



# Advocates for YOU

## SPECIAL MINOR'S RESTRICTED LICENSE

Thanks to the **diligent efforts of our Homeschool Iowa Lobbyist** and friends of homeschooling families in both chambers of the Iowa Legislature, **Iowa homeschooled students are finally represented equitably** in Iowa law governing **driving privileges for minors**.

On July 1, 2024, the legislative bill our team advocated for, [SF 2109](#), became effective, making some much needed changes to the Iowa Code. It replaces the former "school permit" option with an all new option called the "**special minor's restricted license**" (**SMRL**) granting increased driving privileges to 14-18 year olds, including homeschoolers under both Competent Private Instruction and Independent Private Instruction.

*Moving [SF 2109](#) through the Iowa Legislature and gaining Governor Reynolds' signature is a huge win for Iowa homeschool families who want to have access to minor's driving privileges – and a double win for homeschool families who operate farms.*

### Quick Facts About the New Law:

- The language in the new law is consistent, including throughout students who receive either Independent Private Instruction or Competent Private Instruction as defined in Iowa code 299A.1.
- Licensees can drive between home and their place of instruction, their place of extracurricular activities, their place of employment, or the location for their farm work for parents or an employer.
- In general, the driving distance limitations are 25 miles each way.
- The law does not allow minors who are either applying for or using a SMRL to have any record of driving privilege suspension, conviction of a moving vehicle violation, or fault in causing an accident or collision.
- If used to drive to and from a place of employment or location of farm-related work, the licensee must have a parent's written consent form in possession when driving.
- The Homeschool Iowa website offers information and guidelines related directly to the use of the Special Minor's Restricted License by homeschooled students.

### How do I help my 14-16 year old obtain a SMRL?

1. Visit [the Iowa DOT website](#).
2. Scroll down and click on the "Special Minor's Restricted License" section.
3. Look at the checklist and download the appropriate forms directly from the site.
4. Learn about your options for Drivers Education on our [Homeschool Iowa website](#).
5. Follow the steps to complete the DOT requirements.

Please thank your legislator and the governor for their help with making this possible!

Have questions about the law or what is permitted? Reach out to us at [advocacy@homeschooliowa.org](mailto:advocacy@homeschooliowa.org).

**Remember, your membership in Homeschool Iowa makes wins like this possible for Iowa homeschooling families!**

***Please consider [becoming a member today!](#)***