

## Module 4: New York Traffic Laws Review

### Summary of Module 4:

- Your license will be suspended in New York if you acquire 11 or more points on your license within 18 months.
- You can be fined between \$200 and \$5,000 if you drive while your license is suspended or revoked.
- Your driver's license may be suspended or revoked for DWI, DUI out of state, DWAI violation within five years of any prior alcohol or drug-related violation, DWI or DWAI drug violation committed within ten years of any prior DWI or DWAI drug violation, three speeding and/or misdemeanor traffic violations within 18 months, three "passing a stopped school bus" violations within three years, one violation of "leaving the scene of a personal injury or fatal accident", one "participating in a speed contest" violation.
- DUI in another state or the provinces of Ontario or Quebec in Canada results in license revocation for at least 90 days.
- A person under age 21 that is convicted of an alcohol or drug-related violation out of state will have his/her New York driver's license revoked for at least one year.
- If a person under age 21 has a second or subsequent conviction of alcohol or drug related violation out of state, his/her New York driver's license will be revoked for at least one year or until the age of 21, whichever is longer.
- A driver's license may be revoked for at least one year if you operate or allow another person to operate your uninsured vehicle, or if the DMV receives evidence that you were involved in a traffic crash without being insured.
- A driver's license will be suspended indefinitely if you fail to file an accident report, if you submit a bad check for DMV fees, fail to pay child support, or fail to satisfy a court judgment that results from a traffic accident. The license suspension will be in effect until the condition that caused the suspension is corrected.
- A driver's license may be canceled if a driver fails to comply with some portion of New York statutes.



- Revocation means your license is canceled completely.
- It is important to slow down on narrow or winding roads, at intersections or railroad crossings, on hills, at sharp or blind curves, where pedestrians or driving hazards are present and on wet and slippery roads.
- Speed limits are important because roadway design factors, including how far ahead a driver can see, are compromised if vehicles travel faster than circumstances warrant.
- A driver should not drive so slowly that you block other vehicles moving at normal, safe speeds.
- If you are behind a slow driver, make sure you leave enough room in front of you just in case you are overtaken by an impatient driver.
- At a stop sign, the purpose of the limit line is to prevent the driver from entering the crosswalk or intersection inadvertently or at an excessive speed and shows the driver where to make the stop before proceeding through.
- Traffic signals function to warn, guide, inform and regulate traffic.
- A driver should never attempt to cross an intersection by “assuming” opposing traffic will yield the right of way.
- The red light signals the driver to stop behind the limit or crosswalk line before the intersection.
- A yellow light alerts the driver that a red light will soon follow and to prepare to stop.
- A green light is the signal to proceed with the presumed right of way-while still using caution.
- Traffic signs and street markings such as yellow signs at intersections, crossings, construction, etc., warn the driver of an upcoming hazard or road changes and are considered warning signs for what lies ahead.
- Pavement markings warn and direct drivers and regulate traffic.
- Solid double yellow lines may only be crossed if making turns over and to make left turns out a driveway and crossovers from driveway to driveway.
- Single broken yellow and white lines may be crossed with caution when it is legal, safe and necessary to do so.
- Drivers should stop behind the limit line at intersections or streets controlled by traffic lights, and proceed when the light changes.
- The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection shall yield the right of way to a vehicle which has entered the intersection from a different highway.
- Turn lanes are specifically designated lanes in the roadway for turning either right or left and can be governed by specific turn arrow lights that direct when the turn may be accomplished.
- Crosswalks are specific lanes designated for pedestrians to cross roadways.
- Bicycles must stay in the bicycle lane and, similarly, motor vehicles must stay in lanes designed for their use.

- Motor vehicle operators should use a passing lane when the attempted maneuver is perceived as safe and prudent and can be completed without the use of excessive speed.
- Highway on ramps are for entrance to and preparation for highway driving so drivers do not need to travel at the drastically reduced speeds suitable for city driving.
- Merge lanes are used for merging and are typically short and have an end.
- Highway off ramps are designed for reducing speeds and are links to, and roadways for, entrance back into city driving.
- Deceleration lanes are provided next to the right lane of travel prior to exits.
- Left hand lanes are intended for vehicle passing and for through traffic.
- Green signs provide direction and guidance.
- Brown signs are recreational signs and provide information on cultural interest.
- Red signs provide information on some type of prohibition and are either a red stop sign with white letters or yellow sign with black letters.
- Yellow signs provide general warning about upcoming driving conditions or hazards that require special attention.
- Blue signs are informational signs that provide motorist service guidance and information about upcoming services.
- Black and white regulatory signs are black and white and are primarily square or horizontal rectangles that provide regulation information such as NO TURN ON RED, or ONE WAY.
- There are eight different colors for traffic signs: octagon (STOP signs), horizontal rectangle (guide signs), equilateral triangle (YIELD signs), pennant (advance warning of No Passing Zones), diamond (warn of existing or possible hazards on roadways or adjacent areas), vertical rectangle (regulatory signs), pentagon (school advance and school crossing signs) and round (railroad advance warning signs).
- Railroad crossing signs are the only warning signs that are round, all other warning signs are diamond shaped.
- In New York, all drivers must stop on a two-way street or a divided highway when the school bus is stopped and either picking up or dropping off children.
- Drivers may be fined \$250 for passing a stopped school bus one time, subsequent offenses could cost a driver up to a maximum of \$1,000 for three violations in three years.
- If you are convicted of three violations of passing a stopped school bus within three years your license will be revoked for at least six months.
- Drivers must yield the right of way to emergency vehicles sounding a siren and having at least one lighted red or blue lamp until the vehicle has passed.

- You must pull over and stop for an emergency vehicle even if it is coming toward you in the opposite lane of a two-way roadway.
- You must stay at least 500 feet behind any fire rescue vehicle with flashing warning lights displayed.
- Keep your foot on the brake when stopped for an emergency vehicle to pass so that the emergency vehicle is aware you have stopped for this purpose.
- Required safety equipment on a vehicle includes tires, tail lamps, lighting equipment, brakes, horn, mirrors, windshield and bumpers.