Getting a driver’s license is often a landmark occasion in a young person’s life. For these new drivers, learning to operate a car safely and responsibly can be a matter of life or death. In the U.S., motor-vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 16 to 19 year olds. Teens are more likely than older drivers to underestimate dangerous situations and make errors that can lead to serious crashes and death. Parents, talk to your teens about the dangers of speeding, drinking and driving, and distractions. The best way to convey good driving habits is to model them. Slow down, never drink and drive, and always buckle up.

Thank you for joining us on a Minute of Health with CDC.

[Announcer] For the most accurate health information, visit www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.