

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCES  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODECHAPTER 370-3-1  
IGNITION INTERLOCK RULES

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## 370-3-1-.01 Ignition Interlock Rules

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(1) Purpose. This rule addresses the requirements for the approval, installation, and use of Ignition Interlock Devices, as required in Code of Ala. 1975, §32-5A-191.

(2) Definitions and Abbreviations

(a) *Adjustment.* The act of setting the detector response of the ignition interlock device such that the device is capable of analyzing a breath sample and accurately reporting the result for that analysis.

(b) *Approved Ignition Interlock Provider.* An individual or business which has developed, manufactured, marketed, or provided certified ignition interlock devices which meet all of the minimum requirements as set forth in these rules and have been approved by the Department of Forensic Sciences.

(c) *Calibration Verification.* The use of a known ethanol reference sample to ensure the ignition interlock device is capable of accurately analyzing a breath sample provided by a participant.

(d) *Certificate of Installation.* A certificate issued by the ignition interlock service center at the time of installation, for the purpose of demonstrating that an approved ignition interlock device has been installed on the ignition interlock participant's designated vehicle. This certificate shall include the date of installation, the signature of the technician who installed the device, the vehicle identification number upon which the device was installed, the make and model of the vehicle on which the device was installed, and the signature of the participant acknowledging receipt of an ignition interlock device. A lease agreement can be substituted for a certificate of installation.

(e) *Certified Ignition Interlock Device.* Any Ignition Interlock Device that has been approved for use in the State

of Alabama as referred to in Code of Alabama (1975) §32-5A-191.

(f) *Department*. The Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences.

(g) *Director*. The Director of the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences.

(h) *DPS*. The Alabama Department of Public Safety.

(i) *Dry Gas Standard*. A blended gas reference sample consisting of nitrogen and the analyte of interest (usually ethanol) introduced into an ignition interlock device for the purposes of adjusting and/or verifying the calibration of the device.

(j) *Ignition Interlock Device*. A device which connects a motor vehicle ignition system to a breath alcohol analyzer and prevents a motor vehicle ignition from starting if a driver's blood alcohol level exceeds the calibrated setting on the device.

(k) *Ignition Interlock Device Service Center*. Any person or company engaged in the business of selling, leasing, servicing, repairing, calibrating, monitoring and removing ignition interlock devices.

(l) *Ignition Interlock Participant*. Any individual who has been ordered by a court, pursuant to the provisions of Code of Alabama (1975) §32-5A-191, to operate a motor vehicle which has been equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device.

(m) *Ignition Interlock Service Center Inspector*. An individual authorized by the Department of Public Safety to inspect ignition interlock service centers to ensure adherence to the rules set forth in this title.

(n) *Ignition Interlock Technician*. An individual trained and authorized by an ignition interlock device manufacturer to perform installation, maintenance, service, adjustments, calibration verification, removal, and/or monitoring of said manufacturer's device.

(o) *Lease Agreement*. A document provided by the ignition interlock service center at the time of installation which may be used to show that an approved ignition interlock device has been installed on the participant's vehicle. This document shall be in the name of the participant and shall include the signature of the technician who installed the device, the vehicle identification number for which the vehicle was installed, the make and model of the vehicle on which the

device was installed, and the signature of the participant acknowledging receipt of an ignition interlock device.

(p) *Manufacturer*. The actual producer of the ignition interlock device.

(q) *Manufacturer Representative*. The individual designated by the manufacturer to act on behalf of or to represent the manufacturer in all matters regarding device certification.

(r) *Tampering*. Any act or attempt to alter, interfere, meddle, disable, defeat or circumvent the installation or operation of the device.

(s) *Vendor*. An ignition interlock service center designated by the manufacturer of a certified device to act on behalf of or represent the manufacturer in all matters concerning the installation, service, calibration, monitoring, and removal of an approved ignition interlock device.

### (3) Ignition Interlock Device Approval Procedure

(a) A manufacturer representative seeking approval of an ignition interlock device shall submit a letter seeking ignition interlock device approval and remit the application fee of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences, 1051 Wire Road, Auburn, AL 36830.

(b) A manufacturer representative seeking approval of a new ignition interlock device shall provide a lab certification demonstrating the device meets or exceeds the current National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) specifications. (1992 Model Specifications for Breath Alcohol Interlock Devices - 57 FR 11772.) This certification shall be from a laboratory which is independent from the manufacturer and subscribes to the quality code of the International Standards Organization of the American National Standards Institute - or another commensurate laboratory approved by the Department. For ignition interlock devices which are currently approved for use in Alabama, a manufacturer representative shall provide lab certification demonstrating the device meets or exceeds the current NHTSA model specifications prior to September 30, 2015 or the ignition interlock device will be removed from the list of approved ignition interlock devices.

(c) A manufacturer representative seeking approval of an ignition interlock device shall provide a certificate of insurance, issued by an insurance company authorized to transact business in the State of Alabama, specifying a product liability policy with current effective date, the name and model number of the device model covered by the policy, policy coverage of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the

aggregate, the manufacturer as the insured and the State of Alabama as an additional insured, product liability coverage for defects in manufacture, materials, design, calibration, installation, and operation of the device, and the insurance company will notify the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences at least 30 days before canceling the product liability. Failure of the manufacturer to maintain its policy coverage required in this section will result in removal of all said ignition interlock device(s) from the approved list and will require a new ignition interlock device application.

(d) A manufacturer representative seeking approval of an ignition interlock device will provide to the Department two ignition interlock devices of the model for which certification is requested. In addition to supplying the devices, the manufacturer representative will also supply instructions for the installation, operation, calibration, service, and monitoring of the device along with, upon request, training of Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences personnel in performing these tasks.

(e) A manufacturer representative seeking approval of an ignition interlock device must agree to ensure proper record maintenance and provide testimony relating to any aspect of the installation, service, repair, use, removal, interpretation of any report or information recorded in the data storage system of a device or performance of any other duties required by this rule at no cost to the State of Alabama or any political subdivision thereof. Proper record maintenance shall consist of maintaining any and all records, to include, but not limited to, installation, calibration, verification, participant tests, maintenance, and removal records for a period of five years from the date of removal, and shall be maintained in an electronic form and produced upon request at no cost to the State of Alabama or any political subdivision, to include, but not limited to, the counties and municipalities of the State of Alabama.

(f) A manufacturer representative seeking approval of an ignition interlock device must agree to provide a twenty-four hour toll free telephone number available for participants to call if a problem occurs with the device.

(g) A manufacturer representative seeking approval of an ignition interlock device must agree to provide service which covers the entire State of Alabama (either through permanent service centers or through the use of mobile service centers) for a minimum of 5 years after approval of said device.

(h) Only ignition interlock devices which use fuel cell technology shall be approved by the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for use in Alabama.

(i) An approved ignition interlock device will not interfere with the safe operation of the vehicle on which it is installed.

(j) An approved ignition interlock device will be able to analyze a breath sample provided by the participant and prevent ignition of the vehicle if the breath alcohol concentration is 0.020 g/210L or higher.

(k) An approved ignition interlock device must be activated at all times, and must include in its programming a mechanism to prevent circumvention or bypassing of the ignition interlock device and the capability to detect and record when such tampering has occurred.

(l) An approved ignition interlock device will be capable of recording and maintaining all daily driving activities for the period of time elapsed from one service and calibration visit to the next. All daily driving activity records in this data storage system shall be maintained by the manufacturer or the service center and shall be available for review by the ignition interlock service center inspector as required in sections 3(e) and 6 of these rules.

(m) An approved ignition interlock device will display tamper seals and a warning label that states: "Any person attempting to physically disable, disconnect or wire around this device or who intentionally fails to return the device upon request by the owner may be guilty of a misdemeanor under Code of Ala. 1975, §32-5A-191."

(n) An approved ignition interlock device will be programmed to require the collection and analysis of a breath sample each and every time the vehicle is started.

(o) An approved ignition interlock device will require a proper deep lung breath sample of at least 1.3 liters of breath for analysis.

(p) An approved ignition interlock device will be capable of reliable operation over the range of automobile environments.

(q) An approved ignition interlock device will be capable of requiring a rolling retest as a mechanism for preventing circumvention of the device, which would be required at randomly variable intervals ranging from five to forty-five minutes during the operation of the vehicle.

(r) A distinct audible and/or visible indicator shall activate to alert the driver that a retest is in progress. Once a retest is in progress, failure to deliver a breath with a result of less than 0.020 grams of ethanol per 210 liters of

breath (0.020 g/210L) within the time frame allowed shall record a retest violation in the data storage system.

(s) An approved ignition interlock device will allow up to five minutes for the retest to be completed.

(t) Upon request by the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for each device submitted for approval under this rule, the manufacturer representative agrees to install the device with all proposed anti-circumvention features activated in a vehicle provided by the Department.

(u) The Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences may conduct compliance testing on any device submitted for certification.

(v) In addition to the requirements listed herein, the Department may impose additional requirements, as needed, depending upon design and functional changes in device technology and to ensure that the device functions properly and reliably.

(w) In the event that the Department determines that an approved ignition interlock device, or ignition interlock service provider fails to meet the requirements set forth in these rules the Department will remove the device from the list of approved ignition interlock devices for a period of five years. A manufacturer representative may apply for re-approval of their ignition interlock device five years after notification of the removal of the device from the approved devices list.

(4) Ignition Interlock Service Centers

(a) Only service centers that are manufacturer vendors may service ignition interlock devices approved for use in the State of Alabama.

(b) A service center shall be located in a fixed facility within the State of Alabama.

(c) Each service center shall be staffed with at least one ignition interlock technician who has been properly trained by the ignition interlock device manufacturer to service the interlock device for which the service center is a vendor.

(d) Each service center shall maintain and make available for inspection records which prove that each ignition interlock technician working at the service center has been properly trained by the ignition interlock device manufacturer to service the interlock device for which the center is a vendor.

(e) Each service center shall provide a designated waiting area that is separate from the installation area for the participant.

(f) Only ignition interlock technicians, representatives from the Department or DPS, or service center inspectors shall be allowed to install or observe the installation of the ignition interlock device.

(g) Adequate security measures shall be taken to ensure that unauthorized personnel cannot gain access to proprietary materials or files of other participants.

(h) The service center should properly and successfully accommodate installation, maintenance, calibration, and removal and any other necessary services related to a specified device.

(i) Each service center shall be inspected at least annually by an ignition interlock inspector or designated representative of DPS.

(j) The vendor shall inform DPS of a change in address within fifteen days of the change.

(k) Ignition interlock devices approved for use within the State of Alabama can only be serviced by service centers located within the State of Alabama, unless one of the following exceptions applies:

1. The participant has a permanent residence in a state other than the State of Alabama;

2. The participant is unable to return to the State of Alabama for service because of a personal hardship such as a family illness, etc.

In the event that the ignition interlock device is serviced by a service center outside of the State of Alabama the device must continue to operate under the same firmware as that used in the State of Alabama. If the interlock device is serviced by a service center outside of the State of Alabama, the data must be left intact on the device for later retrieval by a service center in the State of Alabama, or be transferred to a service center database within the State of Alabama so that it can be reviewed. The approved ignition interlock service provider is responsible for ensuring that these requirements are met.

(l) Mobile service centers are allowed only when they are part of a service center which has a permanent fixed location within the State of Alabama.

(m) Service centers shall make the address of their locations available to DPS and to the court of jurisdiction for the area in which the service center is located.

(n) The service center is responsible for collecting the data stored on the ignition interlock device and providing a list of violations recorded on the device to the appropriate authorities.

(o) Nothing in these rules shall be interpreted to restrict multiple vendors/manufacturers/approved ignition interlock device providers/manufactureer representatives from operating at the same permanent fixed location.

(5) Ignition Interlock Device Installation

(a) Ignition interlock devices approved for use in the state of Alabama shall be installed in an approved service center for the approved device.

(b) Upon installation, the service center shall provide to the participant proof of installation of an approved interlock device in the form of a certificate of installation or a copy of the lease agreement stating that an approved interlock device has been installed on the participant's designated vehicle. This certificate or lease agreement shall include the date of installation, the signature of the technician who installed the device, the vehicle identification number upon which the device was installed, the make and model of the vehicle on which the device was installed, and the signature of the participant acknowledging receipt of an ignition interlock device.

(c) Upon installation and at the time of service anytime thereafter, the service center shall remit one and one-half percent of all payments collected to the Alabama Interlock Indigent Fund in the state treasury.

(6) Ignition Interlock Device Maintenance, Service, Calibration and Monitoring

(a) All ignition interlock participants shall visit an ignition interlock service center every thirty days to have the ignition interlock device serviced. During the service visit the ignition interlock technician will inspect the vehicle and the wiring of the ignition interlock device.

(b) The ignition interlock device shall enter a hard lockout if the device has not been serviced within sixty-five days subsequent to the last service visit, requiring a reset of the ignition interlock device at the service center.

(c) The ignition interlock service center shall download and store the data collected by the ignition interlock device. This data shall be maintained and made available for inspection for five years after removal of the device.

(d) The ignition interlock service center shall report violations to the appropriate authorities, as defined by DPS or the court of jurisdiction. Reportable violations shall include but are not limited to the following:

1. A minimum breath alcohol concentration at or above 0.020 g/210L recorded more than four times during the monthly reporting period;
2. Any tampering, circumvention, or bypassing of the ignition interlock device or attempt thereof; or
3. Failure to comply with the servicing or calibration requirements of the ignition interlock device every thirty days.

(e) During the service visit the ignition interlock service technician shall verify the calibration of the device by utilizing a reference sample with a known ethanol concentration. The device is considered to have passed this calibration verification if the result displayed from the device is within  $\pm 0.010$  g/210L of the stated concentration of the reference material used.

(f) The concentration at which the calibration of the ignition interlock device is verified shall be 0.020 grams of ethanol per 210L of breath. This requirement does not prohibit the service center from verifying the accuracy of the device at different ethanol concentrations in addition to the 0.020 g/210L calibration verification.

(g) In the event that the ignition interlock device does not pass the calibration verification, the device shall be adjusted to restore accuracy before the device may be restored to service or shall be replaced with a functional ignition interlock device that passes the calibration verification. A calibration verification shall follow any adjustment.

(h) All data associated with adjustment or calibration verification shall be downloaded from the device and stored for future review.

(i) The reference materials used for calibration and calibration verification shall be dry gas standards purchased from a gas manufacturer.

(j) The reference materials used to adjust and verify calibration of the device shall be used in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations.

(k) A certificate of analysis shall be supplied by the manufacturer of the dry gas standard stating the concentration of the dry gas in units of grams of ethanol per 210L of breath (g/210L) and that the true concentration is within  $\pm 3\%$  of the stated value for dry gas standard.

(l) The service center shall maintain and provide for inspection the certificates of analysis for all dry gas standards used to adjust, calibrate and/or verify calibration of the ignition interlock device. The service center should maintain these records for a period of five years from the end of usage for each respective lot.

(m) If the device fails to meet the requirements of this section the device shall be removed from service and immediately replaced with device that successfully meets these requirements.

(n) All data retrieved at the time of service of the ignition interlock device shall be stored electronically. The data shall be available for inspection and or review upon request of the service center inspector, DPS and/or the court of jurisdiction.

(o) Upon completion of the service visit the service center shall provide to the participant a report showing the service of the device including the results of the calibration verification.

(7) Ignition Interlock Service Center Inspections

(a) Each ignition interlock service center shall be inspected at least once per calendar year.

(b) If a violation of the Alabama Ignition Interlock Rules is found during an inspection, the service center and the ignition interlock provider will be notified of the violation.

(c) The service center and or ignition interlock service provider will have 30 days from the notification date to provide documentation to DPS that the violation has been corrected. DPS may accept the documentation or may require another inspection of the service center.

(d) If DPS is satisfied that the violation has been corrected then the service center may continue to operate.

(e) If DPS determines that the violation has not been corrected either from review of documentation or additional

inspection of the service center, DPS will notify the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences of the violation.

(f) Upon notification by DPS of a continued violation of a service center, the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences will suspend the service center from operation for a period of three years.

(g) The ignition interlock provider will be responsible for informing the participants that the service center has been suspended and providing an alternate location for servicing of the participants' ignition interlock devices.

(8) Approved Ignition Interlock Devices

(a) The list of ignition interlock devices approved for use in Alabama can be found by following the link on the Department's web page at [www.adfs.alabama.gov](http://www.adfs.alabama.gov).

(b) The operating parameters for approved ignition interlock devices can be found by following the link on the Department's web page at [www.adfs.alabama.gov](http://www.adfs.alabama.gov).

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