Victoria's Graduated Licensing System

Victoria's Graduated Licensing System provides a structured transition as a new driver's experience and maturity increases. It helps new drivers to be safer by:

- Preparing learners for solo driving through an extensive supervised learning period
- Testing learners to ensure that they can drive safely in everyday traffic
- Protecting probationary drivers by keeping them out of higher risk situations
- Motivating probationary drivers to drive more safely and within the law.

In 2007, Victoria introduced an enhanced Graduated Licensing System. Under the system:

- Young learner drivers must gain at least 120 hours of supervised driving experience, including at least 10 hours of driving at night
- Young learner drivers must hold a learner permit for at least 12 months (up from 6 months previously)
- There is a challenging on-road driving test, which assesses applicants to ensure they have the appropriate skills for safe solo driving
- There is a two stage P1 and P2 probationary licence extending the probationary period from three to four years.
- P1 divers are subject to a peer passenger restriction
- There is a ban on mobile phone use for all probationary drivers.

These requirements were designed to ensure that learners accrue extensive driving experience, and develop the competencies needed for safe driving in the long term, prior to driving solo.

What is the road safety problem?

Although the road toll in Victoria has been falling and we have one of the best road safety records in Australia and the world, young drivers aged 18-25 years continue to be over-represented in road crashes, especially compared with older, more experienced drivers.

In the early 2000's, probationary drivers were involved in crashes at triple the rate of experienced drivers, with drivers aged 18-25 being responsible for about 90 deaths and 2,200 serious injuries each year, and at a cost to the community of over \$1 billion per year.¹

Why 120 hours?

Research from European and Australian evaluations suggests that setting a requirement for between 80 and 120 hours will have crash reduction benefits.²

A very large Swedish study undertaken in the 1990's found that learners who had on average around 120 hours of supervised driving experience reduced their risk of crash involvement when first licensed by 40% compared with those learners who had approximately 40 hours of practice.³

The research suggested that the increased driving practice helped to build up experience and safe driving capabilities to better meet the demands of solo driving.

What do other Australian states and territories do?

Each Australian jurisdiction is responsible for developing and implementing licensing systems. There are considerable differences in the requirements across Australia for learner drivers. These are shown below.

Some jurisdictions require a certain number of supervised hours to be undertaken at night.

In Victoria and Queensland, learners are required to have at least 10 hours of supervised driving at night, while in South Australia they are required to have at least 15 hours and in New South Wales it is a minimum of 20 hours.

This requirement is based on the very high crash risk young drivers face driving at night relative to during the day.⁴





Learner requirements across Australian jurisdictions

Jurisdiction	Min. age for learner	Min. time must hold learner permit	Min. hours of supervised driving	Hours of supervised night driving	
New South Wales	16 years	12 months	120 hours	20 hours	
Victoria	16 years	12 months	120 hours	10 hours	
Queensland	16 years	12 months	100 hours	10 hours	
South Australia	16 years	12 months	75 hours	15 hours	
Western Australia	16 years	12 months	50 hours	0 hours	
Tasmania	16 years	12 months	50 hours	0 hours	
Northern Territory	15 yrs 9 months	12 months	0 hours	0 hours	
Australian Capital Territory	16 years	12 months	0 hours	0 hours	

Is the Victorian GLS working?

Significant crash reductions were recorded in Victoria after they introduced a GLS that included a requirement for a minimum of 120 hours. Interim evaluation results found that the new GLS resulted in a reduction of 31% of fatal and serious injury crash involvement of 18-20 year old drivers in the first year of holding a probationary licence when compared with a control group.¹

Queensland introduced a GLS with a requirement for 100 hours and they also found significant reductions in young driver crashes after this and some other measures were introduced.⁵

Both Victoria and Queensland report relatively high levels of compliance – that is young people do fill in their log books honestly and accurately.^{1,6}

References

- Healy, D., Harrison, W. & Catchpole, J. (2012) Victoria's graduated licensing system evaluation interim report, Report to VicRoads, Kew VIC; May.
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- Gregersen, N., Berg, H-Y., Engström, I., Nolen, S., Nyberg, A. & Rimmo, P. (2000) Sixteen years age limit for learners in Sweden: an evaluation of safety effects, Accident Analysis and Prevention, vol. 32, pp. 25-35.
- Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE) (2013) Young Adult Road Safety—A Statistical Picture, Information Sheet 51, BITRE, Canberra.
- Newstead, S. & Scully, M. (2013) Crash effects of the Queensland Graduated Licensing System: a preliminary evaluation, Australasian Road Safety Research, Policing & Education Conference, Brisbane QLD; August 28-30.
- Scott-Parker, B., Bates, L., Watson, B., King, M. & Hyde, M. (2011) The impact of changes to the graduated driver licensing program in Queensland, Australia on the experiences of Learner drivers, Accident Analysis and Prevention, vol. 43, pp. 1301-1308.

Introduction

This task focuses on a research and visual design activity. It can be undertaken in any one of the three domains listed below. Regardless of the domain in which the assessment task is completed, all students undertake the initial research and reflection activities detailed below (Part A).

Part A requires students to undertake some research into Victoria's Graduated Licensing System (GLS), using information on the VicRoads website, including a background information sheet specifically developed for this activity (please refer to Resources below).

Part B involves the completion of a design brief, followed by the development of visual information materials that are designed to communicate the importance of obtaining 120 hours of supervised driving experience to the target audience.

The AusVELS links are as follows:

Curriculum focus: Domains

Civics and Citizenship Health and Physical Education The Arts

Inter-disciplinary learning Communication Thinking processes

Resources

Campaign 120 Background Information Sheet

https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/ driver-safety/young-and-new-drivers/keys-pleaseinformation-session

Victoria's Graduated Licensing System

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/driversafety/young-and-new-drivers/victorias-graduatedlicensing-system

Graduated Licensing Fact Sheet

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/~/media/files/ formsandpublications/safety%20and%20road%20rules/ graduatedlicensingsystemfactsheetjuly2014.ashx

PART A: Background research – Victoria's Graduated Licensing System

Research questions

- What is meant by the term 'graduated licensing system' and how does it help new drivers to be safer?
- Outline the key steps that must occur before a young person can sit for their probationary licence in Victoria.
- **3.** In Victoria, how long must drivers who are aged under 21 years have their:
 - a) red P-plates (P1 probationary licence); and
 - **b)** green P-plates (P2 probationary licence).
- List three P1 driver licence restrictions and three P2 driver licence restrictions.
- **5.** Refer to the 'Crash risk graph' on the VicRoads website and answer the following questions:
 - a) How safe are learner drivers when travelling with a fully licenced supervising driver?
 - b) With reference to specific data, what is the risk of having a crash for a red P-plate driver when compared with a green p-plate driver?
 - **c)** Suggest two reasons for the casualty crash trends depicted in this 'Crash risk graph'.
- 6. The Victorian Government has introduced a requirement that learner drivers complete at least 120 hours of logged supervising driving experience before undertaking their driving test. Suggest TWO reasons for this requirement.
- 7. What does the interim evaluation of the Victorian GLS on the VicRoads website tell us about its effectiveness?
- 8. Which Australian jurisdictions require a certain number of supervised hours to be undertaken at night? Suggest THREE reasons why this requirement has been introduced.





PART B: Design brief and visual presentation

Now that you have completed the background research regarding the GLS, your task is to visually communicate the value of obtaining a minimum of 120 hours of supervised driving experience in a broad range of driving conditions prior to obtaining a probationary licence. This visual material will be communicated to a specific target audience of your choosing.

Design Brief (300 to 400 words)

Your initial task is to complete a Design Brief, which involves responding to the questions below. The answers to these questions form part of your overall assessment.

- **1.** What form of visual presentation have you selected? Some suggestions are listed below:
 - a short film of between one and three minutes' duration using programs such as iMovie or Movie Maker
 - a web page that could be hosted on your school website
 - a logo that communicates using text and imagery.
- 2. Why did you choose that form?
- 3. Who is your target audience for this presentation?
- **4.** What are the main ideas that you will seek to communicate to your audience as to the value of obtaining at least 120 hours of supervised driving practice as a learner?
- **5.** In what ways do you intend to engage your audience and make your presentation attractive?

Preparation of visual presentation

Once you have completed your design brief, it is time to prepare your visual presentation. Think carefully about the key message/s you wish to communicate to your target audience.

VicRoads is offering a competition to find the most engaging and powerful logo design. The winning logo will be featured for the following year in various Keys Please communications distributed to schools.

A pre-requisite for entry into the competition is that the student must have attended a Keys Please session.

Please ask your teacher to submit your school's best student Campaign 120 logos to campaign120@roads. vic.gov.au by the end of Term 3. The competition winner for the year will be announced during term 4.

If your Keys Please session is scheduled for Term 4, you can submit entries into the following year's competition.





CAMPAIGN 120



Keys Please - Part A and Part B Assessment sheet

	VH		Н		М		L		VL		NS
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
 Quality of written responses on background to the Victorian Government's Campaign 120 (Part A) 											
2 Detail contained in design brief explaining medium used and overall purpose (Part B)											
3 Complexity of message in chosen presentation form (movie, web page, logo)											
4 Overall effectiveness of chosen visual form											

Key to Allocation of Grades

A+	Α	B+	В	C+	С	D+	D	E+	E	UG
40-37	36-33	32-29	28-25	24-21	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-0

Grade

Teacher's comments

Signature