

SUSPENSION OF INSTALLATION DRIVING PRIVILEGES

I have received a letter stating that my installation driving privileges have been suspended. What does this mean?

A person's privilege to operate a privately owned motor vehicle or a government vehicle on any military installation is at the discretion of the Installation Commander. Army Regulation 190-5 allows the Garrison Commander to administratively suspend driving privileges on the installation in certain circumstances, including:

- (1) Driving on the installation with a suspended license;
- (2) Accumulation of more than 14 traffic points in a one year period;
- (3) Arrest for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI);
- (4) Arrest for failure to consent to a chemical test; and
- (5) Other reckless driving as determined by the Garrison Commander.

When is the suspension effective?

For DWI, the suspension is effective immediately upon citation. For driving on post with a suspended license or for accumulation of points, the suspension is effective 14 days from receipt of the letter of suspension.

What happens if I am caught driving on the installation while my privileges are suspended?

If you operate a privately owned vehicle or any government vehicle on Fort Polk while your privileges are suspended, your installation driving privileges could be suspended for an additional two years.

Who can lift my suspension?

Only the Garrison Commander can reinstate installation driving privileges either through granting restricted driving privileges or at the end of the suspension period. Your installation driving privileges remain suspended until you receive a letter of clearance signed by the Garrison Commander. The only way to get this letter is by requesting in writing that the Garrison Commander lift the suspension or grant restricted privileges.

Are there any courses I need to complete in order to be able to drive on the installation?

Yes. Everyone whose privileges are suspended must complete the Remedial Driver's Training course offered by the Installation Safety Office (337-531-1981). If your privileges were suspended due to an arrest for DWI, you must also complete the Driving Under the Influence Counterattack Course, also offered by the Installation Safety Office (337-531-1981), as well as the Army Substance Abuse Program (337-531-1972). You will need certificates of completion from each course.

How are my installation driving privileges reinstated after my suspension period ends?

After your suspension period ends, the only way to have your installation driving privileges reinstated is to request reinstatement from the Garrison Commander. Reinstatement of driving privileges must be requested in writing and must include:

- (1) A copy of your original suspension letter;
- (2) A letter from the DMV stating that your license is not suspended;
- (3) A photocopy of your valid state driver's license; and
- (4) Remedial Drivers Training Course Completion Certificate.

If your installation driving privileges were suspended due to an arrest for DWI, you must also include:

- (1) DWI Counterattack Training Certificate; and
- (2) ASAP Completion Certificate.

Do not drive on Fort Polk until you are in possession of a letter reinstating your driving privileges. Failure to secure this letter in advance of driving on the installation can result in your suspension period being extended.

Is there any way I can get permission to drive on post during the period of my suspension?

At any time during your suspension, you may request that the Garrison Commander grant you restricted driving privileges if you have a valid reason to be on the installation and your state driver's license is valid. You cannot request restricted driving privileges if your privileges were suspended for failure to consent to a chemical test or you have been convicted of DWI. Restricted driving privileges must be requested in writing, and must include all the documents listed above, plus an explanation why you need driving privileges on Fort Polk, including the specific route you will be taking while driving on Fort Polk.

I don't think it was fair for my installation driving privileges to be suspended. What can I do?

If your installation driving privileges were suspended due to your driver's license being suspended, you have 14 days from receipt of your suspension letter to show that your license was valid at the time of the citation. If you cannot show such proof, your privileges will be suspended for 12 months.

If your installation driving privileges were suspended due to any reason, you have the right to request a hearing to appeal the suspension of your installation driving privileges. This request must be made in writing to the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Criminal Law Division. During that hearing, you can present any relevant evidence and testimony of witnesses to support your case. You may hire an attorney to represent you at your own expense.

Legal Assistance can help you draft a letter requesting restricted driving privileges or a reinstatement of your driving privileges. In order for our office to provide you with assistance, you must have all the documents listed below.

Document Checklist for Restricted Driving Privileges (during suspension period)

- Why you need to drive on Fort Polk, including designated driving routes
- Copy of your original suspension letter
- DMV letter stating license is not suspended
- Photo Copy of your valid license
- Remedial Drivers Training Course Completion Certificate
- If DWI violation, also include:
- ASAP Completion Certificate
- DWI Counterattack Training Certificate

Document Checklist for Reinstatement of Driving Privileges (after suspension period expires)

- Copy of your original suspension letter
- DMV letter stating license is not suspended
- Photo Copy of your valid license
- Remedial Drivers Training Course Completion Certificate
- If DWI violation, also include:
- ASAP Completion Certificate
- DWI Counterattack Training Certificate

PLEASE NOTE: It takes two weeks or more to process requests for driving privileges.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- Remedial Driver's Training Course (Installation Safety Office, Bldg 4209) (337) 531-1981
•Offered the 4th Saturday of every month, enroll online at <https://airs.lmi.org/default.aspx>
- DWI Counterattack Course (Installation Safety Office, Bldg 4209) (337) 531-1981
•Offered every Tuesday, must attend Remedial Driver's Training Course first
- Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP, located at 15th St and Alabama) (337) 531-1972
- Legal Assistance Office (Next to the Showboat Theater, Bldg 1454) (337) 531-2580

For Further Help or Questions:

For appointments regarding other legal matters, call the Fort Polk Legal Assistance Office at (337) 531-2580 for an appointment. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 0800 – 1130 and 1230 – 1630. We are located in Building 1454 on Alabama Avenue, next to the Showboat Theater.