

RESTORING YOUR LICENSE

You can call PennDOT at 1-800-932-4600 after you receive your Suspension Letter to request your Restoration Requirements Letter. This letter will tell you what you need to do to get your license back. It may include serving a suspension time, paying a restoration fee, and/or paying any fines/fees associated with a criminal, traffic, or court obligation.

LICENSES AVAILABLE DURING SUSPENSION

PennDOT offers an Occupational Limited License (OLL) and a Probationary License (PL) for individuals whose licenses are suspended but who still need a license to get to a job, job training program, school, or medical appointments. These licenses are sometimes referred to as "bread and butter" licenses.

PennDOT's website has the application available for download, but there is a fee for filing the application. PennDOT will review the application and grant or deny the limited license within 20 days. If you are denied, appeal instructions will be included in the decision.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ Keep copies of all your paperwork from the court and PennDOT including receipts, envelopes, and names of people with whom you spoke.
- ✓ Turn in your license or acknowledgement form to start the suspension time.
- ✓ Obtain a restoration requirements letter.

WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?

You can visit our website at www.nlsa.us. You can also obtain legal information on a variety of legal topics by visiting www.PALawHELP.org.

ABOUT NLSA

Neighborhood Legal Services Association (NLSA) is a private, nonprofit corporation created in 1966 to provide high-quality, free civil legal services to low-income individuals, the elderly, and the abused of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence counties. Our mission is to meet the civil legal needs of the poor and vulnerable in our communities through effective legal representation and education. If you have a civil legal problem, please call our Legal Helpline at 1-866-761-NLSA (6572) to see if you qualify for assistance.

www.nlsa.us



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REMEMBER. The law often changes. Each case is different. This pamphlet is meant to give you general information and not to give you specific legal advice. Please use the information found in this brochure carefully since the law is constantly changing and the information may not accurately reflect any changes in the law that occurred following the creation and publication of the brochure.



The official registration and financial information of Neighborhood Legal Services Association may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Federal regulations applying to NLSA require that we notify all donors that no funds can be expended by NLSA for any activity prohibited under P.L. 104-134 or otherwise prohibited by 45. C.F.R. §1600 et seq.

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NLSA

Neighborhood Legal Services Association

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION

Causes for License Suspension, Starting the Suspension, and Restoring your License



AGENCY RESPONSIBLE

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is an administrative agency responsible for regulating driver's licenses. Visit <http://www.dmv.state.pa.us> for more information about PennDOT.

CAUSES FOR SUSPENSION

- X Certain Traffic Offenses
- X Certain Criminal Offenses
- X Failure to Meet Obligations
- X Acquiring too Many Points

WHEN THE SUSPENSION STARTS

- When your license is suspended, the information gets sent to PennDOT who will send a Suspension Letter to the last address they have on file for you. It will tell you when your suspension starts.
- **Please be aware that the clock starts ticking on your suspension ONLY when you either surrender your license to the court or PennDOT OR you complete and send PennDOT a Form DL-16LC.**
- You can appeal a suspension by following the instructions in your Suspension Letter and an appeal may delay the start of your license suspension.

WHO TO CALL FOR HELP

To find out if you qualify for legal assistance from NLSA, please call the office in your county.

Bridgewater 724-378-0595
Butler 724-282-3888
New Castle 724-658-2677
Pittsburgh 412-255-6700
(toll-free) 1-866-761-6572

REASONS FOR SUSPENSION:

A. Certain Traffic Offenses

Moving and traffic violations are regulated by the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code, and there are certain traffic offenses that carry a license suspension as part of the penalty for the offense.

For example:

- Driving without a license
- Driving while license is suspended
- Lack of vehicle insurance



B. Certain Criminal Offenses

There are certain criminal offenses that carry a driver's license suspension as part of the penalty for that criminal offense. Please bear in mind that there are some nondriving-related criminal offenses that carry a driver's license suspension as part of the penalty of the offense as well.

Some common examples of criminal offenses that carry license suspension include any offense under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device, and Cosmetic Act; underage drinking; driving while under the influence (DUI); hit-and-run offense; a felony offense involving a vehicle; and failing to give consent to a blood, breath, or urine test (regardless of whether you are found not guilty of the DUI).



- Driving without a license
- Driving while license is suspended
- Lack of vehicle insurance

Are all examples of traffic offenses that can carry a license suspension

C. Failing to Meet Obligations

Failing to meet certain obligations will allow PennDOT to suspend your license until you meet or make arrangements to meet the obligation.

Generally speaking, the license suspension lasts until you respond to the underlying court obligation.

This list describes the types of obligations where failure to pay or respond can result in a license suspension:

- Failing to pay child support (in arrears for at least three months)
- Failing to pay a civil money judgment against you that is a result of a traffic accident
- Failing to respond to traffic citations (including parking tickets)
- Failing to make or follow payment arrangements with a court.

D. Acquiring Points

In Pennsylvania, you get points assigned to your license if you are found guilty of certain driving (moving) violations. Different traffic/moving violations carry different amounts of points.

If you get six or more points on your license, PennDOT make you take a written point exam, attend a Departmental Hearing, or have your license suspended.

Your license will be suspended if:

- You are under 18 and have 6 or more points
- You fail a written point exam within 30 days of getting 6 or more points for the first time
- You fail to attend a Departmental Hearing after getting 6 or more points for the second time
- You get 11 or more points
- Three points will be removed from your driving record for every twelve consecutive months that pass without license suspension, revocation, or committing a violation