

Ignition Interlock Program

The Program

Ignition Interlock is a provincial program, administered by the Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles, designed to reduce drinking driving on our roads. People caught drinking and driving will be required to have an interlock device installed in their vehicle that prevents the vehicle from being started or operated when the driver has been drinking. The program will allow a safe, controlled period of driving for those required to participate.

B.C. is partnering with Guardian Interlock Systems to deliver the program province-wide.

What is an Ignition Interlock Device?

It's an in-car alcohol breath screening device that prevents a vehicle from starting if a driver's blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is over a pre-set limit. Once the vehicle is started, that driver is required to provide random breath samples.

The device is located inside the vehicle near the driver's seat, and is connected to the vehicle's ignition system.

Participants

Drivers who have received multiple criminal driving convictions may be ordered to participate in the program for a set period of time. Other drivers may be referred at the discretion of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles, based on their alcohol-related driving records.

How the Program Works

The Superintendent will write to anyone who needs to have an ignition interlock device installed, outlining the program requirements. The client will attend a designated installation centre to have the device installed, and to do some practice testing on how to provide breath samples.

Costs and Obligations

The client will pay the \$150.00 program fee, plus Guardian's \$150.00 installation fee as well as the monthly \$105.00 monitoring fee. Clients will also have to attend an ICBC Driver Services Centre to have an interlock restriction added to their driver's licence. Every thirty days, drivers must go to an installation centre to have their interlock data downloaded.

Program Violations

Program participants must drive only a vehicle equipped with an interlock device. They must ensure that the device is operated properly and not tampered with. Clients who violate program conditions will be removed from the program and lose their driver's licence.

Program Completion

At the end of their interlock term, drivers can attend an installation centre for the final data download and have the device removed for a fee of \$50.00. Drivers can also have the interlock condition removed from their driver's licence.

For more information . . .

visit the Office of Superintendent of Motor Vehicles website at www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/osmv