



Neighborhood Legal Services Association

## ***Helping Clients to Restore, Obtain & Maintain Driver's Licenses in Pennsylvania***

A driver's license is a privilege many of us often take for granted, giving us the independence and self-determination we need to live our lives. When the freedom to drive is taken away—as a result of a criminal conviction, traffic violations, or from the accumulation of too many points—it can create a serious obstacle, especially for those who suddenly find themselves with no easy way to get to a job or provide and care for a family.

Possession of a valid driver's license is one of the biggest barriers to employment faced by jobseekers in our region, especially the young. Some lose their licenses for reasons that have nothing to do with the ability to drive safely. Others continue to drive illegally, without a license, only to be caught and subsequently caught up in an endless cycle of suspensions that may spiral into a legal nightmare.

Recognizing the need to address this frustrating and longstanding problem, Neighborhood Legal Services Association received a grant from The Pittsburgh Foundation to develop a manual to help service agencies navigate the laws. "Get in the Driver's Seat: A Guide on How to Obtain, Maintain & Restore Driving Privileges in Pennsylvania" and three companion brochures were completed that provide critical information to those individuals who have never obtained a driver's license and/or whom are experiencing driver's licensing problems. Originally published in the Summer of 2010, NLSA Employment attorneys have recently updated the materials.

### **Resources**

These resources are available online at [www.nlsa.us](http://www.nlsa.us). To download these updated materials, visit [www.nlsa.us](http://www.nlsa.us) and click on the **Legal Information navigation tab** and then the **Employment Law icon**.

These resources include:

***Get in the Driver's Seat: A Guide for Getting, Maintaining & Restoring a Driver's License in PA***  
[www.nlsa.us/news/NLSA\\_License\\_Manual.pdf](http://www.nlsa.us/news/NLSA_License_Manual.pdf)

*Comprehensive guide that provides details on the letter of the Pennsylvania driving laws and regulations, including chapters on the reasons for license suspension and the restoration process, links to forms, frequently asked questions and alternative options to consider when driving privileges are suspended. This manual is especially helpful to workforce development professionals providing assistance to jobseekers.*

**Informational Brochure: *PA Driver's License How to Get a Driver's License, Commercial Driver's License, and Motorcycle License***  
[www.nlsa.us/news/NLSA\\_License\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.nlsa.us/news/NLSA_License_Brochure.pdf)

**Informational Brochure: *PA Driver's License Suspension – Causes for Suspension, Serving a Suspension, and License Restoration***  
[www.nlsa.us/news/NLSA\\_Suspension\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.nlsa.us/news/NLSA_Suspension_Brochure.pdf)

**Frequently Asked Questions: *FAQ/Answers to Commonly Asked Questions about PA Driver's License Suspensions***  
[www.nlsa.us/news/License\\_Suspensions\\_FAQs.pdf](http://www.nlsa.us/news/License_Suspensions_FAQs.pdf)

*These resources are also available online on the [www.PaLawHelp.org](http://www.PaLawHelp.org) website where a new Drivers License and Professional License subtopic is now active under the Consumer and Employment topics.*

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