

Frequently Ask Questions concerning getting your licenses

- **How old to I have to be to get my licenses?**

The youngest you can be to become a licensed driver is 16 years and 3 months

- **How old do I need to be to get my learners permit?**

You may get your learners permit at 15 years and 6 months.

- **How long must I hold my learners permit?**

You are required to hold the learners permit for 9 months. That is why the earliest a person can get there licenses is 16 years and 3 months.

- **What are the rules for driving with a learners permit?**

To be able to drive legally with a learners permit the driver must have the learners permit with them as they drive. They must have a person seated next to them that has a valid driver's licenses and at least 21 years old. If the person seated next to them is a family member they must be at least 18 years old and have a valid driver's licenses. **It is not legal for a person with a learners permit to operate a motor vehicle by themselves.**

- **Why do I need to hold the learners permit for 9 months it was not like that a couple years ago?**

This 9 month requirement was added to give the student drive a time frame in which to get supervised driving done and to improve there skills. They have to keep a log of there supervised driving. It is done in hopes of having a much more experienced driver after this 9 month period of time.

- **What is the 40 hour log I have heard about?**

It is a log that the students have gotten in there Classroom Driver Education classes, and needs to be filled in by them as they get that supervised driving done. The parent signs off on the log saying that the student has done the hours in the log. A student must get at least 40 hours done in the 9 months they hold the learners permit. 10 of the hours must be night time driving.

- **Can my student begin there supervised driving/40 hour log before the classroom driver education class starts in there 10th grade year.**

They can start this at any time they reach the age of 15 years and 6 months and have gotten there learners permit. That is a decision the parents must make. Many students reach this age before they start the classroom Driver Education class. Please remember that the student must hold the learners permit 9 months regardless of when they get there permit. If your student does not get there learners permit until they are 16 years old, they will not be eligible for there licenses until they are 16 years and 9 months old.

- **When will I get the classroom driver education class?**

You will take the classroom Driver Education class in your 10 grade year. It is part of the 10th grade Physical Education curriculum. It is a 9 week class.

- **Why do I need the classroom Driver Education part of it?**

It is required by the state as part of the process the student needs to go through to get the licenses. At the successful completion of this class (passing grade) you will be given the green DEC-1 card. This card is needed to register for the behind the wheel class.

- **Do I need my permit to take the Classroom Driver education class?**

No you do not need the learners permit to take the classroom driver education class.

- **When can I sign up for BTW?**

You can sign up for BTW after you have gotten your learners permit and you have finished classroom driver education and the teacher has given you the green DEC-1 card. This card allows you to sign up. Most student's sign up when they have done these 2 things and have had their permit between 4-8 months and finished more than 20 hours of their 40 hour log.

- **How do I sign up for BTW?**

To sign up for BTW you should call the Bryant Registration Center at 703.660.2056 first. They will give you info on when and what classes are open. You must go to Bryant (2709 Popkins Lane, 22306) and register in person. You can not register by phone.

- **How much does it cost?**

BTW cost \$235. Fairfax County offers reduced fees to students on free and reduced lunch. Please ask about this when you call

- **How long is BTW?**

The class is 7 days 2 hours each day. The class in most cases will spend the first 2 sessions on the range at Mt. Vernon working on basic driving maneuvers. The last 5 days will be spent on the road generally going from the less complicated (residential) to the more complicated driving (Fairfax County Parkway, Beltway) Unless stated the classes do not meet on weekends.