



## OBTAINING A CLASS D DRIVER LICENSE

Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
BFS-D11 7/2025

### Learning to drive

1. Have a valid instruction permit in your possession. Do not operate with an expired permit. Note: If you are under 18 and do not complete driver education, your permit must be surrendered to the department.
2. Be accompanied by a licensed driver who holds a valid regular license.
3. Practice initially on lightly traveled streets and highways.
4. Obey restrictions listed on the back of your permit.
5. Obtain sufficient practice. This helps develop your driving skills and confidence.

### Renewing or replacing a permit

1. Order online at [wisconsindmv.gov/renewDL](http://wisconsindmv.gov/renewDL) or visit a DMV Service Center. Do not write the Department.
2. If under 18, present the completed Sponsor's Certificate (see "Driver License Applicants Under Age 18 Only" section of the application) AND either your completed Driver Education Certificate, an electronic completion certificate submitted by the school or the completed School Certificate (see "Driver License Applicants Under Age 18 Only" section of the application).
3. If your permit has been expired more than eight years, you must retake the knowledge and sign tests.

**Fees** Credit, Debit, Cash, Check or Money Order are accepted.

Payable to **REGISTRATION FEE TRUST**

|                                      |      |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Original or Renewal Permit . . . . . | \$35 |
| Duplicate Permit . . . . .           | \$14 |
| Skills Test. . . . .                 | \$15 |
| Probationary License . . . . .       | \$28 |

### To schedule or cancel a road test appointment [wisconsindmv.gov/roadtest](http://wisconsindmv.gov/roadtest)

- If you are unable to find internet access, you can use our telephone application by calling: **(608) 264-7478** (on a touch-tone telephone) or Wisconsin Relay for Hearing Impaired: **711**
- You will be asked to provide your Social Security number.
- If you cannot keep your appointment, you need to cancel before the scheduled date.
- If you fail to cancel, cancel the day of your appointment or do not show up, you will be recorded with a failed road test, charged \$15, and will not be able to schedule another appointment for 7 days.

***Safe and lawful driving of a motor vehicle  
is a major factor in avoiding traffic crashes.***

Remember:

- **Practice and gain experience**  
Know your vehicle and how to operate all the controls. There is no substitute for practice.
- **Know your limitations**  
Understand your vehicle's limitations. Remember alcohol and other drugs negatively affect your driving.
- **Learn to communicate**  
Seeing and being seen is important, especially when driving in heavy traffic and inclement weather conditions. Use horn, lights and signals to communicate with others. Make sure they see you!
- **Always drive defensively**  
Look well ahead and plan your driving. Be prepared and expect the unexpected.
- **Know your environment**  
Weather, road and light conditions affect your driving. Practice under a variety of conditions.



## OBTAINING A CLASS D DRIVER LICENSE

BFS-D11 *continued*

### Skills test requirements

1. If age 18 or older, you must hold a valid instruction permit a minimum of 7 days before the test. Bring your instruction permit to your appointment.
2. A licensed driver must accompany you to the DMV Service Center and should stay until the skills test is completed. Our examiner will review the skills test with you and the licensed driver.
3. Provide your Social Security Number.
4. Provide proof of Legal Presence in the U.S. if you are a Permanent or a Conditional Permanent Resident or a Temporary Visitor. See: [wisconsindmv.gov/legal-presence-proof](http://wisconsindmv.gov/legal-presence-proof) for more information.
5. Provide a vehicle in safe operating condition with current registration.

**The exam may be denied if any of the safety equipment listed below is missing, defective or inoperable.**

- Permanently attached front seat for examiner
- Driver and front passenger doors
- Inside/outside mirrors as required
- Safety belts for you and our examiner. Passenger belt must be clean.
- Unobstructed windows
- Taillights/brake lights
- Exhaust system
- Directional signals
- Brakes
- Tires
- Horn
- Speedometer
- Wipers\*
- Headlights\*
- Defroster\*

6. Driving skills tests will be given during inclement weather if it is safe to do so.

\* These items necessary when weather warrants.

### Special requirements if you are under 18

1. Be at least 16 years old.
2. Hold a valid instruction permit for at least 6 months **prior to test.**
3. Be violation/conviction free for 6 months prior to test.
4. Have accumulated 50 hours of behind-the-wheel driving experience prior to test. (10 of the 50 hours must be at night)
5. Successfully complete an approved driver education course **prior to test.** The school must send an electronic completion certificate, or you must present your completed paper Driver Education Certificate to the examiner when reporting for test.
6. Sponsorship is required (s.343.15 Wis. Stats.).
  - a. The Sponsor's Certificate (see "Driver License Applicants Under Age 18 Only" section of the application) must be signed by a parent, stepparent, or other adult sponsor as defined by WisDOT rule. The signature must be verified by a traffic officer, a duly authorized agent of WisDOT or a person duly authorized to administer oaths.
  - b. Your sponsor assumes legal responsibility for negligence or willful misconduct by you while operating a motor vehicle.