

Graduated Licensing System Review - Cars
Director Policy, Standards and Knowledge
Driver and Vehicle Services
Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure
Western Australia

GDTLScar@transport.wa.gov.au

7 November 2025

Dear Director,

The Australasian College of Road Safety (ACRS) is the region's peak membership association for road safety with a vision of eliminating death and serious injury on the road. Our members include experts from all areas of road safety including policy makers, health and transport professionals, academics, community organisations, researchers, federal, state and local government agencies, private companies and members of the public. The purpose of the ACRS is to support our members in their efforts to eliminate serious road trauma through knowledge sharing, professional development, networking and advocacy.

ACRS believes that we should prevent all fatal and serious injuries on our roads; the road traffic system must be made safe for all road users; system designers should aim to prevent human error and mitigate its consequences; life and health are not exchangeable for other benefits in society; and that all ACRS policy positions must be evidence based.

The current consultation arises from a request in October 2024 by the Minister for the Department to review the WA Graduated Licensing System to focus on: (1) learner and provisional driver skills and training requirements to be granted a driver's licence for cars and motorcycles; and (2) identifying what enhanced components or additional requirements are recommended for a driver or rider to mitigate the risks of their early solo driving and to gradually expose them to the full risks inherent in using the road. This consultation is for cars.

[The current consultation](#)

The consultation paper identifies areas to strengthen and improve the current system including:

- Increasing the minimum learner period
- Increasing the minimum logbook hours from 50 to 75 hours
- Increasing the provisional driver period - P2 increasing from 17 ½ years to 18 years
- Further restrictions on mobile phone use from hands free only to none except in-car systems

ACRS response to the consultation paper

In general, ACRS supports the proposed reforms. However, we believe there could be improvements to further strengthen the system and increase alignment with best practise. A recent report from the Centre for Automotive Safety Research includes current evidence on graduated driver licensing.¹

We recommend the minimum logbook hours be increased to at least 100 hours, which is the level adopted in most Australian jurisdictions. We also propose increasing the minimum number of nighttime driving hours from 5 to 10-20 hours, again, to better align with other Australian jurisdictions.

For the WA context specifically, given the vast road network, it may be beneficial to include a requirement for some hours of open road rural/regional driving.

Increases in support to disadvantaged and/or regional/remote communities should accompany the implementation of the changes. It is also suggested that the Blood Alcohol Concentration of supervising drivers and instructors be considered in line with current evidence and Work Health and Safety responsibilities when vehicles are a workplace.

ACRS appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Graduated Licensing System and contribute to improved road safety in Western Australia. Please let us know if you need any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Adam Wilmot
WA Chapter Committee
ACRS



Dr Ingrid Johnston
Chief Executive Officer
ACRS

¹ Wundersitz LN, Bailey TJ, Baldock MRJ. Novice driver licensing in New Zealand (CASR236). Adelaide: Centre for Automotive Safety Research; 2024.
<https://casr.adelaide.edu.au/casrpubfile/3232/CASR236.pdf>