

Rhode Island

Effective June 24, 2016, Rhode Island's all-offender interlock law went into effect. Judges must order interlocks for first-time offenders who apply for a hardship license following a DUI conviction. Judges must order an interlock for all repeat and first-time offenders with a BAC of .15 or greater after the hardship license concludes. As of August 2015, there were 501 interlocks installed in Rhode Island.

How soon can ignition interlock be installed?		Duration on ignition interlock
First offense	Upon conviction	30 days to 1 year
Second offense	45 days after conviction	6 months to 2 years
First refusal	Upon conviction	6 months to 2 years

How many times an interlock stopped a drunk driving start (.08 BAC or more) in Rhode Island?

2,565

From Dec. 1, 2006 to Dec. 1, 2016

Day-for-Day Credit for early installation: No.

Compliance based removal? Yes. Interlock companies submit quarterly reports concerning proof of installation and proper use of interlocks to the DMV. Prior to the reinstatement of an unrestricted license, the division of motor vehicles shall review the person's driving record and compliance with the ignition interlock order to ensure that the person has fulfilled the specific requirements as set forth by the sentencing judge or magistrate. Upon verification that said conditions have been satisfied, a motorist's license shall be reinstated.

Indigent Fund: No. The Department may establish a payment schedule for the interlock cost.

Interlock user fees (not including leasing costs of the device): Must pay \$100 administrative fee to the DMV upon installation.

Role of Court and Driver's License Agency Relating to Interlocks	
Court	Driver's License Agency
Judges order interlocks	Issues interlock restricted licenses and receives reports of compliance with court ordered interlocks

Does the state advertise the interlock law? No.

Do plea agreements or reduction in the original DUI charge include the requirement of an interlock? No.

Resources: Rhode Island DMV: <http://www.dmv.ri.gov/inspections/interlock/index.php>
<http://www.dmv.ri.gov/documents/forms/license/HARDSHIP%20LICENSE%20INSTRUCTIONS.pdf>

How to improve Rhode Island's ignition interlock law?

- ✓ Add a defined compliance based removal component to the law (a user must prove a certain period of sober driving before exiting the interlock program).
- ✓ Allow for the use of ignition interlock after arrest and credit early installation of an interlock toward time ordered on an interlock upon conviction.
- ✓ Advertise the ignition interlock law during twice yearly federally funded crackdowns on drunk driving ([Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over](#)).
- ✓ Create an indigent fund so poor interlock users have access to these devices. This fund should be paid for by interlock vendors or non-indigent interlock users.
- ✓ Require interlocks in all plea agreements or reductions in DUI charges.

<http://www.dmv.ri.gov/adjudication/hardship/index.php>
 SB 2231A of 2014: <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText14/SenateText14/S2231A.pdf>
 SB 2370 of 2016: <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText16/SenateText16/S2370B.pdf>
<http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/title31/31-27/index.htm>