

North Carolina Dropout Prevention Driver's License Guidelines

There are three reasons why a Driver Eligibility Certificate could be revoked.

- **NOT MAKING ADEQUATE ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

At the end of each semester, students not passing 70% of the maximum possible courses are identified. Parents are notified that the student is not making adequate academic progress and have the option of submitting a hardship request to maintain the student's Driving Eligibility status.

- **DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL PRIOR TO AGE 18**

As of August 1, 1998 any public, private, federal, home-schooled, or community college student under age 18 who does not make adequate academic progress or drops out of school will have their driving permit or provisional license revoked. (§ 20-11)

Under the Dropout Prevention Guidelines, a dropout student is one who has withdrawn from school before the end of the academic term and whose enrollment in an educational setting cannot be verified for 30 days. Parents will be notified in writing that the student's Driver Eligibility Certificate will be revoked. Parents may submit a hardship request to the principal or principal's designee to maintain the student's Driving Eligibility status.

- **DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Disciplinary action consists of an expulsion, a suspension for more than 10 consecutive days, or an assignment to an alternative educational setting for more than 10 consecutive days.

Under the Lose Control/Lose License guidelines, the Driving Eligibility Certificate is revoked for one year. Unlike the Dropout Prevention guidelines that end when a student turns age 18, the revocation of a Driving Eligibility Certificate for disciplinary action can extend beyond age 18 if the disciplinary action took place during the time the student was age 17.

What constitutes a hardship request to receive a Driving Eligibility Certificate?

The superintendent or designee may determine that specific circumstances exist, which constitute a hardship and thereby allow a student to receive a Driving Eligibility Certificate. A hardship is defined as "a demonstrable burden on the student or the student's family..." 16 NCAC 06E.0301 (c) (3)

Cases of hardship must reflect specific circumstances that are beyond the control of the student, his or her parents, or the school. The specific hardship circumstances are divided into four categories:

- a) Medical Considerations
- b) Work-related Considerations
- c) Exceptional Students Considerations
- d) Other Considerations

All requests for a hardship waiver must include documented proof of the existence of the hardship and that the specific circumstances of the hardship are beyond the control of the student, his or her parents, or the school. Requests without substantiating evidence will not be considered.

Driving Eligibility Hardship Request

(To be filled out by parent or guardian)

As the parent/legal guardian, I request a Driving Eligibility Hardship Waiver for my child.

Name of Parent or Legal Guardian: _____

Name of Student: _____

Parent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Parent Cell Phone: _____

School Student Attends: _____

Per state statute, to receive a waiver cases of hardship must reflect specific circumstances beyond the control of the student, his or her parent/guardian, or the school. There are only four specific circumstances considered for waiver.

(Please Circle as Appropriate)

- #1 Medical Considerations (i.e., blind or incapacitated parents)
- #2 Work-Related considerations (i.e., supporting the household)
- #3 Exceptional Students consideration
- #4 Other considerations – Please Specify

Directions: Briefly explain the circumstances that justify your hardship waiver request. To be considered for a hardship waiver, all information on the form must be completed. Any documents (a letter from a doctor, etc.) needed to provide supporting evidence for your request may be attached.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Submit the completed form and documentation to: Carteret County Schools
Attn: Driver Education
107 Safrit Dr
Beaufort, NC 28557

Hardship Categories and Examples

<p>Examples of "Medical Considerations"</p>	<p>Medical considerations can involve the student or the parents.</p> <p>Example #1: A Driving Eligibility Certificate can be granted to a student who was making adequate academic progress in school, but could not attend school as a result of documented medical reasons. In this case, documented proof from a physician must be submitted with the hardship request citing reasons why the student missed school, the start and end dates of illness/treatment, etc.</p> <p>Example #2: A Driving Eligibility Certificate can be given to the student based on the special medical circumstances of the parent. This would apply to parents who may be legally blind or have other medical impairments that require the student to have a license in order to maintain the general welfare of the family. In this case, documented proof of the parent's illness or medical impairment must be submitted, along with evidence <u>demonstrating the absolute necessity</u> of the student to have a driver's license.</p>
<p>Example of "Work-Related Considerations"</p>	<p>A hardship waiver may be considered if the student requires transportation to and from employment essential to the family's financial welfare and no other means of transportation are possible. There should be documented proof that the student's earnings go directly to support the basic food and shelter needs of the family. In addition, there must be proof that the student is <u>unable by any other means</u> to get to and from the job.</p>
<p>Example of "Exceptional Children Considerations"</p>	<p>A Driving Eligibility Certificate can be authorized when a student in the Exceptional Children's Program is determined not to have the ability to make progress toward obtaining a high school diploma or GED. This ruling does not apply to those students in Exceptional Children's Program who have the ability to obtain a high school diploma or GED.</p>
<p>"Other Considerations"</p>	<p>This is for unusual circumstances not covered by the first three categories.</p>