



Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 12.00 Road Skills Tests

Section: 1. Issuance of Driver's License

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 12/30/2024

Authority:

[R.S. 32:408](#)

[R.S. 32:402.3](#)

[Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 55](#)

To view Louisiana Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>

Definitions:

- **Road Skills Test** – An examination designed to test the driver's ability to safely operate and maneuver a vehicle.

Eligibility:

- To take a road skills test, you must meet all [prerequisite requirements](#) prior to the test.
- If you fail the road skills test, you will be given a return date to retest. You will not be eligible to retake the road skills test until that date.
 - Retest dates may vary from one (1) day to thirty (30) days, depending on the cause for the failure.

General:

- The Office of Motor Vehicles or an approved third party tester (TPT) may administer the personal driver's license (Class E) or motorcycle endorsement road skills test.
 - Commercial Driver's License (CDL) road skills tests are **only** administered by approved TPT.

License Type	Situations Requiring Skills Exam	Notes
Personal Driver's License	<p>Applying for a personal driver's license (Class E) for the first time (for those 17 years of age or older at the time of application and have passed the knowledge test).</p> <p>Removing learner's permit restrictions, if the permit was held for the applicable amount of time.</p> <p>Applying for a chauffeur's license (Class D) and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Never held a personal driver's license (Class E) license at the time of application Passed the knowledge test 	<p>If administered by OMV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driver may need to schedule the skills test Driver must furnish vehicle with insurance. The applicant cannot be listed as an excluded driver on the insurance. <p>If administered by TPT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TPT may provide vehicles for administration of the road skills test. Rental fees may apply. All private driving school providers are required to administer the road skills test. Public school driver education providers are not required to provide the road skills test. If not provided, you must coordinate a road skills test by either an OMV field office or another TPT. You must submit a sealed envelope containing the road skills test certificate to OMV upon application. OMV will not accept this unless it is presented in a sealed envelope. TPT may test an applicant up to thirty (30) calendar days before their eligibility date. Be sure to check that the skills test date is within thirty (30) days of the applicant's eligibility date. <p>Road skills tests will not be administered by OMV or TPT if the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle does not pass safety inspection (an alternate vehicle may be used) Vehicle is not currently licensed, inspected, and insured <p>Road skills tests will not be administered by OMV if the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area is experiencing inclement weather or unsafe driving conditions Heat index is above 100 degrees and vehicle is not equipped with working air conditioning
Commercial Driver's License (Class A, B, or C)	<p>Applying for CDL for the first time</p> <p>Up-grading class of CDL</p> <p>Adding certain endorsements</p> <p>Removing certain restrictions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A commercial learner's permit (CLP) is a prerequisite to taking a road skills test ELDT may be required before a skills test is administered
Motorcycle	<p>Applying for a motorcycle endorsement for the first time</p> <p>Reapplying for the motorcycle endorsement and evidence of the previously issued license with the motorcycle endorsement cannot be found in OMV records.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires that the driver wear a motorcycle helmet.

- Road Skills Test Waivers**

- Military CDL Road Skills Test Waiver** –This waiver allows a qualified service member to apply for a CDL without a road skills test.
 - The CDL road skills test may be waived for a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver with military CMV experience.¹

- Must be currently licensed and employed within the past year (12 months) in a military position requiring the operation of a military motor vehicle equivalent to a CMV.
 - Submit the Application for Military Road Skills Test Waiver ([DPSMV2280](#)). The form can be signed electronically.
 - Provide either a current military ID or a DD214¹
 - The applicant will only be waived from performing the CDL road skills test. All other licensing requirements must be met.¹
 - Applies to CDL Class A or Class B **only**, endorsements are **not** allowed with the waiver and restrictions may still apply.
 - If this road skills test waiver is used, ELDT is not required.
- **Motorcycle Skills Test Waiver** - An operator's road skills test shall not be required for an applicant who has successfully completed a course provided by an [approved Motorcycle driving school](#), who also administered the motorcycle road skills test.
 - A [certificate of successful completion](#) **must** be provided to the OMV before the motorcycle endorsement will be added to the applicant's driver's license.
- **Personal Driver's License (Class E or D)**
 - **Administration of Road Skills Test**
 - To successfully pass the road skills test, you must achieve a score of 80/100 or higher.
 - Each maneuver is assigned a point value and each road skills test begins with 100 points. Unsuccessfully performing a maneuver will result in a reduction of points for the assigned point value.
 - If an applicant does not currently hold a learner's permit and fails the road skills test, the examiner may recommend a learner's permit. The learner's permit is the only legal means the applicant may practice driving on the roadway and improve performance.
 - **Maneuvers**
 - Starting/Backing Out
 - Straight-In Parking
 - 3 Left Turns
 - 3 Right Turns
 - 2 Lane Changes
 - 2 Traffic Signals
 - 2 Intersections
 - 2 Stop Signs
 - Railroad Crossing (not required)
 - Speeding
 - Yield Right of Way
 - Lane Usage
 - Attention/Distraction
 - Time
 - Following
- **Motorcycle Endorsement**
 - **Administration of Road Skills Test**
 - To successfully pass the road skills test, you must achieve a score of 80/100 or higher.

- Each maneuver is assigned a point value and each road skills test begins with 100 points. Unsuccessfully performing a maneuver will result in a reduction of points for the assigned point value.
- **Maneuvers**
 - Start Up
 - Posture
 - Shifting
 - Turns
- **Causes for Failure** - The conditions or actions listed below may cause a failure or discontinuation of the road skills test.

Failure or Discontinuation Reason	Notes
Various or Repeated Minor Mistakes	Enough mistakes are made that earns less than 80/100.
Clear Violation of a Traffic Law	May include, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeding five (5) miles over the speed limit • Not coming to a complete stop at a stop sign • Running a red light • Driving on the wrong side of the road • Not yielding to an emergency vehicle
Dangerous Action or Unsafe Behavior	May include, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an accident is prevented only by defensive driving on the part of another motorist or dodging by a pedestrian • If the examiner aids in controlling the vehicle by taking hold of the wheel or applying the brakes in a dual brake vehicle or, in the interest of safety, drives the vehicle back • If the driver commits any act or omission that creates a dangerous or unsafe traffic environment
Accident (if applicant is deemed at fault)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact with another vehicle • Contact with a pedestrian • Any bumper contact with fixed objects, including running off the roadway into shrubbery or lawns
Lack of Cooperation or Refusal to Perform	Driver deliberately does not follow the directions given by the test administrator.
Offering a Bribe or Gratuity	Driver offers a bribe, gratuity, or a benefit to aid in his/her chances of passing the road skills test.

Fees:

- There are no fees to take a road skills test with OMV.
- A fee will be charged if taking the road skills test with a TPT. Prices may vary at different locations.

Related Policies:

Section 1, Policy 1.01, [Commercial Learner's Permit](#)

Section 1, Policy 10.00, [Knowledge Examinations for All Classes](#)

Section 1, Policy 11.00, [Vehicle Inspection Prior To Road Skills Test](#)

References:

¹ – Louisiana State Legislature. *Examination of Applicants Required; Classes of Licenses* (R.S. 32:408), retrieved from <https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=88385>.

² – Louisiana State Legislature. *Motorcycle Safety, Awareness, and Operator Training Program; Account* (R.S. 32:402.3), retrieved from <https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=670632>.