

THE DWI OFFENDER

First Offenders: As of July 1, 2000, a first offender charged & convicted of driving while impaired with a BAC of .16 or above is regulated by law to drive only ignition interlock equipped vehicle. Judges may also choose to require interlock for first offenders convicted with less than a .16 BAC.

Multiple Offenders: The Division of Motor Vehicles uses the interlock in the hearing process which determines conditional restoration for petitioners convicted of two or more DWI offenses within a period of up to 10 years.

How is the interlock verified? Some judges may require the first offender to show proof of install (from the interlock vendor) prior to issuing the limited driving privilege. Other judges may not. DMV requires all offenders to have vendor's verification of install and /or verification of time used prior to restoration.

How long is the interlock required? First offenders must have the device for one year. Either during suspension or afterwards when applying for a regular driver's license with DMV. Multiple offenders terms vary from 2 to 7 years with in a 10 year period and whether the last charge occurred before or after July 1, 2000.

Installation of the Interlock

If the ignition interlock is part of a DWI offender's requirement to drive, the person may call Montech, Inc. at 1-800-521-4246 to schedule an appointment for installation. In many cases, install verification is required before a privilege is granted

When to Call? Appointments can normally be scheduled within one to three weeks sometimes four. The first offender, if conviction is probable, may wish to call four weeks in advance of court date. By calling early, an appointment can be more easily scheduled to coincide with conviction and help reduce or prevent interruption of the driving privilege. To be safe, call as soon as possible for the current lead time.

Which vehicles? North Carolina states require the interlock to be installed on all vehicles to be driven by the participant and to be personally activated by said participant. Further, all vehicles registered to the very limited exceptions involving employer vehicles and registered vehicles "not in possession." please refer to Motor Vehicles Laws of North Carolina under 20-179.3(g)(5) and 20-17.8(c1) respectively

PLEASE REMEMBER

- A licensed driver must drive the interlock program participant to the installation unless prior to conviction or otherwise noted by the presiding judge
- At installation, a verification form will be provided as proof of installation. All installations and services are by appointment. See Cost on back.
- A manual is provided for study and a demo-interlock with which to practice. A technician is available to go through the manual with the driver and family to assist in learning the testing technique.
- Failure to follow rules and directives must be reported by Montech to DMV and / or the court Montech has no recourse in reporting designated violations
- An emergency number is available 24 hours a day / seven days a week to assist in unit difficulties
- Alcohol contamination of any type or from any source can cause test failure. BAC failure results in temporary lockout for 1st offenders & possible loss of license for multiple offenders
- Driving a vehicle without interlock is subject to a charge of driving while license revoked and loss of license