

Increased Traffic Offender Penalties

Fact sheet

New penalties will be introduced from **1 February 2015** for drivers who repeatedly exceed the demerit points limit for their licence.

The stronger penalties are part of actions announced by the NSW Government in 2013. They target drivers who repeatedly take risks and put others in serious danger.

They aim to ensure that drivers understand the road rules and the risks of unsafe driving, and change their behaviour.

The new penalties are being introduced at the same time as stricter penalties on serious and repeat drink driving offenders, through the mandatory alcohol interlock program.

What are the new penalties?

- Unrestricted licence holders who exceed their demerit points limit twice in five years must re-sit and pass the Driver Knowledge Test. This is the test that all driver licence applicants must pass before they get their learner licence. They must also complete a driver education course.
- Provisional licence holders who twice exceed their demerit points limit must also re-sit and pass the Driver Knowledge Test.
- Drivers who commit a second or subsequent drink driving offence in five years must pass an appropriate knowledge test before they can get their licence back.

These new penalties are in addition to existing demerit point penalties.

All tests and courses must be completed at each person's expense.

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