

CHAPTER 1 — THE MISSOURI DRIVER LICENSE

Anyone who operates a motor vehicle or motor-driven cycle on public roadways in Missouri is required to have a valid driver license. You may obtain a Missouri driver license at any one of Missouri's 178 license offices.

You must have a Missouri driver license if:

- You live in Missouri, are 16 years of age or older, and plan to drive.
- You are a new resident of Missouri and want to drive, even if you have a driver license from another state.
- You are an out-of-state commercial driver who has moved to Missouri within the last 30 days. (Please refer to the *Missouri Commercial Driver License Manual*.)

Certain persons are not required to obtain a Missouri driver license. You do not need a Missouri driver license if:

- You are a member of the armed forces and you have a valid driver license from your home state.
- You are a full-time student and you have a valid driver license from your home state.
- You operate or temporarily operate/move any farm tractor or implement on a highway for agri-related purposes.

You are required to carry your driver license or permit when you drive. If any law enforcement officer asks to see your driver license or permit, you must present it. It is against the law for you to allow anyone else to use your license or permit.

TIP! Anyone obtaining a new license or permit is required to show verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number, and Missouri residential address. These requirements are explained in detail later in this chapter.

TYPES OF PERMITS

If you are under 21 years of age, you will be issued a permit identifying you as a minor.

Instruction Permit — Eligible Age: 15

This is the first step in Missouri's Graduated Driver License Program for young drivers. Generally, this permit allows a young person to learn to drive with the supervision of a licensed adult. See later in this chapter for detailed information.

Motorcycle Instruction Permit — Eligible Age: 15½ or 16

You may apply for a motorcycle instruction permit to learn to operate a motorcycle or motortricycle. The age you are eligible to apply may be 15½ or 16 years, as described below.

- 15½ years of age (15 years and 182 days)

The Motorcycle Instruction Permit will only be issued if you have successfully completed an approved motorcycle rider training course.

You must pass the Class F and Class M written, vision, and road sign

tests. You must also have the written consent of your parent or legal guardian. This permit allows daylight driving only, within a 50-mile radius of home, a motorcycle of no larger than 250 cc, and no passengers.

- **16 years of age or older**

If you are 16 years old or older you may apply for a motorcycle instruction permit, but the motorcycle rider training course is not required. If you do not have a valid driver license, you must take the Class F and Class M written tests to receive a motorcycle instruction permit.

When you are ready, you may take the motorcycle driving test and pay the appropriate fee to become motorcycle qualified.

For more information on Missouri's laws on motorcycles, please obtain a copy of the Motorcycle Operator Manual at the Missouri Highway Patrol testing station or at one of our license offices.

TYPES OF LICENSES

If you are under 21 years of age, you will be issued a license identifying you as a minor. When you reach age 21, you may apply and pay for another driver license (without the minor indication) or wait until your under-21 license expires.

Intermediate License (Class F) — Eligible Age: 16

This is the second step in Missouri's Graduated Driver License program for young drivers. Generally, this license allows a young person certain restricted driving privileges. See later in this chapter for detailed information.

Full Driver License (Class F) — Eligible Age: 18

This is the basic driver license, also called an operator license. You must have a Class F license to operate any motor vehicle (other than one requiring you to have a Class A, B, C, or E license.) The Class F license does not allow you to drive a motorcycle unless the license shows the Motorcycle (M) endorsement. Endorsements will be discussed later in this chapter. You must pass the Class F written, vision, road sign, and driving tests.

For-Hire License (Class E) — Eligible Age: 18

When you test for a Class E license, the written exam will include questions based on the complete driver guide, but mainly Chapter 15 (Commercial Driver Licenses). You must also pass the vision and road sign tests. If you already have a Class F license, a driving test is not required. However, you must still meet the "under 21 requirements" (see page 21) for a full license if you apply for a Class E license at age 18. There are a number of reasons you may wish to obtain a Class E license, such as:

- If you receive pay for driving a motor vehicle transporting 14 or fewer passengers (such as a driver for a day care center).
- If you will transport property for pay or as part of your job (such as a pizza or florist delivery driver).
- If you regularly operate a motor vehicle for your employment which belongs to another person and is designed to carry freight and merchandise. The vehicle must be 26,000 pounds or less gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) and not required to be placarded for hazardous materials.

Motorcycle License (Class M) — Eligible Age: 16

You must have a Class M license or permit (or a driver license with the M endorsement) if you operate a motorcycle or motortricycle on public roadways. You will need to pass the Class F and Class M written, vision, road sign, and motorcycle skills tests. Graduated driver license requirements will apply to Class M license applicants between the ages of 16 and 18. See the Graduated Driver License requirements later in this chapter. A driver operating a motorized bicycle is not required to obtain a motorcycle endorsement, however he or she must hold, a valid operator's (or higher classification) license.

For more information about Missouri's motorcycle laws, please obtain a copy of the *Motorcycle Operator Manual* at the Missouri Highway Patrol testing station or at one of our license offices.

Commercial Driver License (Class A, B, or C)

You must have a commercial driver license based on the type of commercial motor vehicle you drive. You must be at least 18 years old to apply for a CDL, and at least 21 years old to obtain a CDL with a Hazardous Materials or School Bus endorsement. You must still meet the "under 21" requirements if you apply for a CDL at age 18. Please refer to the *Missouri Commercial Driver License (CDL) Manual* for detailed information about the CDL program.

Nondriver License/Identification Card (Class ND)

You may obtain a photo nondriver license for identification purposes. Your nondriver license expires on your date of birth in the sixth year after you apply. If you are age 70 or older, your nondriver license will never expire.

REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN A LICENSE OR PERMIT

Depending on your age, whether you are obtaining a new license or permit, if you are renewing one, or if you have just moved to Missouri, the requirements to obtain a license are slightly different.

- If you are a driver age 15 to 21, the Graduated Driver License (GDL) program applies to you. Please see the GDL section in this chapter for more information. You will need to show verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number, and Missouri residential address (detailed in this chapter) to qualify.
- If you are a Missouri driver renewing a license, you may be required to provide verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, and social security number. A document verifying your Missouri residential address will be required each time you apply to renew a driver license, nondriver license, or instruction permit. You must also present your previous license which will be invalidated and returned to you for proof of identity and take the vision and road sign tests.
- If you are obtaining a new Missouri license, you must show verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number and Missouri residential address. You will be required to take the four-part driver examination. The four-part exam consists of a written test, vision test, road sign test, and a driving skills test. (See Chapter 2 for more information.)
- If you are new to Missouri and are transferring your out-of-state driver license, you will need to present verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number, Missouri residential address, and mailing

address, if different than residential address. You will also surrender the license from your previous state of residence, and take the vision and road sign tests.

- You must take the four-part driver examination (detailed in Chapter 2) if any of the following apply to you:
 - You are applying for a new Missouri driver license.
 - Your Missouri driver license has been expired for more than 6 months (184 days).
 - Your out-of-state license has been expired for more than 184 days.
 - Your license was revoked because you have too many points (see Chapter 11) on your driving record or because of an Administrative Alcohol action (see Chapter 10).
 - The Director of Revenue asks you to take the exam, even if you have a current driver license.

Required Documents

When you obtain or renew any license, permit, or nondriver license, you will be required to present verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number, Missouri residential address, and mailing address, if different than residential address. If renewing, you will also be required to present and surrender your current license, permit, or nondriver license. Details of these requirements are listed below. For more information, visit www.dor.mo.gov.

- **Name, Date of Birth, Place of Birth:** A U.S. citizen may show a U.S. Birth Certificate (certified with an embossed, stamped or raised seal and issued by a vital records agency. Hospital birth certificates and birth registration cards are not acceptable.), a U.S. passport (non-CDL valid or expired) or (CDL valid only), a U.S. Certificate of Citizenship, Certificate of Naturalization, or a Certificate of Birth Abroad. A “copy” of a U.S. Birth Certificate (issued by a vital records agency) accompanied by a U.S. Military Identification Card or Discharge Papers. Non-U.S. citizens must present the appropriate immigration documents indicating the applicant’s status. Examine the full list of acceptable required documents at www.dor.mo.gov/mvdl/drivers/idrequirements.pdf.

Age 65 and Older Exemption — If you are **renewing** a non-commercial permit/driver license or nondriver license and are age 65 or older you are exempt from presenting documents for place of birth.

- **Missouri Residential Address:** You have a variety of options to prove your current address. Examples include a recent utility bill (including phone, electric, gas, water, sewer, and cable), property tax receipt, voter ID card, or any official letter issued within the last 30 days by another state or local governmental agency on its letterhead. A Missouri residential address will be required each time you apply to renew a driver license, nondriver license, or instruction permit.

Note: A Post Office Box is **not** acceptable as a residential address. You need to show proof of residential address **and** alternate mailing address (if applicable.) Current addresses are important! **Your license will be mailed to the address provided.**

If you are under the age of 21 and cannot provide verification of a Missouri residential address, a parent or legal guardian may provide such a document on your behalf.

- Resident address is the location at which a person has been physically present, and that the person regards as home. A residential address is a person's true, fixed, principal, and permanent home, to which a person intends to return and remain, even though currently residing elsewhere.

- **Social Security Number**

State law requires you to include your Social Security Number (SSN) on your application to obtain a Missouri License or permit. The SSN may be provided verbally or by presenting the Social Security Card. If the number or name associated with the social security number cannot be verified, the license office employee may ask to see the Social Security Card or a statement from the Social Security Administration as proof of the name and SSN in their records.

If you do not have a social security number:

- You must sign a notarized affidavit stating that you have not been issued a social security number. At the time of application, the affidavit will be provided by the license office.
- You must present a letter from the Social Security Administration (SSA) regarding the status of your social security number.

NOTE: If you are a nonimmigrant foreign student, who is not authorized to work in the United States, submission of a status letter from the SSA is not required. (You or your dependents immigration document **MUST** reflect an F or a J classification).

- License or permit applications without a social security number may be reviewed by the central office for final approval prior to printing and mailing.

- **Name Changes**

If the name on your required documents does not match your current name, present one of the documents below showing your correct or current name.

- **Last Name Change** - certified marriage certificate, certified divorce decree, certified court order, certified adoption papers, or amended birth certificate, U.S. passport, or social security card or medicare card.
- **First Name Change** - court order or adoption papers
- **Middle Name Change** - court order.

TIP! Make sure you have all the necessary documents with you before you go to your license office. It will save you time and the time of your fellow customers!

FEES FOR PERMITS

Fees for and duration of a permit are based on the applicant's age at the time of the transaction. Application test fees are not included.

NEW / RENEWAL PERMIT			
TYPE	MINIMUM AGE	COST	VALID FOR...
Student Permit	15	\$1.00	Length of Approved Course
Instruction Permit	15	\$3.50	0–12 months
Motorcycle Permit	15 1/2 or 16	\$6.25 or \$3.50	0–6 months (182 days)
Commercial Learner's Permit	18	\$7.50	0–6 months (180 days)

FEES FOR LICENSES

Fees and duration of license are based on the applicant's age at the time of the transaction. Application test fees are not included.

NEW / RENEWAL LICENSE			
TYPE	MINIMUM AGE	COST	VALID FOR...
Intermediate License	16	\$7.50	0–2 years
Full License (Class F)	18	\$10.00 or \$20.00	0–3 years* or 0–6 years*
For-Hire License (Class E)	18	\$17.50 or \$35.00	0–3 years* or 0–6 years*
		Age 70 with school bus endorsement New: \$7.50 Renewal: \$2.50	0–1 year
Commercial Driver License (Class A, B, or C)	18	\$22.50 or \$45.00	0–3 years* or 0–6 years*
		Age 70 with school bus endorsement New: \$10.00 Renewal: \$2.50	0–1 year
Motorcycle Only License (Class M)	16	\$10.00 or \$20.00	0–3 years* or 0–6 years
Nondriver License (ID card)	any age	\$11.00	0–6 years* or Non-Expiring

*Based on the applicant's age or document verification status at the time of the transaction.

RESTRICTIONS

If you have limited driving experience or a medical condition that impairs your ability to drive safely, you may receive a restricted license permitting you to drive only under specific conditions. If you have a restricted license, it will have one or more of the restriction codes shown below. You may be required to take a driving test in order to have a restriction removed from your license. If you disobey the restriction(s), you can be charged with driving without a license, and if convicted, points will be placed on your driving record. If you receive too many points (see Chapter 11), your license may be suspended or revoked.

RESTRICTION CODES

A	Corrective Lenses	N	No Class A or B Passenger Vehicle
B	Outside Rearview Mirror	O	No Tractor-Trailer CMV
C	Daylight Driving Only	P	No Passengers In CMV Bus
D	Auto Trans/Power Steering	Q	More Than Five Restrictions
E	No Manual Transmission CMV	R	Special Seat Cushion
F	Restricted to 45 MPH	T	Right Outside Mirror
G	25 Mile Radius	U	Uncoded Restriction*
H	Special Hand Devices	V	Medical Variance
I	Intermediate License	W	Farm Waiver
J	Electrical Turn Signals	X	No Cargo in CMV Tank Vehicle
K	Intrastate Driving Only (CDL)	Y	Left Outside Mirror
L	Non-airbrake CMV	Z	No Full Air Brake Equipped CMV
M	No Class A Passenger Vehicle		

*An uncoded restriction is any restriction not listed here. An uncoded restriction will be listed as a "U" in the restriction area of the driver license or permit and the description will display on the back of the document, space permitting. Any law enforcement officer, judge, or physician can ask the Department of Revenue to place restrictions on your license.

Medical Referral

There are two reasons you may need a physician's statement when you renew or apply for a license:

- You have had epileptic seizures, convulsions, or blackouts within the 6 months prior to your application for a license.
- A driver examiner, license clerk, family member, law enforcement officer, physician, physical therapist, occupational therapist, chiropractor, registered nurse, psychologist, social worker, professional counselor, optometrist, or emergency medical technician, believes you may have some other medical condition that would make you an unsafe driver. This person must complete the Driver Condition Report (Form 4319) and submit it to the Department of Revenue.

ENDORSEMENTS

Endorsements are just the opposite of restrictions because they qualify you to do things you couldn't do without the endorsement, such as drive a school bus or operate a motorcycle. The endorsements available for your non-commercial (class F, E, or M) Missouri driver license are listed below.

- **School Bus (S) endorsement** — A school bus endorsement is required for anyone transporting students from school to home, home to school, and to and from school-sponsored events. A school bus endorsement may be issued to drivers age 21 or older who hold a Class E (For-Hire) license or a commercial license with a Passenger (P) endorsement. A school bus endorsement can be suspended for one year if a person fails to pass any drug, alcohol, or chemical test administered in accordance with any federal or state law, rule, or regulation regarding the operation of a school bus. Missouri law has special operating regulations for school buses. If you need more information on school buses, contact: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Division of Administrative and Financial Services — School Transportation, e-mail: webreply@dmpt.dese.mo.gov; phone: (573) 751-0357; fax: (573) 526-6898.
- **Motorcycle (M) endorsement** — A motorcycle endorsement on an operator or higher class license is required if you operate a motorcycle or motortricycle on public roadways. To add the motorcycle endorsement to an existing license you will need to pass the motorcycle written test, vision, road sign, and a skills test on a motorcycle or motortricycle. For more information about Missouri's motorcycle laws, please obtain a copy of the Motorcycle Operator Manual at the Missouri Highway Patrol testing station or at one of our license offices.
- **Additional endorsements** are available if you have a Commercial Driver License or Commercial Learner's Permit. For more information, please see the Commercial Driver License Manual, available from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, license offices, or our web site at www.dor.mo.gov.

RENEWING A LICENSE OR PERMIT

Renewal Reminders

The department will mail you a reminder to renew before your license expires. A renewal notice will not be mailed for a temporary instruction permit or commercial learner's permit. The reminder will be sent to the mailing address on your driver record. When you move, you may update your address in one of the following ways:

- Complete an address change at your local license office;
- On-line at www.dor.mo.gov;
- Send an e-mail to dlbmail@dor.mo.gov; or
- Send a written notice with your new address to the Driver License Bureau, P.O. Box 200, Jefferson City, MO 65105-0200.

Your reminder will state the fee required to renew your license. You can renew your license up to 6 months before it expires. Each time you renew, you will be required to take the vision and road sign test.

It is your responsibility to renew your driver license, even if you do not receive your reminder. Failure to renew promptly may cause you to have to retake the written and driving tests. You can be ticketed for driving without a valid license. Exception: If you will be leaving the state/country for an extended time you may request an early renewal of your driver license at your local license office.

A driver license may be valid for up to 6 years. If you allow it to expire, you must not drive. If you would like to continue driving uninterrupted, you must renew your license before it expires. If you do not renew your license within 6 months (or 184 days) after its expiration date, you will have to take the written and driving tests (see Chapter 2), in addition to the vision and road sign tests.

License offices are usually busiest at the end of each month. Since you may renew your license up to 6 months (184 days) before it expires, you are encouraged to select a time to avoid the longer lines. If the renewal dates for your driver license and motor vehicle registration renewal are within 6 months, you may be able to complete both renewals at the same time and save yourself a trip later to the license office.

Renewal by Mail for Active Duty Members of the Armed Forces

Missouri allows renewal by mail for members of the armed forces and their dependents. Applicants should submit renewal form 4317 (available on-line at <http://dor.mo.gov/forms/index.php>, or faxed upon request), along with required documents and fees.

Missouri allows a renewal without re-examination for members of the armed forces whose license has expired while out of state, for up to six months from honorable discharge or within ninety days of reestablishing residency in Missouri, whichever occurs first. The expired Missouri license and discharge papers must be submitted at the time of application in addition to other applicable renewal documents. The expired license is not valid for driving. These provisions only waive re-examination and do not extend the actual driving privileges beyond the expiration date.

Lost, Stolen, or Destroyed License

If your license expires or is lost or stolen while you are out of state, you may request a Mail-In License Application by phone at (573) 751-4600 or download the form (Form 4317) at our web site at www.dor.mo.gov. If your license is lost, stolen, or destroyed, you must apply for a duplicate license. If your current license expires within the next 6 months, you may renew your license early rather than obtain a duplicate license. This saves you time and money.

Renewing When Your License is Suspended or Revoked

If you held a non-commercial driver license, you may take the vision and road sign tests and renew your license even while your driving privilege is suspended. However, if your driving privilege has been revoked, you may only renew your license during the revocation if it resulted from your refusal to take a chemical test, from an "abuse and lose" court order, or a minor in possession action.

You will not receive your license back until you have completed your reinstatement requirements and your driving privilege has been reinstated.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRIVER LICENSE

• Organ, Eye and Tissue Donor Information

When you apply for a new, renewal, or duplicate instruction permit, driver or nondriver license you will be asked two very important questions at the time you make your application.

1. **“Do you consent to be listed in the Donor Registry System as an organ, eye and tissue donor?”**

If you say yes your name will automatically be added to the Missouri Organ and Tissue Donor Registry managed by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services or their agent. The registry is on a secure, confidential database. Joining the registry means you have legally documented your decision to save lives by becoming an organ and tissue donor at the time of your death. No further consent is needed, which relieves your family of making that decision on your behalf.

2. **“Do you authorize an Organ Donor symbol to be placed on your license or permit?”**

If you said yes to be listed in the Donor Registry system you will also be asked if you would like an optional indicator placed on your document. If you say “yes” to add the organ donor symbol, a red heart with a green banner will appear on the front of your instruction permit, driver, or nondriver license. There is no fee to place the symbol on your instruction permit, driver or nondriver license, or place your name in the registry. You may obtain more information regarding the donor registry or register your decision and enroll on-line at www.missouriorgandonor.com.

- The back of your license also includes areas for you to write your **blood type and allergic reactions** to medicines. If you are in a crash, this information could help medical personnel save your life.

• **Blind Awareness Fund**

State law requires the clerk to ask you if you would like to donate \$1 to the blind awareness fund when you apply for a license, permit, or non-driver license.

• **“J88” Notation for Deaf or Hard of Hearing Applicants**

When you apply for or renew your driver license, nondriver license, or instruction permit, you may ask that a “J88” notation be placed on your driver license, nondriver license, or instruction permit. In the event of an emergency, this notation will allow law enforcement or emergency and medical personnel to readily determine if you are deaf or hard of hearing. This will assist in ensuring effective communications with someone who is injured and nonresponsive. In order to obtain the “J88” notation, you must request the notation when applying for a license or instruction permit. You must have one of the following documents if you wish to have the “J88” notation placed on your license or permit:

- A medical statement from a licensed medical professional, which verifies your level of hearing loss.
- A certified affidavit — The affidavit form (Form 4942) can be obtained from any license office.
- A statement from an approved or authorized agency listed below, which verifies your level of hearing loss.

Agencies or programs authorized to provide documentation that a license or instruction permit applicant is deaf or hearing impaired shall include but not be limited to the following:

- The Missouri Commission for the Deaf
- Social Security Administration
- A vocational rehabilitation program
- A federal, state, or county department of health
- An Independent Living Center

The Director of Revenue shall have authorization to review and determine acceptability of any documentation from an agency or program not listed.

• **Boater Safety Indicator** 

If you are a resident of Missouri who has complied with the provisions of section 306.127, RSMo and possess a current Boating Safety Education Card issued by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, you may request to obtain a boater identification indicator on your driver license or nondriver license. The Missouri State Highway Patrol will accept the indicator on a valid driver license or nondriver license in lieu of carrying the separate Boating Safety Education Card. You must request the new indicator and present your valid Boating Safety Education Card at the time of application for a new, renewal or duplicate transaction. There will be an additional cost of \$1.00 added to standard processing fees when the boater identification indicator is initially added to a driver license or nondriver license document.

• **Permanent Disability Indicator** 

If you are a resident of Missouri who is permanently disabled you may request to have a permanent disability indicator placed on the back of your driver license or nondriver license at the time of application for a new, renewal or duplicate transaction. To be eligible for the indicator you must submit a Form 5294 Physicians Statement - Permanent Disability Indicator completed and signed by your physician, physical therapist, occupational therapist licensed under Chapter 334, RSMo, or other authorized healthcare practitioner. There will be no additional cost to add the indicator. The standard new, renewal, or duplicate transaction and processing fees will apply. You are not required by law to obtain a permanent disability indicator on your driver license or nondriver license. The indicator is not determination of eligibility or public benefits.

• **Veteran Designation** 

If you are a veteran of the United States Armed Forces you may opt to have a "VETERAN" designation placed on the back of your driver or nondriver license at the time of application for a new, renewal or duplicate transaction. To be eligible for the designation, you must submit a United States Department of Defense discharge document, otherwise known as a DD214 that indicates a discharge status of "honorable", "general", "under honorable conditions" or "general under honorable conditions". There will be no additional cost to add the indicator. The standard new, renewal or duplicate transaction and processing fees will apply. You are not required by law to obtain the veteran designation.

• **Driver's Privacy Protection Act (DPPA)**

The Federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act requires all states to close the personal information contained on all motor vehicle, driver and nondriver license records, unless otherwise directed by state law. Under Missouri law, a person or entity may access the personal information if exempt under

the DPPA (and have submitted Form 4678 — Request for Security Access Code) or have obtained express consent from the record holder (Form 4681 - Request from Record Holder).

- **Voter Registration**

When you apply for or renew your driver license, nondriver license, or instruction permit, the clerk will ask you if you are registered to vote at your current address. If your voter registration address has changed or if you have changed your name since your prior voter registration application (as shown on voter registration card) you may elect to submit a voter registration card to update the required information by responding “Yes” to register to vote at the time of license application. The registration card will be generated for your signature and submitted to the local election authority.

- **Selective Service Registration**

Male applicants, age 18 to 26, may register with the Selective Service at the time of their license or permit application.

SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF YOUR LICENSE

There are a number of reasons your license may be revoked or suspended or denied. Your best bet is to be responsible and be a good driver. You can lose your license for any of the following reasons:

- Parent or Guardian Request to Deny a Driver License — If you are under the age 18, your parent or guardian may request that the Director of Revenue deny you a license. If you already have a driver license, the request (Form 4811) will cancel your license. When the department receives the request, a denial will be placed on your driving record. The denial expires when you turn 18 or when your parent or guardian requests your driving status be cleared. Form 4811 may be found on the department’s web site at www.dor.mo.gov or at any license office.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs (see Chapter 10)
- Refusing to let a police officer test you for alcohol or drugs
- Leaving the scene of a traffic accident
- Failing to file an accident report (see Chapter 13)
- Giving false information when you apply for a license
- Failing to settle a court judgment made against you for damages resulting from a motor vehicle accident
- Failing to keep insurance (financial responsibility) (see Chapter 13)
- Changing the information on your license or using someone else’s license when you attempt to buy alcohol
- Failing to appear for an exam when requested by the Driver License Bureau
- Using a motor vehicle to commit a felony or causing the death of someone in a motor vehicle crash
- Having too many points on your driving record (see Chapter 11)
- Letting someone else use your driver license
- Failing to appear in court or pay traffic tickets in Missouri or other states
- Failing to pay child support
- Failing to use an ignition interlock device when required
- Stealing fuel from a gas station
- Possessing any intoxicating liquor if you are a minor
- Submitting false proof of insurance
- Failing to yield the right-of-way and causing injury or death

THE GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSE (GDL) LAW

Missouri's Graduated Driver License Law requires all first-time drivers to obtain an instruction permit and complete a period of driving with a licensed driver, followed by a period of restricted driving (intermediate license), before getting a full license.

Studies from across the country show that deaths and serious injuries from traffic crashes involving young drivers decline by as much as 58 percent after a Graduated Driver License Law is implemented. Consider the instruction permit as step one, the intermediate license as step two, and the full (Under 21) driver license as step three. The following are descriptions of each step to help you understand the GDL program.

STEP ONE: Instruction Permit Eligible Age: 15 Cost: \$3.50

Valid: 0-12 months, based on document verification status

To Obtain an Instruction Permit:

- Pass the vision, road sign, and written tests.
- A parent, stepparent, legal guardian, or certified trainer (with a federal residential job training program) must accompany you to the license office to sign a permission statement.

Permit Notes:

- Under age 16, you may drive only when accompanied in the front seat by a parent, stepparent, grandparent, legal guardian, qualified driving instructor, or a person who is at least 25 years of age who has been licensed for a minimum of 3 years and has received written permission from the parent or legal guardian. If your parent, stepparent, grandparent, or legal guardian is physically disabled, he or she may designate up to two persons to accompany you in the vehicle to provide behind-the-wheel instruction.
- At age 16 or older, you may drive when accompanied in the front seat by a person who is at least 21 years old and has a valid driver license.
- Seat belts must be worn by the driver and all passengers.
- Your test paper alone is not legal for driving. Be sure to carry your permit with you.
- You may renew your instruction permit as many times as needed without taking additional written tests.
- Free "PERMIT DRIVER" window signs are available at all license offices.

To Graduate to an Intermediate License:

You must have an instruction permit for a minimum of 6 months (182 days) beginning the day after issuance.

- You must have received 40 hours of driving instruction with a parent, stepparent, legal guardian, or certified trainer (with a federal residential job training program). The required 40 hours must include at least 10 hours of nighttime driving.

STEP TWO: Intermediate License Eligible Age: 16 to 18 Cost: \$7.50

Valid: 0-2 years, based on document verification status

To Obtain an Intermediate License:

- You must satisfy the requirements (listed in Step One) to graduate from the instruction permit, and hold the instruction permit for at least 6 months (182 days) beginning the day after issuance. This includes

having no alcohol-related convictions in the last 12 months and no traffic convictions in the last 6 months.

- A parent, grandparent, stepparent, legal guardian, or certified trainer (with a federal residential job training program) must accompany you to the license office to verify you have received 40 hours of driving instruction with your instruction permit.
- Pass the vision, road sign, and written tests if previous results are more than one year old.
- Pass the driving test.

License Notes:

- Your test paper alone is not legal for driving. Be sure to carry your intermediate license with you.
- Seat belts must be worn by the driver and all passengers.
- Passenger restrictions outlined below may not be applicable to an intermediate license holder who is operating in agricultural work-related activities.

Driving Restrictions:

- During the first 6 months, you may not operate a motor vehicle with more than one passenger who is under the age of 19 and who is not a member of your immediate family*.
- After the first 6 months, you may not operate a motor vehicle with more than three passengers who are under 19 years of age and who are not members of your immediate family*.
- You may not drive alone between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. except to and from a school activity, job, or an emergency, unless accompanied by a licensed driver 21 years of age or older.

* **Immediate family** shall include parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, and adopted or foster children residing in the driver's household. **Parent** shall include a foster parent, stepparent or adoptive parent. **Grandparent** shall include a foster grandparent, step-grandparent or adoptive grandparent.

To Graduate to a Full Under-21 Driver License:

- Your driving privilege cannot be suspended, revoked, or denied at the time of application.
- You may not have any alcohol-related offenses or traffic convictions within the last 12 months.

STEP THREE: Full Driver License (Under 21)

Eligible Age: 18 Cost: \$10.00

Valid: 0-3 years, based on document verification status

To Obtain the Under-21 Full Driver License:

- You must satisfy the requirements for an intermediate license. This includes having no alcohol-related convictions or traffic convictions in the last 12 months.
- Have a valid intermediate license. Your driving privilege cannot be suspended, revoked, or denied when you apply for a full driver license.
- Pass the vision and road sign recognition tests. (You are not required to pass the written and driving tests if already completed.)

If you are under 21 years of age, the Department of Revenue will issue you a license identifying you as a minor. When you become 21 years old, you may apply and pay for another driver license (without the minor indication) or wait until your under-21 driver license expires.

You are encouraged to study this Driver Guide before you attempt the written exam. Almost 50 percent of all test-takers fail the first time. You will have a much better chance of passing your test if you take time to review this Guide.

A CHECKLIST FOR YOU

You must have the following documents with you when you apply for a Missouri driver license, instruction permit, or nondriver license. Take all the documents with you to a contract office when you apply for your license or permit.

NEW MISSOURI RESIDENT TRANSFERRING AN OUT-OF-STATE DRIVER LICENSE (valid or expired no more than 184 days)

- Out-of-State driver license (valid or expired no more than 184 days)
- Verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number, and Missouri residential address*

NOTE: If you are upgrading your driver license, take the above documents with you to a Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) examination location when you take the written, vision, and road sign tests and/or driving test.

FIRST-TIME APPLICANT

- Verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number, and Missouri residential address*
- Driver Examination Record (DOR-100) indicating successful completion of tests (not required for nondriver license)

RENEWAL LICENSE

- All drivers renewing will have to show verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, social security number, and Missouri residential address*

Exemption: If you are renewing a non-commercial permit/driver license or nondriver license and are age 65 or older you are exempt from presenting documents for place of birth.

*Please refer to the list of acceptable documents in this chapter.

Note: Additional documents and verification of SSN may be required if the documentation submitted is questionable, or if the contract office clerk or MSHP examiner has reason to question the validity or authenticity of the documents, or needs further verification.