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## LAWS GOVERNING DRIVER LICENSES

- A motorist who operates a motor vehicle in the State of New Jersey must carry a valid driver license, a valid provisional license or a validated New Jersey permit. The motorist must also carry valid insurance and vehicle registration cards. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-29)
- A motorist with a validated New Jersey driver permit must be accompanied by an appropriately licensed driver. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-13, 39:3-13.2a)
- A motorist who is a legal resident of New Jersey must be licensed in this state. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-10, 39:3-17.1)
- A motorist who changes addresses must report this change to the MVC within one week after moving. This includes individuals who are moving out of New Jersey. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-36)
- A motorist who legally changes his/her name (marriage, divorce, adoption) must report the change to the MVC within two weeks. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-9b)
- A motorist with a valid out-of-state license who moves to New Jersey must apply for a New Jersey license within 60 days (commercial driver license – CDL - within 30 days) or before the current license expires, whichever is sooner. The out-of state license must be surrendered prior to receiving a New Jersey license. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-17.1, 39:3-10.17, 39:5D-5)
- A motorist who is a foreign national with a valid license from another country may be eligible for a New Jersey driver license. If the motorist receives a New Jersey license, he/she will not have to surrender the out-of-country license.
- Operators of commercial vehicles, such as large trucks, buses and vehicles that transport hazardous materials, must satisfy more stringent testing standards than the drivers of automobiles or motorcycles. These operators must still possess a valid, basic New Jersey driver license prior to applying for a CDL.

- Individuals who have never had a driver license must complete the MVC's Graduated Driver License (GDL) Program, which introduces driving privileges in phases with a period of supervised driving before getting a basic driver license. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-10, 39:3-13 through 39:3-13.8)
- All applicants for a New Jersey driver license who are under 18 years of age must present a completed consent form signed by a parent or guardian. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-13 and 39:3-13.3)
- GDL, special learner and examination permits are valid until all qualifications for a provisional license are met, or for two years, whichever occurs first. All others are valid for 90 days.
- All applicants for a New Jersey driver license must provide a full name, current address, Social Security number, 6 Points of ID Verification and other documentation that verifies that their legal presence in the United States is authorized under federal law. Documents must be in English or have an approved translation. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-9a, 39:3-9b, 39:3-10 and N.J.A.C. 13:21-1.1, 13:21-1.2, 13:21-1.3, 13:21-8.2)

## DIGITAL DRIVER LICENSE

In 2004, New Jersey ceased the issuance of laminated paper licenses and implemented the use of the digital driver license (DDL). The DDL, along with the MVC's 6 Point ID Verification requirement (see page 11), helps to eliminate the prevalence of fraud and abuse. The DDL includes nearly two dozen security features, including digital photographs and signature. The DDL is issued at all MVC agencies. Motorists under 21 years of age are issued a distinctive vertical-format DDL. Most DDLs issued are valid for four years.

Altering a driver license or showing an altered driver license may result in loss of a motorist's driving privilege, a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or up to six months imprisonment. In addition, getting a driver license illegally may result in a fine of up to \$200 to \$500 and/or imprisonment of 30 to 90 days.



## RESTRICTIONS

If a motorist has a restriction on his/her license (such as the need to wear corrective lenses while driving), it will appear on the license in a coded form.

Restrictions are as follows:

- 1- Corrective lenses required
- 2- Prosthetic device
- 3- Mechanical device
- 4- Hearing impaired
- 5- Attached restrictions<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This category applies to special modifications to an applicant's vehicle or limited driver privileges for a medical condition. The card detailing the attached restrictions must remain with the driver license.

## TYPES OF NEW JERSEY LICENSES

The following chart shows age requirements, license fees and required tests for each type of license that the MVC offers. Testing for commercial, motorcycle and moped licenses will require the use of topic-specific manuals in addition to using this Driver Manual. Copies of the commercial, motorcycle or moped manuals may be obtained at any MVC agency or requested online at [www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov).

Manuals may also be obtained by calling **(888) 486-3339** toll-free in New Jersey or **(609) 292-6500** from out of state.

An endorsement added to a license will expire with the license. When an endorsement is added to an existing license, the charge for the endorsement is prorated to cover the period remaining until expiration.

<p><b>Basic Automobile License</b></p> <p>For all types of Class D motor vehicles registered by the MVC, except motorcycles.</p>	Expiration:	<b>4 Years</b>
	Minimum Age:	<b>18 (Permit: 16)</b>
	Permit Fee:	<b>\$10</b>
	Photo License Fee:	<b>\$24</b>
	Test(s) Required:	<b>KVR</b> <sup>1</sup>
<p><b>Provisional Automobile License</b></p> <p>For all types of Class D motor vehicles registered by the MVC, except motorcycles.</p>	Expiration:	<b>4 Years</b>
	Minimum Age:	<b>17</b>
	Permit Fee:	<b>\$10</b>
	Photo License Fee:	<b>\$6</b>
	Test(s) Required:	<b>KVR</b> <sup>1</sup>
<p><b>Commercial Driver License</b></p> <p>For large trucks, buses and vehicles (Classes A, B and C).</p>	Expiration:	<b>4 Years</b>
	Minimum Age:	<b>18/21</b> <sup>4</sup>
	Permit Fee:	<b>\$35</b> <sup>5</sup>
	Photo License Fee:	<b>\$32</b>
	Test(s) Required:	<b>CKVR</b>
<p><b>Motorcycle License</b></p> <p>For most vehicles with fewer than four wheels (Class E). Issued as a separate license or as an endorsement (M) if the individual already holds a basic New Jersey driver license.</p>	Expiration:	<b>4 Years</b>
	Minimum Age:	<b>17</b>
	Permit Fee:	<b>\$5</b>
	Photo License Fee:	<b>\$24 or \$18</b> <sup>6</sup>
	Test(s) Required:	<b>KVR</b> <sup>1</sup>
<p><b>Provisional Motorcycle License</b></p> <p>For most vehicles with fewer than four wheels (Class E). Issued as a separate license or as an endorsement (M) if the individual already holds a basic New Jersey driver license.</p>	Expiration:	<b>4 Years</b>
	Minimum Age:	<b>17</b>
	Permit Fee:	<b>\$10</b>
	Photo License Fee:	<b>\$6</b> <sup>3</sup>
	Tests Required:	<b>KVR</b> <sup>1</sup>

### Moped License

For unlicensed motorists 15 years of age and older. Not needed if operator has a Class A, B, C, D or E license.

Expiration:	4 Years <sup>2</sup>
Minimum Age:	15
Permit Fee:	\$5
Photo License Fee:	\$6
Test(s) Required:	KVR <sup>1</sup>

### Agricultural License

For farming purposes only. May be granted to persons between 16 and 17 years old.

Expiration:	4 Years <sup>2</sup>
Minimum Age:	16
Permit Fee:	\$10
Photo License Fee:	\$6
Test(s) Required:	KVR <sup>1</sup>

### Boat License

For individuals 16 years of age and older, who operate a motorboat on fresh, non-tidal waters, such as lakes, creeks or rivers, that are not affected by tidal conditions. As of June 1, 2007, persons born in 1959 or later must possess a Boating Safety Certificate. Persons born in 1949 or later must possess a Boating Safety Certificate by June 1, 2008. By June 1, 2009, all persons who wish to operate a power vessel must possess a Boating Safety Certificate. For more information about New Jersey boating requirements, visit the State Police Marine Services Web site at [www.state.nj.us/njsp/maritime/index.html](http://www.state.nj.us/njsp/maritime/index.html). (N.J.S.A. 12:7-61.1)

Expiration:	4 Years
Minimum Age:	16
Permit Fee:	n/a
Photo License Fee:	\$18
Test(s) Required:	n/a non-tidal waters only

<sup>1</sup> K-Knowledge, V-Vision, R-Road, C-Commercial

<sup>2</sup> Or until a basic license is obtained at 18 years of age.

<sup>3</sup> Motorist must return to agency in one year to have license upgraded. Fee is \$19.50.

<sup>4</sup> CDL applicants must be at least 18 years old. Applicants under 21 may travel only in New Jersey (intrastate, not interstate) and may not receive HAZMAT or passenger endorsements.

<sup>5</sup> Out-of-state CDL transfer fees are \$10.

<sup>6</sup> Class E endorsements are \$24; Class M endorsements are \$18.

Note: Fees in this manual are subject to change. Current fees are available online at [www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov) or by calling (888) 486-3339 toll-free in New Jersey or (609) 292-6500 from out of state.

## 6 POINT ID VERIFICATION

Per N.J.A.C. 13:21-8.2, all New Jersey driver license applicants must complete 6 Point ID Verification by presenting documents that prove their age, identity, and legal presence in the U.S. All applicants must prove identity through a prescribed combination of documents that includes:

- At least one primary document
- At least one secondary document
- At least six points of ID
- Proof of address

Use the chart on the following pages to select your documents, or use the online Document Selector at **[www.njmvc.gov/6point](http://www.njmvc.gov/6point)**.

If discrepancies exist within or between documents presented to the MVC, the applicant may be required to provide additional documentation. Any permit or license application may be refused if a document appears altered, false or otherwise invalid.

A non-citizen must submit proof of continued legal presence in the United States. The MVC may accept other documents proving identity, date of birth and continued legal presence. Documents must be provided in English.

A motorist referred to an MVC Regional Service Center due to identification issues will be required to provide an original or certified copy of his/her civil birth certificate if a U.S. citizen. Passports will not be accepted. Non-U.S. citizens may be asked for additional identification documents.

For assistance with 6 Point ID Verification, visit **[www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov)** or call **(888) 486-3339** toll-free in New Jersey or **(609) 292-6500** from out of state.



# REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ AT LEAST ONE PRIMARY DOCUMENT
- ✓ AT LEAST ONE SECONDARY DOCUMENT
- ✓ DOCUMENTS MUST BE WORTH 6 POINTS OR MORE
- ✓ PROOF OF ADDRESS
- ✓ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If your current legal name is different from the name on your civil birth certificate (e.g., your maiden name), then you must show legal proof of the name change. Legal proof = Certified marriage or civil union certificate, divorce decree or court order linking the new name with a previous name. U.S. passport is not proof of legal name change. A divorce decree may be used as authority to resume using a previous name only if it contains the new name and the previous name and permits a return to use of the previous name.

**Certain documents may require proof of legal U.S. presence.**

Visit [www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov) for a list or call (888) 486-3339.

**All documents must be ORIGINAL or CERTIFIED COPIES in English and have the required state and/or municipal seals.** Certified copies of New Jersey records are available from the municipality that originally issued them and from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics at [www.nj.gov/health/vital](http://www.nj.gov/health/vital) or (609) 292-4087. For information about Jersey City/Hudson Ccounty birth certificates, visit [www.nj.gov/health/vital/jerseycity](http://www.nj.gov/health/vital/jerseycity).

# CHOOSE PRIMARY DOCUMENTS

You must show at least one of these

## US Citizens

### 4-Point Documents:

- Civil birth certificate or certified copy from one of the 50 states, District of Columbia or a US territory. Photocopies or certificates from hospitals or religious entities are not accepted. Please read Important Information on previous page.
- US Department of State birth certificate (Form FS-545, FS 240 or DS-1350)
- US passport, current or expired less than 3 years (may not be used for proof of legal name change)
- Current NJ digital driver license
- Current NJ digital non-driver ID card
- Current NJ digital boat license
- Valid active duty US military photo ID card
- US adoption papers
- Certificate of naturalization (Form N-550, N-570 or N-578)
- Certificate of citizenship (Form N-560, N-561 or N-645)

## Non-Citizens

### 4-Point Documents:

- Foreign passport with INS or USCIS verification and valid record of arrival/departure (Form I-94)
- Foreign passport with INS or USCIS verification and valid Form I-551 stamp
- Current alien registration card (new Form I-551) with expiration date and verification from INS or USCIS
- Refugee travel document (Form I-571)
- US re-entry permit (Form I-327)
- Valid I-94 stamped "Refugee," "Parolee," "Asylee" or "Notice of Action" (Form I-797 approved petition) by INS or USCIS
- Valid I-94 with attached photo stamped "Processed for I-551..." by INS or USCIS

### 3-Point Document:

- Current photo employment authorization card (Form I-688B or I-766). Must be presented with valid Social Security card.

### 2-Point Documents:

- Current alien registration card (old Form I-551) without expiration date and with INS or USCIS verification
- Photo temporary resident card (Form I-688)

# 2

## CHOOSE SECONDARY DOCUMENTS

You must show at least one of these

### 3-Point Documents:

- Civil marriage, domestic partnership or civil union certificate issued by the municipality in which the ceremony occurred. Please note: Photocopies or certificates issued by religious entities are not acceptable
- Order or decree of divorce, dissolution or termination (see "Important Information" p.12)
- Court order for a legal name change, signed by a judge or court clerk
- Current US military dependent card
- US military photo retiree card
- Valid NJ firearm purchaser card

### 2-Point Documents:

- US school photo ID card with transcript or school records
- US college photo ID card with transcript
- Valid federal, state or local government employee driver license
- Valid federal, state or local government employee photo ID card
- US military discharge papers (DD214)
- FAA pilot license

### 1-Point Documents: You cannot use more than TWO of these

- Current NJ PHOTO driver license (non-digital)
- Current PHOTO driver license from any other state or the District of Columbia
- Social Security card
- Bank statement or record
- ATM card with preprinted name and applicant's signature. (Please note: An ATM card and bank statement cannot be submitted together.)
- Current health insurance card, prescription card or employee ID card with printed pay stub
- State professional license
- NJ public assistance card with photo (also known as a NJ Social Services ID card)
- High school diploma, GED or college diploma
- Property tax statement, bill or receipt issued by a New Jersey municipality
- For NJ high school students: a waiver certificate for the written portion of the driver's test
- Veterans Affairs universal access photo ID card

## 3

## CHOOSE Proof of Address

**You must also present proof of residential address, which may be, but is not limited to, ONE of these**

- Utility or credit card bill issued in the past 90 days that shows your name at your current address.

Note: Mail addressed to P.O. boxes not accepted as proof of address (39:3-9a)

- Checking or savings account statement from a bank or credit union, issued in the past 60 days
- High school or college report card or transcript containing your address, issued within the past two years
- Original lease or rental agreement showing your name as the lessee or renter
- Property tax bill, statement or receipt from the past year
- Any letter or correspondence (including tax bills) received from the IRS or state tax office in the past year
- First-class mail received from any federal, state or local government agency in the past six months
- If you are under 18, then we will accept a Parent or Guardian Certification that verifies you are living with a parent or guardian

## 4

## SOCIAL Security Number

To complete 6 Point ID Verification, MVC will verify that your Social Security number matches your name and birth date on record with the Social Security Administration database.

If you are not eligible for a Social Security number, you must provide an exemption letter from the Social Security Administration.

### ADD UP POINTS

PRIMARY

+

SECONDARY

TOTAL

Must equal 6 or more points



## ▣ GRADUATED DRIVER LICENSE (GDL)

In 2001, New Jersey sought to enhance driver preparation and safety by implementing a multi-stage driver licensing system. Known as the Graduated Driver License (GDL) Program, the system gradually introduces driving privileges to first-time drivers, extends their practice driving time and requires a minimum age of 18 in order to receive an unrestricted, basic driver license. GDL restrictions placed upon first-time drivers must be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so may result in a fine of \$100 or a possible suspension of a motorist's driving privilege. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-10 and 39:3-13 through 39:13.8)



### STEP 1 GET A SPECIAL LEARNER PERMIT

- Must be at least 16 years old
- Must have signed parent or guardian consent
- Must be enrolled in approved behind-the-wheel driver training course through the N.J. Department of Education or commercial driving school
- An approved instructor must purchase the permit
- Must pass MVC's knowledge and vision tests
- Must pay required fee

MVC will validate Special Learner Permits ONLY after training course completion.

### STEP 2 PRACTICE WITH AN ADULT SUPERVISING DRIVER

- Must observe special learner permit driving restrictions
- Must practice at least six months

### STEP 3 GET A PROVISIONAL LICENSE

- Must have completed six months of supervised driving without any suspensions or postponements
- Must pass MVC's road test
- Must be at least 17 years old

### STEP 4 WITH A PROVISIONAL DRIVER LICENSE

- Must practice unsupervised driving for at least one year
- Must observe provisional driver license restrictions

### STEP 5 GET THE BASIC DRIVER LICENSE

- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must have completed one year of unsupervised driving with provisional driver license restrictions
- Must pay required fee

Note: Permit may not be used for practice driving until validated at an MVC Driver Testing Center.

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**STEP 1** GET AN EXAMINATION PERMIT

- Must pass MVC's knowledge and vision test
- Must be at least 17 years old
- Must pay required fee
- Must obtain parent or guardian consent if you are under 18 years of age

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**STEP 2** PRACTICE SUPERVISED DRIVING

- Must practice with an adult supervising driver
- Must practice at least six months
- Must observe examination-permit driving restrictions

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**STEP 3** GET A PROVISIONAL LICENSE

- Must have completed six months of supervised driving without any suspensions or postponements
- Must pass MVC's road test

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**STEP 4** PRACTICE UNSUPERVISED DRIVING

- Must practice unsupervised driving for at least one year
- Must follow provisional driver license restrictions

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**STEP 5** GET THE BASIC DRIVER LICENSE

- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must have completed one year of unsupervised driving
- Must pay required fee

## STEP 1 GET AN EXAMINATION PERMIT

- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must pass MVC's knowledge and vision tests
- Must pay required fee

## STEP 2 PRACTICE SUPERVISED DRIVING

- Must practice with an adult supervising driver
- Must practice at least three months
- Must observe examination permit driving restrictions

## STEP 3 GET A PROVISIONAL LICENSE

- Must have completed three months of supervised driving without any suspensions or postponements
- Must pass MVC's road test

## STEP 4 PRACTICE UNSUPERVISED DRIVING

- Must practice unsupervised driving for at least one year
- Must follow provisional driver license restrictions

## STEP 5 GET THE BASIC DRIVER LICENSE

- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must have completed one year of unsupervised driving
- Must pay required fee



## ▸ SPECIAL LEARNER PERMIT RESTRICTIONS

- No driving between 11:01 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.<sup>1</sup>
- No using cell phones, hand-held video games or any other hand-held electronic devices.
- Permit holder must be accompanied in the front seat by an adult supervising driver who is at least 21 years of age and who possesses a valid New Jersey driver license and has a minimum of three years' driving experience.
- Passengers must be from the provisional license holder's household, and up to one additional person.
- Permit holder and all passengers must all wear a seat belt.

## ▸ EXAMINATION PERMIT RESTRICTIONS

- No driving between 12:01 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.<sup>1</sup>
- No using cell phones, hand-held video games or any other hand-held electronic devices.
- Permit holder must be accompanied in the front seat by an adult supervising driver who is at least 21 years of age and who possesses a valid New Jersey driver license and has a minimum of three years' driving experience.<sup>1</sup>
- Passengers must be from the provisional license holder's household, and up to one additional person.
- Permit holder and all passengers must wear a seat belt.

## ▸ PROVISIONAL DRIVER LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

- No driving between 12:01 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.<sup>1</sup>
- No using cell phones, hand-held video games or any other hand-held electronic devices.
- Passengers must be from the provisional license holder's household, plus one additional person.
- Provisional license holder and all passengers must wear a seat belt.

<sup>1</sup> If the Examination Permit or Provisional License holder is 21 years of age or older, hour and passenger restrictions do not apply.

## ▼ GDL DRIVER EXEMPTIONS

Exemptions to the hours rule for permit and provisional drivers under 21 years: Proof of a need to drive during the prohibited hours for employment and/or religion. For an exemption, the motorist must carry a legible certification to indicate this need from his/her employer or religious official on the official letterhead of the business, organization or religious institution, with the signature of the certifying official and his/her name, title, address and phone number. (N.J.A.C. 39:21-8.18)

Note: If the student driver commits a traffic offense, responsibility will be with both the student and instructor or adult supervising driver. All motorists who possess a provisional driver license, whose provisional licensing period is not extended by the MVC beyond the standard 12 months, must visit an MVC agency to upgrade to a basic driver license after the end of those 12 months. Motorists who fail to do so will remain subject to the provisional driver license restrictions and could be cited by law enforcement for violating the restrictions.

## ▼ SPECIAL LEARNER PERMITS FOR NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS

Any New Jersey resident who is at least 16 years old and is not in suspension status can obtain a special learner permit at any MVC agency. The applicant must have the signed consent of his/her parent or guardian, must be enrolled in a behind-the-wheel driver training course approved by the New Jersey Department of Education or conducted by a commercial driving school, and must pass the MVC's knowledge test and vision screening. An approved course is six full hours of behind-the-wheel instruction in a dual-controlled vehicle. These hours are exclusive of time spent at the MVC for permit purchasing or testing. The instructor must purchase the permit, which is valid for two years. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-13.1)

After an applicant fills out the form with his/her personal information and provides 6 Points of ID Verification and, if applicable, proof that the U.S. government authorizes his/her presence in this country, the instructor can purchase a permit at any MVC agency. Basic automobile license applicants must supply a Social Security number or an exemption from the Social Security Administration.

Upon completion of the approved driver training course and before practice driving, the permit holder must have the permit validated at any MVC Driver Testing Center.

## EXAMINATION PERMITS FOR NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS

Any New Jersey resident who is at least 17 years old and is not in suspension status can obtain a driver examination permit at any MVC agency. The examination permit is different from a student learner permit because the applicant does not have to be a student and an instructor is not necessary.

Note: A driver examination permit is required even if the motorist possesses a valid license from another state. See Examination Permits for Out-of-State Drivers.

After an applicant fills out the form with his/her personal information and provides 6 Points of ID Verification and proof that the U.S. government authorizes his/her presence in this country, he/she can purchase a permit to take to the nearest Driver Testing Center. Basic automobile license applicants must supply a Social Security number or an exemption from the Social Security Administration.

Note: Most agencies conduct knowledge testing and vision screening. To find out which MVC agencies offer driver testing services, check online at [www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov) or call **(888) 486-3339** toll-free in New Jersey or **(609) 292-6500** from out of state.

The MVC will validate the permit for practice driving after the applicant passes the required knowledge test and vision screening. Results are valid for two years (see Chapter 2).

## EXAMINATION PERMITS FOR OUT-OF-STATE DRIVERS

All out-of-state drivers are required to purchase an examination permit within 60 days of becoming a permanent New Jersey resident or when his/her out-of-state license expires, whichever comes first.

Out-of-state drivers who are under 18 years of age and move to New Jersey are subject to this state's GDL Program (see pp. 3-6). If they wish to apply for a New Jersey license, he/she should follow the steps outlined for special and examination permit holders. Permits may be purchased at any MVC agency upon presenting the required proof of age and 6 Point ID Verification. Applicants may be required to pass a knowledge test, vision screening and road test.

Out-of-state driver licenses must be surrendered when the MVC issues a New Jersey driver license.

## EXAMINATION PERMITS FOR OUT-OF-COUNTRY DRIVERS

A non-citizen must show formal proof that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has authorized his/her presence in this country under federal law.

Students and their families on visas must show INS Form I-20, student identification cards or certification on school letterhead indicating status.

Note: Foreign drivers may use their native driver licenses as proof of driving experience if their countries are members of the United Nations Convention on Road Traffic and if the applicants have their licenses translated into English by a consulate or an MVC-approved translator.

Note: Licenses from US Possessions and Territories are considered out-of-country.

## INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT (IDP)

Visitors with a foreign driver license who travel to the United States should carry an IDP or attach an acceptable English translation to their national driver licenses. The IDP is translated into the official languages of the United Nations (including English) and is useful in traffic emergencies. Non-citizens must obtain the IDP in their native country before traveling to the United States.

New Jersey motorists who travel to foreign countries may obtain an IDP application through their local AAA club.

Visit [www.aaa.com/vacation/idpc.html](http://www.aaa.com/vacation/idpc.html) for more information.

Note: A motorist must carry a valid driver license. Although it is an official document, the IDP cannot replace a driver license, but it can be used in conjunction with the license to provide an additional source of motorist identification and span foreign language barriers.

## NON-DRIVER ID

An individual, 17 years of age or older, who does not possess a valid driver license may apply for a non-driver identification card. To obtain an identification card, the individual must show proof of age and provide 6 Points of ID Verification and proof that his/her presence in this country is authorized under federal law. The cost is \$24. The non-driver ID must be surrendered if the individual applies for and receives a New Jersey driver license. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-29.2 to 39:3-29.8)

## HEARING-IMPAIRED DESIGNATION

A special driver license for deaf or hearing-impaired motorists (41 dB loss or more) is provided by the MVC. To obtain this license, which is designated with the international symbol of the deaf or a numerical code, a motorist must complete an application, available at any MVC agency. Verification by a physician or audiologist is required. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-11a)

## COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE (CDL)

There are three classes of a commercial license; A, B, and C. However, no one can apply for these licenses until he/she is in possession of a valid basic Class D New Jersey driver license or he/she possesses a valid out-of-state CDL.

**Class A:** License is necessary for the operation of tractor trailers or any truck or trailer with a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of 26,001 pounds or more, provided the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of the vehicle being towed is more than 10,000 pounds. The Class A license also allows the motorist to operate all vehicles in the class B, C and D categories, provided the motorist has qualified for all the proper extra endorsements. See the chart on page 25.

**Class B:** License is necessary for the operation of any vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or more:

- A vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 pounds or more towing a trailer with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 10,000 pounds
- A bus with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 pounds or more designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver

A Class B license allows the motorist to operate all vehicles in the Class C and D categories, provided the motorist has qualified for all the proper extra endorsements.



**Class C:** License is necessary for any vehicle with a GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds, used and placarded to transport hazardous material:

- Any bus, including school buses, designed to carry 16 passengers or more, including the motorist, and with a GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds and all school vehicles designed for 15 passengers or fewer, including the motorist
- Any bus or other vehicle designed to transport 8 to 15 passengers, including the motorist, which is used for hire

## ▼ COMMERCIAL DRIVER EXEMPTIONS

Taxi drivers, ride-sharing van drivers, funeral procession drivers, operators of rescue, first-aid squad or firefighter apparatus, farmers hauling their own products and equipment within 150 miles of their farms, non-civilian operators of military equipment and operators of construction equipment not designed for operation on public roads are exempt and need not apply for a commercial driver license. Operators of recreational vehicles are also exempt, provided the vehicle is being operated only for personal use. (N.J.S.A. 39:3-10k, 39:3-10.11)

## COMMERCIAL LICENSE ENDORSEMENTS

Most commercial drivers will need to obtain at least one special endorsement. An example of an endorsement on a commercial license is "H" for hazardous materials, which means that the motorist may legally transport hazardous materials.

CODE	VEHICLE	ENDORSEMENT	SPECIAL REQUIREMENT
T	Double and Triple Trailer	Needed by operators of vehicles pulling two or three trailers	Requires a knowledge test. Class A license required to operate this type of vehicle
P	Passenger	Needed by operators of buses or similar vehicles used to transport passengers	Requires a road test. Other special requirements are necessary (see CDL Manual)
S	School Bus	Needed by all school bus drivers	Requires a knowledge and road test. Motorists who hold an "S" endorsement will also have to test for a "P" endorsement. Both are required to operate a school bus
N	Tanker Vehicle	Needed by operators of vehicles used to transport liquids or gas in bulk	Requires a knowledge test.
H	Hazardous Materials	Needed by operators of vehicles used to transport hazardous materials	Requires a knowledge test and may require a road test. Must be trained and retested every two years. See the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration for requirements ( <a href="http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov">www.fmcsa.dot.gov</a> )

## COMMERCIAL LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

Numbered restrictions, such as corrective lenses, are noted on all commercial licenses. An example of a special restriction on a commercial license is "L" for air brakes. This means the motorist may not operate a vehicle equipped with air brakes, if designated on the license.

## COMMERCIAL DRIVER MANUAL

For more information on commercial motor vehicle licensing, refer to the MVC's Commercial Driver Manual. All CDL tests are based on information contained in the manual. To get a copy, visit any MVC agency or regional service center or view/request it online at [www.njmvc.gov](http://www.njmvc.gov). Manuals may also be obtained by calling **(888) 486-3339** toll-free in New Jersey or **(609) 292-6500** from out of state.

