

ZERO TOLERANCE LAW

This law discourages underage drinking and driving by penalizing drivers under 21 with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of **0.02% or higher**, which can result from as little as one drink. This is much lower than the **0.08% BAC** threshold used for standard DWI charges.

A violation is **not a criminal offense**, but an **administrative violation** managed by the New York DMV. Drivers under 21 with a BAC between **0.02% and 0.07%** are not arrested but must attend a DMV hearing. Possible penalties include a **license suspension, civil fines, and an alcohol education program**. If the BAC is **0.08% or higher**, the driver faces **standard DWI charges** with more severe consequences.

The law is intended to **prevent underage drinking and driving** by imposing strict consequences and promoting awareness about the risks of impaired driving.