

## Driving in Australia & ACT

### 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 **Access Canberra** for more information on licence, registration, and driving law and rules call **13 22 81** or go to

[https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/chat/chat\\_launch](https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/chat/chat_launch)



**Car Insurance**

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

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

#### PENALTIES



#### 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.



#### 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.



## Driving in Australia & ACT

You can get legal help from:

### The Legal Aid Commission (ACT)

- An independent statutory authority who's function is to provide legal assistance in the ACT.
- If you need **an interpreter**, you can call Legal Aid through Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) **(131450)**
- Contact via <https://www.legalaidact.org.au/> or call **1300 654 314**

### Canberra Community Law

- Provides legal services to people on low incomes or facing other disadvantage in Canberra and the region
- Contact via **133 677** or <https://www.canberracommunitylaw.org.au/our-legal-services.html>