

RIIDE Lowers Age Limit to 18 as Demand Surges Past 30,000 Trips.

Gold Coast free-floating car-share opens to 18–20-year-old P2 drivers after 30,000+ trips, with fuel and basic cover included.

GOLD COAST, QLD, AUSTRALIA,
September 25, 2025 /
EINPresswire.com/ -- RIIDE, the Gold
Coast's free-floating ("drive-and-drop")
car-share service, is opening access to
18–20-year-olds holding a P2 (Green
Ps) licence, reducing its minimum age
from 21. The change follows RIIDE
surpassing 30,000 trips since launch,
reflecting strong local demand for
affordable, flexible mobility.



RIIDE car at Broadbeach, Gold Coast, QLD.

"Dropping the minimum age to 18 gives students, apprentices and young workers a fair, affordable way to get around without the cost of owning a car. We're widening access while

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Dropping the minimum age to 18 gives students, apprentices and young workers an affordable way to get around without owning a car. We'll keep standards high with ID checks and clear rules."

Ricards Staks, CEO, RIIDE Pty Ltd.

keeping standards high with ID checks and clear community rules," said Ricards Staks, CEO of RIIDE.

How it works: members locate, unlock and drive hybrid cars via the RIIDE app, then end trips within a designated home-zone with fuel included. Usage has been consistent around Griffith University precincts since early 2023, where a floating model offers on-demand access without the cost or admin of a full-day rental.

External perspective: "RIIDE is a real solution for students who arrive car-free... it's perfect for less frequent trips," said Professor Matthew Burke, Cities Research Institute,

Key facts

- Minimum age lowered from 21 to 18 for P2, effective 25 September 2025.
- 30,000+ trips completed across the Gold Coast.
- Fuel and basic insurance included in every trip.

The change to allow eligible P2 drivers reflects two trends on the Gold Coast: a growing student population and the broader cost-of-living squeeze. By lowering barriers to access, RIIDE aims to support younger drivers who need safe, occasional access to a car for work, study and life admin, while maintaining strong safety and accountability standards.

Safety and standards

- Eligibility: The update applies to drivers aged 18–20 holding a current P2 (Green Ps) licence. All standard terms continue to apply.
- Verification: Members complete identity and licence checks before their first trip.
- Community rules: Clear guidance covers parking, cleanliness, refuelling and respectful use.
- Technology: Telematics, geofencing and app-based controls help protect vehicles and keep trips running smoothly.
- Support: Help is available for members who run into issues during a booking.

Why free-floating matters

Free-floating car-share complements public transport, cycling and walking by filling the "sometimes I need a car" gap. It enables shorter bookings, reduces unnecessary cruising for parking by allowing an end-trip near the destination within the home-zone, and makes better use of vehicles by keeping them in circulation across the city. For local businesses, it offers a flexible way to access a car without a long-term fleet commitment. For residents and students, it provides the convenience of a car when needed, without the ongoing costs of ownership.

How pricing works

Members only pay for what they use, with simple options to pay by the minute or by the day. Fuel is included, and daily bookings include a kilometre allowance with a clear per-kilometre rate beyond that. Exact rates and allowances are listed on the <u>RIIDE website</u>. Additional damage excess may apply for P2 licence holders and for drivers aged 18–20, as outlined in pricing and member terms.

Independent observers have pointed to the benefits of flexible, on-demand car access for students and staff who don't need a car every day. As Griffith University's Cities Research Institute has previously noted, services like RIIDE can provide a useful option for people who arrive on campus car-free or who only require occasional access to a vehicle.

Notes for editors

- Logos and images are available in the <u>RIIDE media kit</u>.
- For fares, see RIIDE pricing.
- Download the RIIDE app to get started via the RIIDE website.

About RIIDE

RIIDE is the Gold Coast's first A-to-B / free-floating car-share, offering an all-inclusive, affordable and sustainable service with cars located around the city. Users pick up a car using their phone and can drop it off across designated zones. All cars are owned by RIIDE and are hybrid.

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