

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



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.

Source: https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/chat/chat_launch

<https://www.acat.act.gov.au/what-to-expect/representation-and-advice/free-legal-advice-providers>

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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.



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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>