

# Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program – Financial Assistance Scheme

## Information Sheet

This information sheet is designed to provide general information to you if you believe you have a need for financial assistance to pay for the costs for fitment, rental and scheduled servicing, and removal of an approved interlock under the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program. The Financial Assistance Scheme is a limited fund that eligible low income interlock drivers may access to assist with the core costs of interlock services for the program.

Your application for financial assistance will be assessed against strict criteria. It should be noted that applications for this type of assistance are only granted in specific circumstances. You may apply for financial assistance up to six weeks before the end of your relevant drink driving disqualification period or at any time during your interlock period.

While you are subject to the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program you may only drive a vehicle that has been fitted with an approved interlock and nominated to the Department of Transport and Main Roads (the department), via an interlock provider. You are responsible for all costs associated with the program.

If your application for financial assistance is approved, the department will provide funding sufficient to meet the minimum requirements of the program associated with fitting, maintaining and removing an approved interlock. Financial assistance will cover the following costs:

- a maximum of one interlock fitment to your nominated vehicle
- interlock rental and scheduled servicing for a maximum 12 month period
- a maximum of one interlock removal from your nominated vehicle.

If you hold a valid Commonwealth issued Health Care Card, funding from the Financial Assistance Scheme will only cover 65% of the above costs – you will receive a 35% discount on the costs from your interlock provider. To receive the discount your valid Health Care Card must be presented at every transaction, if you fail to present the card, you will be required to pay the 35% portion of the costs directly to the interlock provider.

Financial assistance will be paid directly to the interlock provider that you have entered into an agreement with to supply interlock services. Under no circumstances will funding be provided directly to you. No other costs will be funded by the Financial Assistance Scheme. All other costs will be your responsibility. Financial assistance will not cover any costs associated with:

- obtaining a Queensland driver licence; or
- additional servicing requirements, including any costs charged by your interlock provider for unscheduled servicing such as those resulting from tampering with the interlock; or
- other products or services supplied by the interlock provider such as additional mouth pieces, bonds, repairing damaged equipment; or
- interlock rental and scheduled servicing costs beyond a maximum 12 month period, including rental and scheduled servicing costs as a result of an administrative sanction extending your prescribed period.

No costs incurred prior to your application being approved will be covered by the Financial Assistance Scheme. Funding will only be provided from the date the department approves your application and provides an *Authorisation Certificate*.

To help you understand this information sheet, listed below are the meanings of some of the terms used –

The **interlock condition** is a requirement allowing you to only drive a vehicle that has been nominated to the department and fitted with an interlock, supplied and maintained by an interlock provider. While you

are required to comply with the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program, your Queensland driver licence will be subject to the **interlock condition**.

An **interlock** is a breath-testing device that is connected to a vehicle's ignition, which prevents the vehicle from starting if the driver has consumed alcohol. An **interlock** must be approved under legislation for use in the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program.

The **interlock period** is the maximum period of two years that you are required to comply with the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program.

A **prescribed period** is a minimum period of 12 months during which you hold a valid Queensland driver licence with an interlock condition, and either have a nominated vehicle fitted with an interlock, or an interlock exemption. On completion of the **prescribed period** the interlock condition will be removed from your driver licence.

An **interlock driver** is a Queensland driver licence holder who is subject to the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program.

An **interlock provider** is a company approved to provide interlock services for the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program.

An **interlock installer** is a business authorised to fit and maintain interlocks on behalf of an **interlock provider** for the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program. A full list of **interlock installers** is available from the interlock providers.

Your **liquid assets** are any funds that are readily available to you, including money in banks, building societies, or credit unions.

A **dependent child** is a young person, under 22 years of age, who is:

- wholly or substantially financially dependent on their parent(s)/ guardian(s), who have responsibility for the day to day care, welfare and development of the young person; and
- receiving full time education at a school, college or university, if they are aged 16 to 21; and
- not married or in a de facto relationship; and
- not receiving a Centrelink benefit in their own right.

A person is considered to be your **partner** if you and the person are living together, or usually live together, and you are married or in a de facto relationship (opposite or same-sex).

### Eligibility

If you are a low income earner you may be eligible for financial assistance if you are able to prove that you meet the following criteria:

- you hold a valid Queensland driver licence endorsed with an 'I' condition (you may lodge an application prior to obtaining a driver licence with an 'I' condition, and conditional approval may be granted pending a licence being obtained); and
- you are an Australian citizen or permanent resident; and
- you have not received financial assistance in the last five years; and
- the assessable income and liquid assets are below the maximum allowable limits which apply to your circumstances.

If you have a partner, their income and liquid assets will also be assessed. If you are a dependent child, your parent(s)/guardian(s) income and liquid assets will be assessed.

**For more information about the maximum allowable limits and to check your eligibility, you must refer to the department's website [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au).**

**Continued overleaf...**

Form S4900 ES V01 Nov 2017

As part of assessing your application, the department will contact the State Penalties Enforcement Registry (SPER) to determine if you have any unpaid fines registered with SPER. If you have unpaid fines registered with SPER you must either finalise the fines in full, enter into a satisfactory payment arrangement or commence a dispute of the fine (if eligible) before your application will be considered. It is recommended you contact SPER on 1300 365 635 to ensure any fines you have are up to date.

### Supporting documents

You will need to provide documents to support your application for financial assistance –

- Evidence of your identity in the form of a witnessed copy of a Category A identity document, such as an Australian driver licence, Australian birth certificate, Australian citizenship certificate or naturalisation certificate, or Australian passport. Please refer to the department's website, [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au), for a full list of accepted Category A identity documents
- Evidence of Australian citizenship or permanent residency, such as a witnessed copy of your Australian birth certificate, Australian passport, Australian citizenship certificate or Department of Immigration and Citizenship visa (may be the same document as provided for evidence of identity)
- Evidence of income:
  - ◊ Witnessed copies of payslips showing the last 8 weeks of income for you and/or your partner (or your parent(s)/guardian(s) if you are a dependent child)
  - ◊ Witnessed copies of Centrelink Income Statements showing the last 8 weeks of payments for you and/or your partner (or your parent(s) guardian(s) if you are a dependent child)
  - ◊ Details of any other income you and/or your partner (or your parent(s)/guardian(s) if you are a dependent child) receive.
- Witnessed copies of statements from all accounts held by you and/or your partner (or your parent(s)/guardian(s) if you are a dependent child), solely or jointly, in banks, building societies, or credit unions
- A witnessed copy of the Commonwealth issued Health Care Card (if applicable)
- Evidence of dependent children such as a witnessed copy of their birth certificate, or legal or other document (for foster children), for all children whom you state are your dependants
- Evidence that dependent children, between the ages of 16 and 21, are enrolled in full time education, such as a letter from the secondary school stating that they are a full time student, or a witnessed copy of their university enrolment, or student card.

Copies of supporting documents must be signed and endorsed by an approved witness. The witness must sign and print their full name, position title/designation and contact details (including office stamp). The copy must be endorsed with the words 'I have sighted the original document and certify this to be a true copy of the original'. An approved witness is a person who is a:

- Doctor
- Police Officer
- Consular or Ambassadorial Officer
- Solicitor, Barrister or Judge
- Justice of the Peace or a Commissioner for Declarations
- Notary Public or a person authorised by law to witness and sign declarations.

### Lodging your application

If you believe you meet the criteria for financial assistance, you may apply by completing an *Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program – Financial Assistance Scheme Application* (form F4899).

You may lodge the application at your nearest departmental customer service centre. The application may also be lodged by mail to –

Department of Transport and Main Roads  
Interlock Processing Unit  
GPO Box 1412  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

### Change of circumstances

It is important to note that if you are granted financial assistance and your circumstances change, you are required to notify the department, in writing, within 14 days of the change occurring.

If the change affects your eligibility for ongoing assistance, for example your income increases, the department may cease providing support under the Financial Assistance Scheme.

### End of financial assistance

If your application for financial assistance is approved it is important to note that in certain circumstances the financial assistance will end, and you will be responsible for any outstanding and ongoing costs.

Circumstances in which financial assistance will end include:

- assistance has been paid for one interlock fitment, interlock rental and scheduled servicing for a maximum 12 month period, and one interlock removal; or
- you are no longer subject to the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program; or
- your Queensland driver licence is suspended or cancelled for any reason; or
- you advise the department that you no longer require financial assistance; or
- you are no longer eligible for financial assistance due to a change in your circumstances.

You will be ineligible for further assistance for a period of five years from the date the approval was granted.

### Approved Interlock Providers

The following interlock providers have been approved by the department to supply interlocks for the Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program. These interlock providers have a network of interlock installers to fit, maintain and remove interlocks.

For the details of your nearest interlock installer, please contact one of the below interlock providers:

Guardian Interlock Systems  
Telephone: 1300 881 005  
Facsimile: 02 8853 6201  
Email: [enquiries@guardianinterlock.com.au](mailto:enquiries@guardianinterlock.com.au)  
Website: [www.guardianinterlock.com.au](http://www.guardianinterlock.com.au)

Draeger Australia Pty Ltd  
Telephone: 1300 780 689  
Facsimile: 03 9265 5166  
Email: [interlock.australia@draeger.com](mailto:interlock.australia@draeger.com)  
Website: [www.draeger.com.au/interlock](http://www.draeger.com.au/interlock)

### Additional information

The Financial Assistance Scheme is a limited fund administered by the Department of Transport and Main Roads, and is subject to change.

The lodgement of your application does not guarantee it will be approved. Your application cannot be considered at the time of lodgement. It must be forwarded for consideration. You will be advised of the outcome. For more information or to obtain a copy of the *Alcohol Ignition Interlock Program - Financial Assistance Scheme Application* (form F4899), visit [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au) or call 13 23 80\*.

*\*Higher rates apply from mobile phones and pay phones.*