

Driving in Australia

Important things you need to know before driving in Australia



Australia Driver's licence - Full, Learner, Provisional

- You must have a valid Australian licence to drive in Australia.



Car registration

- You must register your car before you drive it.



Seat belt

- You and all passengers must wear seat belt while using the car.



Child Seat

- Children age 7 or under must use child seat.



Driving Law and Road Rules

- There are strict rules about alcohol and drugs intake when driving. No drugs when driving.
- You must follow all road rules while driving.

Contact **Road and Maritime Services** for more information on licence, registration, and driving law and rules **13 22 13** or go to <http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/>

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What happens if you do not follow the law related to driving?

PENALTIES



Car Insurance

- In NSW, you need to have **CTP (Compulsory Third Party)** insurance to cover the other person
- **Comprehensive** insurance covers both you and the other person.

Fine

A police officer may give you a fine on the spot. For example:

- Not wearing a seat belt
- Children (under age 7) not using child seat
- Not stopping at red light



Court

You may go to court if you break more serious law. For example:

- Driving after drinking too much alcohol
- Driving after taking drugs
- Dangerous speeding



Court – heavy fine

The Court may ask you to pay a very expensive fine.



Court order

The Court may ask you to do certain things.

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Court - Prison

In some states including NSW, the Court may send you to prison when you break certain driving law or you have broken the same law.



Court – Licence cancellation

The Court may cancel your licence.

You can get legal help from:

1. **Law Access NSW - 1300 888 529 (free telephone legal helpline)**
You can call Law Access with help from TIS interpreters (131450)
2. **Community Legal Centres NSW**
<http://www.clcnsw.org.au/> (Find your closest centre and contact number online)
3. **Legal Aid NSW**
<https://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/legal-aid-nsw-offices> (find your closest office and contact number online)