

## **WHAT IS THE TEENS PROGRAM?**

The TEENS (Teen Electronic Event Notification Service) program is a voluntary free notification service provided by NYS DMV that notifies a parent or guardian of minors under the age of 18 when a conviction, suspension, revocation, accident, or ticket has appeared on the minor's DMV record.

## **WHAT KIND OF NOTIFICATION?**

If the parent/guardian enrolled through a DMV office or through the mail, DMV will send a letter via USPS to the parent/guardian acknowledging participation in the TEENS program. Notification will be sent if the parent/guardian withdraws from the program before the minor turns 18. A notification letter will also be sent when a reportable event has been posted to the minor's DMV record. The notification will describe the event (conviction, suspension, revocation, accident, or ticket) that appeared on the minor's DMV record, along with some basic details. DMV will send the notification to the address on the parent/guardian's DMV record.

If the parent/guardian enrolled in the TEENS program through MyDMV, DMV will send the notifications described above via USPS and also an electronic notification will be sent to the parent/guardian's e-mail address provided at the time of enrollment. The parent/guardian will be directed to log on the MyDMV/TEENS website with a user id and password in order to view the details of the event. Parents/guardians who enroll through the web will be given the option to receive electronic notifications only.

## **WHY DOES NYS DMV HAVE THE TEENS PROGRAM?**

Motor vehicle crashes are the number one killer of people ages 16-17. For the year 2007, 16- and 17- year olds were only 1% of all drivers. However, in that same time, 3% of all motor vehicle crashes involved a 16- or 17- year old driver.

Statistics aside, common sense tells us that sound decision-making and judgment, as well as an awareness of hazards, develop through experience. Add to that the common teen behaviors such as risk-taking and thrill-seeking, along with peer pressure, which all put today's young driver in jeopardy. DMV wants to provide every tool possible to parents of young drivers to assist them in helping their young drivers to develop safe and responsible driving behaviors.

## **WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE TEENS PROGRAM?**

Any parent or guardian who has a child under age 18 and the child has a NYS driver permit, driver license, non-driver ID or driver license/ID number, may participate.

Please note:

- The child must be under the age of 18.
- The parent/guardian must have a NYS license or non-driver ID.

## **HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR THE TEENS PROGRAM?**

There are three enrollment options available for parents and guardians:

- 1) The minor's parent/guardian can provide their parent/guardian's driver license ID number in the space provided in the Parent/Guardian consent box on the minor's Application for Driver License or Non-Driver ID (form MV-44).
- 2) Parents/guardians may enroll through the web at [dmv.ny.gov/mydmv/mydmv](http://dmv.ny.gov/mydmv/mydmv) by selecting the TEENS option and providing the necessary information for enrollment.
- 3) A TEENS enrollment application (MV-TEENS) may be downloaded at any time from the DMV's website ([dmv.ny.gov/es/node/2148](http://dmv.ny.gov/es/node/2148)), then completed and mailed to the Bureau of Driver Training Programs at the following address:

Bureau of Driver Training Programs  
NYS Department of Motor Vehicles  
6 Empire State Plaza - Room 327  
Albany, NY 12228

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MY SON/DAUGHTER TURNS 18?**

DMV's system will recognize when your son or daughter turns 18, and participation in the program will automatically end. At that point, your child will be of legal age and will have the right of privacy over personal license file information.

## **DO ALL ACCIDENTS APPEAR ON A DRIVER'S FILE?**

No. Only accidents that are reported AND meet the reporting threshold appear on a driver's file. The DMV reporting threshold for accidents is one that involves a death, personal injury, or property damage to any one person in excess of \$1,000.

## **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I RECEIVE A NOTIFICATION?**

Enrollment in this program does not change any convictions, suspensions, revocations, accidents, or tickets on the junior driver record. Notification of these events is done as an informational service. What you do with the information is entirely up to you. However, we suggest that you use the opportunity to talk to your young driver and discuss how to avoid similar occurrences in the future.