

Distracted Driving Changes

Ontario's distracted driving laws apply to the use of hand-held communication/entertainment devices and certain display screens.

While you are driving, including when you are stopped in traffic or at a red light, **it is illegal to:**

- use a phone or other hand-held wireless communication device to text or dial – you can only touch a device to call 911 in an emergency
- use a hand-held electronic entertainment device, such as a tablet or portable gaming console
- view display screens unrelated to driving, such as watching a video
- program a GPS device, except by voice commands

You are allowed to use hands-free wireless communications devices with an earpiece, lapel button or Bluetooth. You can view GPS display screens as long as they are built into your vehicle's dashboard or securely mounted on the dashboard.



1 in 4 people get in car accidents because of texting and driving.



Penalties: Drivers with A to G licenses

If you have an A, B, C, D, E, F, G and/or M license, you'll face bigger penalties when convicted of distracted driving:

- First conviction:
 - a fine of \$615, if settled out of court (includes a victim surcharge and the court fee)
 - a fine of up to \$1,000 if a summons is received or if you fight the ticket in court and lose
 - three demerit points
 - 3-day suspension
- Second conviction
 - a fine of \$615, if settled out of court (includes a victim surcharge and the court fee)
 - a fine of up to \$2,000 if a summons is received or if you fight the ticket in court and lose
 - six demerit points
 - 7-day suspension
- Third and any further conviction(s)
 - a fine of \$615, if settled out of court (includes a victim surcharge and the court fee)
 - a fine of up to \$3,000 if a summons is received or if you fight the ticket in court and lose
 - six demerit points
 - 30-day suspension

Ministry of Labour Update: There is a New Version 8.0 Poster for the Employment Standards Act that was released. Please update your Health and Safety Board with the most recent version.



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