

IT COSTS TO DRIVE DISTRACTED IN OREGON

Below we list the monetary costs of driving distracted in Oregon — but when you aren't paying attention to driving, the costs could be even higher: you could kill yourself or someone else... is it worth a life for a text or call?

Oregon's Updated Law

In Oregon, it is illegal to drive while holding or using a mobile electronic device (e.g. cell phone, tablet, GPS, laptop). This law does not apply to the following:

- Using hands-free or built-in devices, if 18 years of age or older.
- Use of a single touch or swipe to activate or deactivate the device or a function of the device.
- Making a call to provide or summon medical help and no one else is available.
- When parked safely, i.e., stopped at the side of the road or in a designated parking spot.

REMINDER: It is NOT legal to use the device when stopped at a stop light, stop sign, in traffic, etc.

The fines

- First offense, *not* contributing to a crash: Class B violation.
 - Fine up to \$1,000.
- Second offense — or first offense — if it contributed to a crash: Class A violation.
 - Fine up to \$2,000.
- Third offense in ten years: Class B misdemeanor.
 - Fine up to \$2,500.
 - Could be six months in jail.

Course for first-time offenders

- For a first offense that does not contribute to a crash, the court *may* offer to suspend the fine if the driver completes and pays for an approved Distracted Driving Avoidance course and shows proof to the court within four months.
- Court may schedule a hearing to determine if person successfully completed the course. If the driver successfully completes the course, the court must enter a sentence of “discharge.” Only the fine is suspended — the violation will still be recorded on the driver’s driving record.

**Eyes on the road.
Not on your phone.**



www.oregon.gov/odot/safety/pages/distracted.aspx