Daylight Dimming Driver

Version: 20260430 | **Manufacturer:** McGlothlin Inc

Overview

The Daylight Dimming driver ensures your lights always come on at the right brightness. Whether it's bright morning light or a quiet evening, managed lights automatically turn on at the appropriate level for the current conditions. The homeowner can still adjust any light manually at any time -- the driver simply sets the starting point.

Three flexible modes let you match the driver to your project's needs, and universal override windows give you precise control over specific time ranges across all modes.

Operating Modes

Time of Day

Define up to 8 time periods with different brightness levels throughout the day. Great for homes without light sensors where you want a predictable schedule.

> **Example:** Morning (6 AM - Noon) at 100%, Afternoon (Noon - 6 PM) at 80%, Evening (6 PM - 10 PM) at 60%, Night (10 PM - 6 AM) at 30%. Lights always come on at the right level for the time of day.

Device Variable

Reads a value from any device in the project -- such as a lux sensor, ambient light reading, or any exposed variable. Configure thresholds to map value ranges to brightness levels. Works with any device that exposes variables, including sensors without a standard proxy.

> **If using a custom system variable from the Variables Agent, set the Sensor Device ID property to 100001. This enables the driver to read custom system values that can be programmatically updated as needed.**

Light Follower

Bind a light sensor directly to the driver using the Connections tab. Supports both legacy ambient light sensors and Control4 Lux devices (OS 4.0+). Uses the same threshold system as Device Variable. Only bind one sensor at a time.

Threshold Example: Light sensors report 0-255 (dark to bright). Example: 0-50 = 100% brightness, 50-150 = 70%, 150-255 = 40%. As natural light increases, the on-level decreases automatically.

Override Windows

Available on all three modes. Override windows define time ranges where a specific brightness takes priority, regardless of what the mode would normally calculate. Up to 8 windows can be configured.

Example: Using Device Variable mode with a lux sensor, but you always want 15% brightness between 10 PM and 6 AM. Add an override window: Start 22, End 6, Brightness 15%. During those hours, the override applies. Outside those hours, the sensor controls the level normally.

Set a window's start and end to the same hour to disable it. If windows overlap, the first match is used.

Setup Guide

1. Add the Daylight Dimming driver to the project.
2. Select the lights to manage using the **Managed Lights** property. Both dimmers and switches are supported.
3. Choose a **Mode** -- only the relevant settings for that mode will appear.
4. Configure the schedule, sensor, or binding for your chosen mode.
5. Optionally set **Transition Behavior** to "Preset and Active" if you want currently-on lights to ramp to the new level when it changes.
6. Optionally add override windows for time-specific brightness control.

Multiple Instances: If you use more than one Daylight Dimming driver, each light can only be managed by one instance. Conflicts are detected automatically -- the instance with the lower device ID has priority.

Troubleshooting

Issue	Solution

Lights not responding	Verify lights are selected in Managed Lights and check Driver Status for the current light count.
Wrong brightness at certain times	Check for active override windows (shown in Driver Status). Verify time period or threshold ranges.
Sensor not reading	For Device Variable: verify the Device ID and variable selection. For Light Follower: check the sensor binding in Connections.
Conflict warning	Another instance already manages this light. Remove it from the other instance or assign different lights.
Both sensors bound warning	Only one sensor connection should be used at a time. Unbind the unused connection.

Version History

Version	Changes
20260430	Security updates.
20	Fixed Light Follower sensor binding. Property section labels.
19	Initial DriverCentral release.
15	Driver icon and documentation improvements.
14	Stability improvements.
12	Diagnostics and monitoring.
9	Three operating modes, universal override windows.
5	Multi-instance support, property persistence.
1	Initial release.