. As of August 2017, there were 53,639 interlocks installed in Texas. Between 2006 to 2018, interlocks stopped 309,597 attempts to drive drunk, including 32,850 in 2018.

Why MADD calls the law all-offender? Any arrested drunk driver can go an interlock occupational license during a license suspension following arrest or choose not to drive.

Ignition Interlock Law Overview and MADD Legislative Recommendations

How soon can an ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock	Legislative Recommendation
First offense .08 to .14 BAC	Upon revocation	90 days to 1 year	<i>Allow for the use of interlocks for any refusal</i>
First offense .15 BAC plus	Upon revocation	1 year	
Second offense	Unclear	1 year	
First refusal	Interlocks not available for first-time refusals		
Compliance Based Removal?			No
Legislative Recommendation	<i>Add a statewide 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?			Yes
Indigent Program?			No
However, the Department may establish a payment schedule for the reasonable cost of leasing or buying and monitoring and maintaining the interlock.			
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

Must pay \$10 to the DMV for an interlock restricted license.