

# Restricted Operator's Licence Program

## Demerit Suspensions

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### What is the Restricted Operator's Licence Program?

The Restricted Operator's Licence Program helps persons who need to drive for employment, health, or educational reasons while they are serving a demerit suspension. Certain restrictions apply, and there are specific eligibility criteria. Alberta Transportation, Driver Fitness and Monitoring administers the program.

### What is a demerit suspension?

A demerit suspension is a suspension of an Operator's Licence resulting from an accumulation of 15 or more demerit points within a two-year period. Demerits are assigned for traffic violations.

### How do I find out if I am eligible to participate in the program?

You are eligible to participate in the Restricted Operator's Licence Program if you meet the following criteria:

- you have a valid Alberta Operator's Licence at the time of receiving your notice of pending suspension,
- your Operator's Licence is not a Class 7 learner's licence, probationary, or a Graduated Driver Licence (GDL),
- your suspension was imposed because of an accumulation of demerit points,
- you have no other active or pending suspension(s) or any types of warrant(s),
- you have not served any demerit or *Criminal Code (Canada)* suspension(s) within the past two years,
- all outstanding fines and non-alcohol reinstatement fees must be paid in full, and
- any other reinstatement conditions must be met.

To help you confirm the above criteria, you may purchase a suspension verification form from any Alberta Registry Agent.

Ensure both sides of the form are fully completed and submit your application to:

Driver Fitness and Monitoring  
Alberta Transportation  
Main Floor, Twin Atria Building  
4999 - 98 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3

***Note: Your application does not guarantee that you will be accepted into the program. There is a minimum three-day waiting period for application processing.***

### Who reviews my application?

Driver Fitness and Monitoring reviews your application to ensure you meet the eligibility criteria. By signing the application form, you authorize Driver Fitness and Monitoring staff to contact your employer, physician, educator, or family member to confirm the information on your application.

### How will I know if I am accepted into the program?

Driver Fitness and Monitoring staff interviews all applicants by telephone before approving or denying an application. Applicants will be contacted again by phone whether they are accepted into the program or rejected. A letter of confirmation will be sent to you, outlining the restrictions which apply to your Restricted Operator's Licence. A rejection letter is also sent to applicants who have been denied participation in the program.

### Where can I get my Restricted Operator's Licence?

Once you have been approved for a Restricted Operator's Licence, you must obtain your actual Restricted Operator's Licence from any Alberta Registry Agent. You must turn in your regular Operator's Licence before the Restricted Operator's Licence is issued.

## What restrictions can I expect with a Restricted Operator's Licence?

Restrictions vary from applicant to applicant, depending on a person's need to drive while under a demerit suspension. Driver Fitness and Monitoring, in assessing the application, consider factors such as hours of work, travel time to and from work, shift work, training commitments, and health needs of the applicant, and whether or not there are any other means of transportation available.

**Note:** *The Restricted Operator's Licence applies to your primary employment only.*

## What consequences will I face if I don't abide by the restrictions of the Restricted Operator's Licence?

If you violate the restrictions:

- your Restricted Operator's Licence will be revoked and you will serve the remainder of your suspension term,
- you cannot reapply during this period to the Restricted Operator's Licence Program,
- the vehicle you are driving may be seized for 30 days, and
- you may also be charged with driving while your licence is suspended. If you are charged and convicted of driving while your licence is suspended, your licence will be suspended for at least an additional six-month period.

## What if I am charged with a driving offence while my licence is restricted?

Your Restricted Operator's Licence will be revoked immediately, and you will serve the remainder of your suspension term.

## How would anyone know that I have a Restricted Operator's Licence?

The licence you will be issued clearly identifies you as a restricted operator. It carries a highly visible "restricted" designation, including the restricted terms. The restricted designation and your specific restrictions are also entered in a central computer system which is accessible by law enforcement agencies.

## How long is the Restricted Operator's Licence in effect?

The Restricted Operator's Licence is valid for the length of your suspension term only, unless it has been revoked. When you have completed your suspension period, you must return the Restricted Operator's Licence to any Alberta Registry Agent and obtain a regular Operator's Licence.

## If my application is denied, can I request a review of the Driver Fitness and Monitoring decision?

Yes, you can make a written submission to the Alberta Transportation Safety Board.

## For applications and more information . . .

Listings of Alberta Registry Agents can be found under the "License and Registry Services" section in your telephone directory or call:

Edmonton: (780) 422-7330

Outside Edmonton, call: 310-0000 and ask for 422-7330.