New York State Department of Motor Vehicles

# ORIGINAL DRIVER LICENSE

www.dmv.ny.gov

If you are interested in applying for an Enhanced Driver License or Non-driver Identification Card (EDL/ID) or upgrading your current NYS document to an EDL/ID, please see forms MV-44EDL and MV-44.1EDL.

- The first step to obtain a driver license in New York State is to take a written test. You will need to study the Driver's Manual (MV-21) or the Motorcycle Operator's Manual (MV-21MC) before you take the test. Both manuals answer many questions about driver licenses and about Motor Vehicles regulations. **Please keep the manual(s).**
- When you pass the written test, you will receive your New York State learner permit.
- If you have a Student Certificate of Completion (form MV-285) from an approved driver education course, you do not have to take the written test. To obtain your permit, see instructions below.
- You can get any of the forms mentioned on this information sheet by calling DMV at one of the phone numbers listed on page 2 of this form, or you can print a copy of any of the forms that are underlined below by visiting our web site at **www.dmv.ny.gov**

**When you take your written test** to get a New York State learner permit, please **bring all of the following** with you to the test:

- **Application for Driver License or Non-Driver ID Card (form MV-44)** — completed and signed.

  ***PLEASE NOTE -*** *this form offers you the opportunity to register to vote. Complete the voter registration part of the form only if you want to register to vote.*

  **NOTE:** AGE 16 - Parent or guardian consent **IS** required, even if you have a driver education form MV-285 (Student Certificate of Completion). Please make sure your parent or guardian signs the "Consent Section" on the back of form MV-44.

  AGE 17 - If you have a driver education form MV-285 (Student Certificate of Completion), **NO** parent or guardian consent is necessary. Otherwise, parent or guardian consent is required.

  AGE 18 & older - **NO** parent or guardian consent is necessary.

- **Proof of Name** — DMV assigns point values to documents that are used as proof of identification. The documents you provide to obtain your license must total 6 or more points. See How to Apply For a Learner Permit, Driver License or Non-Driver ID Card (form MV-44.1) and Proofs of Identity for Learner Permit, Driver License or Non-Driver ID Card (form ID-44) for documents you may use as proof of identification.
- **Social Security Card**— You must bring your Social Security card with you. If you are not eligible for a Social Security card, you must present a letter from the Social Security Administration. See form MV-44.1 or form ID-44 for more information.
- **Proof of date of birth** — See form MV-44.1 and form ID-44 for proof you may use.
- **Eye Test** — You can take an eye test at any Motor Vehicles office.

  **OR**

- **Visual Acuity Report (form MV-619)** — You may use this form if you have your eyes tested by any of the medical professionals who are listed on the form. Please bring this signed and completed form with you to any Motor Vehicles office.
- **FEES:**

Original New York driver licenses are issued for a maximum of five years. For fee information, please visit our website at: www.dmv.ny.gov/licefee.htm; this can be found from our main page by going to the "Driver License, Learner Permit and Non-driver Photo ID Cards" section and selecting "New Drivers: How to get a Driver License". You may also get fee information by calling the DMV Call Center telephone numbers listed at the bottom of page 2.

Applicants seeking Farm (F) (G), and/or Tow Truck (W) endorsements will receive a Non-CDL C license. You must hold a valid Class D, E, or Non-CDL C license before you can apply for a Class A, B, or C commercial driver license (CDL). For further information, see the Commercial Driver's Manual (CDL-10).

## HOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR ROAD TEST

**You can schedule your road test on-line at www.dmv.ny.gov/roadtest or by calling 518-402-2100. Please refer to Scheduling Your Road Test By Phone (form RT-3) for all instructions.**

## TAKING THE ROAD TEST

**Please bring all of the following with you to your road test:**

- **Valid NYS Learner Permit** — the photo permit you received in the mail.
- **Prelicensing Course Completion Certificate** (form MV-278) or **Student Certificate of Completion** (form MV-285).
- **The vehicle for the road test.** You must provide the vehicle for the road test. Please be sure that the vehicle you will be using for the road test has valid registration and inspection stickers. You must have the **current registration** and **current New York State insurance card** with you.
- If you drive to the road test site, you must also bring a **supervising driver** who is at least 21 years old and holds a license valid for operating the vehicle you will drive during the road test.
- **JUNIOR LEARNER PERMIT ONLY (Ages 16 & 17):**
  - Junior permit holders are required by law to hold a valid learner permit for a minimum of six months before a junior license can be issued. You will not be able to schedule a road test unless your permit will have been in valid status (not suspended) for at least six months on the day of the test.
  - Junior learner permit holders must have a minimum of 50 hours of supervised "practice" driving, including 15 hours after sunset, prior to taking the road test. You must bring a completed **Certification of Supervised Driving** (form MV-262), signed by a parent or guardian.
- **MOTORCYCLE ONLY: You must bring a licensed driver with a passenger vehicle** to provide transportation for the road test examiner. Please be sure that both the passenger vehicle and motorcycle have current and valid registrations, inspections and New York State insurance.

**PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR YOUR ROAD TEST APPOINTMENT.**

## AFTER THE ROAD TEST

- In most cases, the examiner will tell you the results of the test. If you pass, the examiner will give you a temporary license that is valid for 90 days.
- **If you already had a CDL permit,** you will have to return to a Motor Vehicles office to amend your diver license to a CDL. **Wait 7 days** before going to an office.
- **If you had a learner permit** that was **valid for more than one year**, your photo license will be mailed to you in a few weeks. There is **no need to visit** a Motor Vehicles office again.
- **If you had a learner permit** that was **valid for only one year**, you will have to return to the office to pay for the license once the road test results have been entered on the computer. **Wait 5 days** before going to the Motor Vehicles office to pay for the license.
- **If you already have a NYS license**, but are changing class or adding an endorsement to your current license, you will have to return to a Motor Vehicles office to pay the fee. **Wait 5 days** before going to an office.

## DMV CALL CENTER TELEPHONE NUMBERS

*Reach DMV from anywhere in New York to request the forms listed on Page 1*
***(NOT FOR SCHEDULING A ROAD TEST)***

**Metropolitan New York City:**
From area codes 212, 347, 646, 718, 917 and 929
(212) 645-5550 or (718) 966-6155
Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

From area codes 516, 631, 845 and 914:
(718) 477-4820
Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

**All other area codes within New York State:**
(518) 486-9786
Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

**From outside New York State:**
(518) 473-5595
Monday-Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

**TTY/TDD** (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf)
Within New York State: 1-800-368-1186
Out of State: (518) 473-9002
Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm



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