

In Vehicle Breathe Alcohol Testing

IMPAIRED
DRIVING

In-vehicle breath alcohol systems prevent engine start if a driver's BAC exceeds a set limit, typically mandated for DUI offenders.

Implementation Strategy

How and Where to Apply

- Ignition interlocks are mandated under state DUI laws, requiring installation through certified providers for license reinstatement.
- Applications go through Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or courts, with monitoring for compliance.
- Mandate for repeat/high-BAC driving under the influence offenders via DMV/court programs; not for first-time or general drivers.

Use in a Safe System Approach

Supports the Safe System Approach by preventing impaired driving and protecting road users from high-risk behavior. It addresses safe road users and safe vehicles, compensating for human error with a preventive control mechanism.

Key Stakeholders

State departments of motor vehicles, judicial and law enforcement agencies, and state legislatures.

Proactive Implementation

Require certified ignition interlocks for all DUI offenders as a condition of restoration of driving privileges. Ensure devices are regularly calibrated and equipped with data logging for compliance monitoring. Integrate interlock data into DMV or court systems, offer financial assistance for low-income users, and promote early installation to increase compliance, improve enforcement, and reduce alcohol-impaired driving incidents.

Countermeasure Overview

Objective: Control High-BAC and Repeat Offenders.

Strategy: Require Ignition Interlocks as a Condition for License Reinstatement.

Selected Related Countermeasures

- CM1** Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention (SBI)
- CM2** Administrative License Revocation (ALR)
- CM3** High-Visibility Enforcement (HVE) Campaign

Cost: \$\$ (Moderate)

Service Life: N/A

Benefit-Cost Ratio: 15.0:1

Targeted Solution

CONTRIBUTING
FACTORS

- Misjudgment
- Visibility
- Slower response

TARGET
CRASH
TYPE

- Speeding
- Aggressive

ROAD
FACILITY
TYPE

- N/A

AREA
TYPE

- All

Safety Linkage

NCHRP
500 SeriesAlcohol-Related
CollisionsSAFE SYSTEM
APPROACH

Safe Vehicles

AASHTO'S
TOWARD ZERO
DEATHSSafer Drivers and
PassengersSAFE SYSTEM
ROADWAY DESIGN

TIER 1

TIER 2

TIER 3

TIER 4

N/A

In Vehicle Breathe Alcohol Testing. Source: [NHTSA](#)

70%

Reduce the chance of repeat DUI offenses
(CDC, 2024)

Resources

- [Countermeasure that work, Alcohol Ignition Interlocks.](#) NHTSA
- [CDC. Effectiveness of Ignition Interlocks for Preventing Alcohol-Impaired Driving.](#)

