



Habitual Traffic Offender Hardship License Criteria

Before applying for a hardship license at the Registry of Motor Vehicles, please review the requirements below to determine if you are eligible. Although you may meet all requirements, issuance of a hardship license is only granted at the reasonable discretion of the RMV, based on the facts of the case.

- There is **NO** evidence of any operation of a motor vehicle since the effective date of the Habitual Traffic Offender (HTO) suspension.
- The **MINIMUM** amount of time, one year from the date of suspension, has been served.
- All other active suspension/revocation periods have been **COMPLETED***

***Exception:** You may apply for hardship consideration if there are multiple HTO suspensions, provided there are no **new incidents** occurring **AFTER** the first HTO suspension date.

- You have completed the National Safety Council Driver Retraining Course within three years of your request for a hardship license.
- You have documented a legitimate hardship. You must provide a letter from your employer, on letterhead, which is dated within the 30 days preceding the hardship license request. The letter must state your need for a hardship license and the work hours. **Note:** The RMV may only grant an identical 12-hour, 7 day license.

If you are self employed, you must present proof of self-employment. Acceptable forms of proof consist of a business certificate, tax forms indicating self-employment, and/or a current professional license. You must also present a letter on your own behalf explaining your need for a hardship license and the hours requested. **Note:** The RMV may only grant an identical 12-hour, 7 day license.

If you are applying for a hardship license for other purposes (i.e. education, medical treatments), the RMV requires third party documentation of the hardship. **Note:** The RMV may only grant an identical 12-hour, 7 day license.

- You are responsible for providing proof regarding the availability of public transportation. This proof may be included within the employer's letter. You may also provide local bus/transit routes, MapQuest etc. Hardship requests may be denied if you access employment, school, or medical treatments via public transportation unless the proof of hardship articulates public transportation will not satisfy the request and the reason therefore.
- An Ignition Interlock Device (IID) is required if:
 1. An OUI revocation has completed, while the HTO has been in effect
AND
 2. There are two or more OUI(s) on the record
OR
 3. An OUI revocation has completed and you never reinstated for the OUI offense and there are two or more OUI(s) on the record.
OR
 4. You are an OUI First Time Offender, you took a breathalyzer at the time of your arrest with results of .15 or greater, you were granted a hardship license, and shall be required to have an IID installed throughout the life of that hardship.

An IID is only installed after hardship approval has been granted.

If you are required to install an Ignition Interlock Device, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/guides/ignition-interlock-device-program> to review whether you are eligible to apply for indigency status. Approval includes waived costs for installation, device, monitoring, and service, but not costs related to violations or any RMV fees or services.

Application for a hardship license will be subject to the requirements in place on the date of application.

These requirements are subject to change at the RMV's discretion.