

## CLASS M SKILLS TEST GUIDE

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Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Bureau of Field Services

### URNS

#### **Approach:**

Traffic Checks - Check traffic ahead, left, right and to the rear before reaching the corner. Use your mirrors to check traffic to the rear. Look toward or make eye contact with other drivers or pedestrians.

Signal: - Activate turn signal at least 100' before the corner. Signaling too early or too late may confuse other drivers.

Speed - Reduce speed and apply brakes smoothly.

Lane (wide/short) – Vehicle in proper lane/path at least 50 feet before the turn. Uses designated lane for turning.

Unnecessary Stop - Proceed through turn unless required to stop or because of other traffic. Do not hesitate unnecessarily.

#### **Stop:**

Gap/Stop Line/Crosswalk – Allow enough room to see the rear bumper of the vehicle ahead. Stop before a painted stop line. If no painted stop line, stop before the crosswalk. Pedestrians have the right-of-way.

Both Brakes – Use both front and rear brakes when stopping.

#### **Turn/Complete:**

Traffic Check - Check traffic ahead, left and right before turning and through the turn.

Speed/Skill - Accelerate at a safe speed through the turn.

Lane (wide/short) – Complete turn in the correct lane. Maintain proper position in lane. Do not turn so wide or short that it interferes with other lanes of traffic.

Both Hands/Gears – Keep both hands on the handle bar. Shift gears before the turn, not during the turn.

### INTERSECTIONS

#### **Stopped:**

Traffic Check - Check traffic ahead, left, right and to the rear before reaching the corner. Use your mirrors to check traffic to the rear. Look toward or make eye contact with other drivers or pedestrians.

Speed/Lane - Reduce speed and apply brakes smoothly when approaching a stopped intersection. Proper position in lane.

Gap/Stop Line/Crosswalk - See TURNS/Gap/Stop Line/Crosswalk

### INTERSECTIONS

#### **Stopped:**

Both Brakes – See TURNS/Stop/Both Brakes

#### **Driving Through:**

Traffic Check - Check traffic both ways before driving through the intersection. Yield to traffic on your right at an uncontrolled intersection.

Speed/Gears/Skill - At an uncontrolled intersection, slow down and be ready to stop if traffic does not yield to you.

Lane/Path – Proper position in lane. Selects path that increases cycle visibility to other vehicles.

Unnecessary Stop/Hesitates – See TURNS/Approach/Unnecessary Stop

**NOTE:** Rider Fails To Look **AND** Fails To Slow Down At An Uncontrolled Intersection, It Is An Immediate Disqualification. You must turn your head and look so the examiner can see your head move. **This is the only way the examiner can tell that you are looking.**

### BUSINESS/RESIDENTIAL

Traffic Check - Check the rearview mirror about every 6 to 8 seconds to have an overall knowledge of the traffic pattern.

Speed/Unnecessary Stop - Maintain speed for existing traffic, weather or road conditions without exceeding the posted speed limit.

Lane/Path - Keep vehicle in proper path. Select path to maximize your space cushion and make you more easily seen by others.

Close to Vehicle or Object - Leave a safe cushion to the front and side.

### LANE CHANGE

Traffic Check - Check traffic to left, right and to the rear before changing lanes. Check the “blind spot” by looking over proper shoulder.

Signal – Activates proper turn signals prior to lane change.

Speed/Control - Lane change should be done smoothly, without impeding traffic or exceeding the posted speed

## **U-TURN**

### **Approach:**

Traffic Check – Check traffic to the rear by use of mirrors and look over the right shoulder when pulling to the curb.

Signal - Turn on the right turn signal to alert other drivers you are moving to the curb.

### **Performance:**

Traffic Check – Check traffic ahead and check “blind spot” by looking over left shoulder before leaving the curb.

Signal - Turn on left turn signal to alert other drivers.

Speed/Skill/Control – Performs maneuver at safe speed. Keeps feet on pegs and cycle in control.

### **Resume:**

Traffic Check - Check the “blind spot” by looking over left shoulder before pulling back into traffic

Signal – Turns on left turn signal when reentering traffic lane.

## **QUICK STOP**

### **Approach:**

Traffic Check - See U-TURN/Approach/Traffic Check

Signal - See U-TURN/Approach/Signal

### **Performance:**

Traffic Check - See U-Turn/Performance/Traffic Check.

Reaction Time – Is able to stop cycle within one cycle length at 15 MPH.

Control/Both Brakes – Uses both brakes, does not lock brakes.

## **ROADSIDE STOP & START**

### **Approach:**

Traffic Check - See U-Turn/Approach/Traffic Check

Signal - See U-Turn/Approach/Signal

Speed/Lane - Decrease speed when pulling next to curb. Stop vehicle parallel and within 1 foot of the curb.

### **Stop:**

Control – Maintains balance. Does not roll back.

### **Resume:**

Traffic Check - Check the “blind spot” by looking over left shoulder before pulling back into traffic.

## **ROADSIDE STOP & START**

### **Resume:**

Signal - Turn on left turn signal to alert other drivers.

Speed/Lane/Control – Accelerates at a safe speed. Keeps right foot on brake to prevent rollback; maintains balance.

## **PARKING LOT**

Traffic Check - Check traffic when exiting and entering the lot. Watch for vehicles and pedestrians when driving in the parking lot

Speed/Lane/Crosswalk - Drive at a slow rate of speed and stops cycle before crosswalk.

Right of Way - Yield right of way to pedestrians and other vehicles

Knowledge of Vehicle - Know where the controls are and how they work.

## **IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATIONS**

**ACCIDENT** - Any accident the rider could have prevented or contact with a fixed object or pedestrian.

**DANGEROUS ACT** – Any act that causes another person to take evasive action to avoid an accident; **or** that causes the examiner to warn the rider; **or** no blind spot check when changing lanes or leaving the curb.

**LAW VIOLATION** – Includes, but not limited to speeding, failing to stop for a stop sign or traffic signal, making one turn from a wrong lane, turning into the wrong lane (two times) on the completion of a turn.

## **THE SKILLS TEST**

### **Required Equipment:**

Rider - A proper **D.O.T.** approved helmet is required, proper riding apparel should be worn at all times.

Vehicle - All vehicle equipment must be in working order, including turn signals, brake lights for front and rear headlight, mufflers, and horn.

### **Test:**

Instructions - You will be given instructions on what to do during the skills test before the test starts. You will be wearing an earpiece to receive the instructions by one-way radio during the skills test.

Head Movement - **Traffic checks** - turn head and look, do not use just the mirrors. **Lane changes and reentering traffic lane from curb** – Check your blind spot by looking over your shoulder in the direction you are moving.