Getting a Driver’s License in Massachusetts

Who needs to apply for a driver’s license?

* If you live in Massachusetts and you want to drive, you must apply for a driver’s license in Massachusetts.

Warning: Driving without a license is a crime! Driving a car that is not registered with the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is also a crime.

Do I need permission from immigration officials to apply for a driver’s license?

* You should have a green card and a social security number to apply for a driver’s license. You also can apply for a license if you have other identification from immigration officials and a social security card.

What is the difference between a learner’s permit and a driver’s license?

* Everyone who wants to drive needs to apply first for a learner’s permit and pass a multiple choice test. You can drive with a learner’s permit, but you always need to be with another driver who is at least 21 years old and who has a driver’s license. Afterwards, you have to take a driving test. If you pass the driving test, you will get a driver’s license with which you can drive alone.

When can I apply for a learner’s permit? And then when can I apply for a driver’s license?

* When you are 16 years old, you can apply for a learner’s permit to drive with the help of a person who has their license. If you are between 16 ½ and 18 years old, you can apply for a driver’s license after practicing with your learner’s permit for six months and completing a driver’s education class.

* If you are older than 18 years old, you still need to apply for and get a learner’s permit before you can apply for a driver’s license. But, you can apply for a driver’s license immediately without practicing with a permit and without taking a class.
Learner’s Permit Information

How can I apply for a learner’s permit?

* You should go to the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) and present:
  - An original birth certificate
  - A social security card
  - A complete Class D application
  - If you are younger than 18, you need the signature of a parent or legal guardian to show his or her permission.
  - If you are older than 18 years old, you need proof of residency.

Where can I find the Class D application?

* There are applications in the RMV offices.
* There is also a copy at the end of this document
* When you fill out the application, you should use your full name, as it appears on your birth certificate.

Warning: If you are not a citizen of the United States, do not fill out the section for registration to vote when you complete the Class D application. If you are not a citizen, you cannot register to vote and there can be serious consequences - including deportation - if you do!

What does proof of residency mean?

* See the complete list of acceptable forms of proof of residency at the end of this document. Some examples include a recent bank statement, a recent electricity or gas bill, or an original school transcript.

How much is the application for a learner’s permit?

* The learner’s permit exam costs $30.
What tests do I need to pass to receive my learner’s permit?

- A multiple choice exam, and
- A vision exam

In what form is the multiple choice exam?

- The exam is available in English or in Spanish.
- The exam consists of 25 multiple choice questions and you take it on the computer.
- The topics on the exam include the misuse of alcohol, suspensions and infractions for a driver under 18, the rules of the road, and identifying driving signals.
- To pass the exam, you must respond correctly to 18 questions in 25 minutes.

Why do I need a vision exam?

- The vision exam is necessary to show that you have the ability to drive a vehicle in a safe way. An official of the RMV will examine your visual sharpness, ability to distinguish color, and peripheral vision. If you usually use contact lenses or glasses to see distance, you should use them during the vision exam.

What can I do to study for and pass the learner’s permit exam?

- You should study the driver’s manual:
- There are also online practice tests that can be found at:
  http://www.dmv.org/ma-massachusetts/practice-tests/

Do I need to go to driving school?

- The RMV requires that drivers under 18 years old attend classes at an approved school. Attending classes helps you learn to drive better, and improves your chances of passing the driving test.
- If you are between 16 and 18 years old, you need to have had your learner’s permit for six months before you can apply for a driver’s license.
- You must complete 40 hours of supervised driving and your parent or legal guardian must participate in two hours of driving school before you can apply for your license.

- If you are older than 18, you do not need to go to driver’s education classes, but they are recommended because you will improve your abilities and you may be able to receive a discount on your car insurance.
Where are the driver’s education schools?

* Visit the RMV’s website to find a driving school:
  http://www.massrmv.com/rmv/driversed/selectschool.htm

* The following schools are in Lynn:
  - Access Auto School
    140 Union Street LL 2
    Lynn, MA 01901
    781-558-4050
  - Latin American Driving School
    246 Essex Street
    Lynn, MA 01902
    781-581-5353
  - Mohasal Driving School
    319-321 Lynnway, Suite 306
    Lynn, MA 01902
    781-593-2832
  - Ringer's Auto School, Inc.
    271 Western Avenue
    Lynn, MA 01904
    781-595-8600

What are the rules for driving with a learner’s permit?

- You must carry your learner’s permit with you every time you drive until you have your driver’s license.
- Every time you drive you should be accompanied by a driver who is at least 21 years old, has a valid Massachusetts driver’s license, and has at least one year of driving experience.
- If you are younger than 18 years old, you cannot drive between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. unless you are with a parent or legal guardian.

Warning: You cannot use your cell phone for any reason while driving with a learner’s permit!
**Driver’s License Information**

**When can I apply for a license?**

* If you are younger than 18 years old, you can apply for a license after you have completed all the requirements for a learner’s permit.

* If you are older than 18 years old, you can apply for your license after you receive your permit. Although it is advised to practice with a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old, and to take classes, these are not requirements if you are older than 18.

**Warning: You should never take drugs and/or drink alcohol before driving or while driving. You can go to jail and it can affect your immigration status!**

**How can I apply for a driver’s license?**

* If you are younger than 18 years old and you have completed the requirements of your learner’s permit, you should contact the RMV to schedule your driving test.

* If you are older than 18, you can schedule your driving test the same day that you apply for your learner’s permit.

**How can I schedule the date for my driving test?**

* Call the RMV of Massachusetts at (857) 368-8010.

**Warning: There are serious consequences for showing false documents in the process of applying for a license.**

**What do I need to bring on the day of my practical exam?**

- A registered and insured vehicle.
- A sponsor who is at least 21 years old, has at least one year of driving experience, and has a valid license.
- $35 to pay for the exam.
- $50 to pay the new license fee.
What is the difference between a horizontal license and vertical license?

* Until you are 21 years old, you will have a vertical license which means that you cannot buy alcohol. When you turn 21, you can exchange your vertical license for the horizontal license.

What are the restrictions with a Class D License?

* If you are younger than 18:
  - You cannot be in the car with a passenger younger than 18, apart from immediate family members, for the first six months of having your license.
  - You cannot drive between 12:00 am and 5:00 am unless you are with a parent or legal guardian.

It is always illegal to text and drive!

Where are the RMV offices closest to Lynn?

* Revere RMV
  9c Everett Street
  Revere, MA
  Hours of Operation: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm and Thursdays 10:00 am-6:00 pm

* Danvers RMV
  Liberty Tree Mall
  100 Independence Way
  Danvers, MA
  Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.
# Class D, M, or D/M License and ID Card Application

Please make your selection below. If you select one of the options from line 2, you must also select one of the options from line 3.

**NOTE:** Mass ID cards and Liquor ID cards cannot be converted from other states. Permits and Liquor ID cards cannot be renewed.

## Options
- Learner Permit Exam
- Reinstatement
- License
- Mass ID Card
- Liquor ID Card
- Permit
- Issuance
- Renewal
- Change of Information
- Duplicate
- Out-of-State Conversion

Fees are payable by Cash, Check, Money Order, MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Discover. Go online to [www.massdmv.com](http://www.massdmv.com) for additional payment options. If paying by check, make payable to “MassDOT.” PLEASE FILL OUT FORM CLEARLY IN BLACK OR BLUE INK.

## A. IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

For most transactions, including license conversions, applicants over the age of 18 must present three forms of ID which include:
- Proof of date of birth
- Proof of signature
- Proof of Massachusetts residency

Applicants under 18 years of age must only provide proof of date of birth. The parent/guardian must sign the certification on the back of this application.

You must also produce your social security number (SSN) that the RMV can verify with the U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA) as having been issued to you. If you do not have an SSN, an acceptable written denial notice not more than 60 days old from the Social Security Administration (SSA) is required. You must also provide proof of an acceptable visa status, an I-94, and a current non-U.S. Passport.

Please see the Driver’s Manual for the identification requirements you must satisfy to obtain a license or ID card and the list of “Acceptable Forms of Identification” that may satisfy those requirements. The list is also on our website at [www.massdmv.com](http://www.massdmv.com).

### MA Assigned License/ID/Permit Number

**License Class**

- D
- M
- D/M

**Social Security Number**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>D/M</th>
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## B. GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Height</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Feet</td>
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</tr>
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### Mailing Address (Where you want us to send your Driver’s License/ID card and future notices from the RMV)

U.S. Post Office MAY NOT deliver if your name is NOT on the mailbox.

### City/State Zip Code

### Residential Address (Where you actually reside)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Same as above</th>
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## C. REQUIRED INFORMATION

Questions 1-4 to be completed by all applicants. Questions 5-8 to be completed by License/Permit applicants.

1. **Yes** **No** Do you want to be, or continue to be, registered as an organ & tissue donor?

   If yes, the RMV will provide this information to federally-designated organ procurement organizations serving the Commonwealth, and will print this designation on your driver’s license/ID card.

   Applicants under age 18 need consent from a parent/guardian.

   **Parent/Guardian Certification:** I hereby certify that I give permission for the applicant named above to register as an organ or tissue donor.

2. **Yes** **No** Are you an active duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces?

3. **Yes** **No** If you are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, do you want the word “VETERAN” printed on your license/ID? If you are not a veteran, check “No.”

   **NOTE:** If yes, proof of honorable discharge must be presented.

4. **Yes** **No** Are you currently licensed to drive in any state, country, or jurisdiction?

   where?

   class/type

5. **Yes** **No** In the past 10 years, have you held any class of driver’s license in any other state, country, or jurisdiction?

   **If yes, where?**

   **Class of License**

   **License #**

   **(inform RMV of previous names) (use additional paper if you need more space)**

6. **Yes** **No** Is your license or RIGHT to operate suspended, revoked, canceled, withdrawn, or disqualified here or in another state, country, or jurisdiction?

   **If yes, where?**

   **Exp. Date**

7. **Yes** **No** Do you have a cognitive, neurologic, physical, or any other impairment that may affect your functional ability to operate a motor vehicle safely?

   (The Commonwealth’s medical standards for safe operation of a motor vehicle are found at [http://www.massdmv.com/rmv/medical/policies.htm](http://www.massdmv.com/rmv/medical/policies.htm))

8. **Yes** **No** Are you currently taking any medication that may affect your ability to safely operate a motor vehicle?

   **Note:** If you answered yes to questions 7, or 8, an RMV Branch Representative must contact the Medical Affairs Branch (MAB)

## D. OUT-OF-STATE LICENSE/PERMIT CONVERSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>License/Permit Number</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>License/Permit Class</th>
<th>Expiration Date (month/day/year)</th>
<th>Issue Date (month/day/year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Your out-of-state license/permit must be surrendered to the RMV.**

RMV USE ONLY:

**Date:**

**Initial:**

**CDL Downgrade:** I understand that my CDL will be downgraded to a Class D, M, or D/M license and I authorize the RMV to process this transaction.

**Customer Signature:**

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Please complete REQUIRED Voter Registration and SIGNATURE Section on reverse side.

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CHANGE OF INFORMATION
If you change your address, you must notify the RMV within 30 days.

☐ Check here if your name has changed. Please print your new name in the General Information section and your previous name below.

Last Name: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________ Middle Name: ___________________________

☐ Check here if the address in the General Information section reflects a change of Mailing Address.

☐ Check here if the address in the General Information section reflects a change of Residential Address.

☐ Check here if your gender designation has changed. Note: Additional documentation will be required.

Change gender designation to: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other

☐ Check here if your height has changed. Current height is ______ ft. ______ in.

PARENTAL CONSENT FOR MINOR; INFORMATION & CERTIFICATION OF PERSON PROVIDING CONSENT

This section must be completed by a parent of the applicant, the legal guardian, the Massachusetts Child Guardian Division, or the Headmaster of the Boarding School the applicant is attending.

To the Registrar: I hereby certify I am: (check one) ☐ parent ☐ legal guardian ☐ Massachusetts Child Guardian Division ☐ boarding school headmaster of the above-named applicant who is less than 18 years of age, but not less than 16 years of age, if applying for a Learner’s Permit or Driver’s License OR who is less than 18 years of age, but not less than 14 years of age, if applying for an ID card, and that my consent is given as required by M.G.L. Chap. 90, Section 8 for the issuance of a Driver’s License; or as required by M.G.L. Chap. 90, Section 8B for a Learner’s Permit; or by M.G.L. Chap. 90, Section 8E for an Identification Card (ID).

False certification is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both (M.G.L. Chap. 90, Section 24).

Parent/Guardian’s Address:

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: ___________________________ Printed Name: ___________________________

If the person giving consent IS NOT a parent, proper documentation of authority must be shown.

VOTER REGISTRATION to be completed by all applicants

To register to vote in Massachusetts you must be: A U.S. CITIZEN, a resident of Massachusetts and at least 18 years old on or before the next election in your city or town, which could be a town meeting, city or town preliminary, city or town election, state primary, state election, special state primary, special state election, or special city or town election.

1. Do you want to register to vote? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Check “Yes” if you want to register to vote, or if you are changing your name or address and want to be registered with this new information.

☐ Check “No” if you are currently registered to vote and do not want to change your voter registration.

If you answered “yes”, complete question #2 and read the Affirmation Section below.

2. Check all that apply:

☐ Are you a citizen of the United States of America? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will you be at least 18 years of age or older on or before Election Day? ☐ Yes ☐ No

NOTE: If you answered “no” to either of these questions, do not complete question #3. You are not eligible to register to vote at this time.

3. Please indicate party enrollment or political designation (check one):

☐ Democratic ☐ Republican ☐ Green-Rainbow ☐ United Independent Party ☐ No Party (unenrolled)

(Please ask the license clerk for your voter registration receipt)

AFFIRMATION TO BE READ BY APPLICANTS REGISTERING TO VOTE

If you are registering to vote, when you sign your name at the counter to complete this transaction, you will be swearing (affirming) that you are the person identified on this form; that the information on this form is true; THAT YOU ARE A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES; that you are not under a guardianship which prohibits you from registering to vote; that you are not temporarily or permanently disqualified by law from voting because of corrupt practices with respect to elections; and that you consider the residential address recited on this form to be your home address.

Confidentiality of voter registration information: If you register to vote, the office at which you submit your application will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes. If you decline to register to vote, the fact that you declined to register will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.

Penalty for illegal voter registration: Fine of not more than $10,000 or imprisonment for not more than five years or both (M.G.L. c 90 §24).

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

The Registrar reserves the right to cancel, revoke, or recall, any permit, license, or ID card if it is determined that the applicant was not qualified for such permit, license, or ID card.

Turning 21? Renew on or after your 21st birthday to receive a standard horizontal license.

OFFICIAL NOTICE:
Massachusetts law requires persons convicted of a sex offense to register with their local police departments. For information, call 1-800-83MEGAN.

FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE:
Contact our Phone Center at 857-360-8000 · Weekdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Please visit our website for more information at: www.massrmv.com

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<tr>
<th>Solicitud de</th>
<th>Documentos obligatorios para solicitantes menores de 17 años de edad</th>
<th>Documentos obligatorios para solicitantes mayores de 18 años de edad</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambio de fecha de nacimiento</td>
<td>• Un documento que indique la fecha de nacimiento</td>
<td>• Un documento que indique la fecha de nacimiento</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Permiso                                           | • SSN que se pueda verificar o “aviso de denegación” con visa, formulario I-94* y pasaporte vigente de otro país  
• Un documento que indique la fecha de nacimiento  
La solicitud requiere de la autorización (firma) del padre o tutor. | • SSN que se pueda verificar o “aviso de denegación” con visa, formulario I-94* y pasaporte vigente de otro país  
• Permiso de otro estado vigente  
• Documento que indique la fecha de nacimiento  
• Documento que tenga la firma  
• Documento que compruebe la residencia en Massachusetts |
| Conversión de permiso de otro estado de los Estados Unidos, Canadá, México y territorios de los EE. UU. | • SSN que se pueda verificar o “aviso de denegación” con visa, formulario I-94* y pasaporte vigente de otro país  
• Permiso de otro estado vigente  
• Copia certificada del registro de conducción que no tenga más de 30 días de antigüedad  
• Documento que indique la fecha de nacimiento  
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• Permiso de otro estado vigente  
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• Documento que indique la fecha de nacimiento  
• Documento que tenga la firma |
| Licencia                                          | • Permiso                                                           | • Permiso                                                           |
| Renovación de licencia                            | No corresponde                                                      | • SSN que se pueda verificar o “aviso de denegación” con visa, formulario I-94* y pasaporte vigente de otro país  
• Licencia vigente o vencida                       |
| Duplicado de la licencia, permiso, tarjeta de identidad o tarjeta de identidad para adquirir bebidas alcohólicas de Massachusetts | Se exige identificación, si no tiene imagen digitalizada.         | Se exige identificación, si no tiene imagen digitalizada.         |
| Conversión de licencia de otro estado con licencia de Massachusetts anterior vencida hace menos de cuatro años | • SSN que se pueda verificar o “aviso de denegación” con visa, formulario I-94* y pasaporte vigente de otro país  
• Copia certificada del registro de conducción que no tenga más de 30 días de antigüedad  
• Licencia de otro estado*  
La solicitud requiere de la autorización (firma) del padre o tutor.  
• Si la licencia de otro estado no tiene una foto, es necesario presentar una identidad con foto aceptable de la lista de documentos aceptables.  
Nota: Debe convertir el certificado de educación del conductor o completar un curso de educación del conductor en Massachusetts. | • SSN que se pueda verificar o “aviso de denegación” con visa, formulario I-94* y pasaporte vigente de otro país  
• Documento que compruebe la residencia en Massachusetts  
• Licencia de otro estado*  
Si la licencia es de Canadá, México o un territorio de los EE. UU. (incluso Puerto Rico), se requiere un registro de conducción certificado que no tenga más de 30 días de antigüedad. |

*El I-94 puede ser una versión en papel de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de ESTADOS UNIDOS o una copia impresa de una versión electrónica descargar desde su sitio web: www.cbp.gov/I94

Una “aviso de denegación” debe ser aceptable para el RVM. Para obtener más información, consulte la página 17.

continúa en la próxima página