

# Driver's License Guide

## Learner's Permit/Driver's License Requirements DLG-1.10

**Original Date:** 04/25/2010  
**Revision Date:** 10/10/2023

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POLICY	
<b>Title:</b> Learner's Permit/Driver's License	
<b>Effective Date:</b> April 25, 2010	<b>Revision Date:</b> November 16, 2017
<b>Authority:</b> Code of Virginia §§ <a href="#">46.2-325</a> , <a href="#">46.2-328</a> , <a href="#">46.2-328.1</a> , <a href="#">46.2-330</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334.01</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334.1</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335.1</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335.2</a> , <a href="#">46.2-336</a>	
<b>&lt;&lt;&lt;&lt;&lt;REVISION</b>	
<b>Policy:</b> DMV will issue learner's permits and driver's licenses to eligible applicants who meet all applicable requirements which include, but are not limited to, legal presence, identity, date of birth (DOB), Virginia residency requirements, knowledge and skill testing, vision screening and driver education. <b>END REVISION&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</b>	
<b>Exception:</b> Customers are ineligible to receive a Virginia Learner's Permit or Driver's License if their authorized stay in the United States is less than 30 days from the date of their application.	

### BACKGROUND

To be eligible to obtain a learner's permit and/or driver's license, all applicants must be:

- Residents of Virginia
- Mentally, physically, and otherwise qualified to safely drive a motor vehicle (refer to [DLG-2001.1](#))
- Licensed or eligible to obtain a driver's license. (Driving privileges are not cancelled, suspended, or revoked.)

A customer licensed in another state or U.S. territory, or another country, who subsequently becomes a Virginia resident, is required to obtain a Virginia driver's license within 60 days of establishing residency.

Customers, exempt from the requirement to obtain a Virginia driver's license, who may drive on a valid out-of-state or out of country license, are:

- Active-duty military personnel, including their spouses and dependent children at least age 16 and 3 months
- Full time, unemployed students attending an accredited school in Virginia.
- Active-duty NATO military members serving in Virginia
- Persons serving a full-time church service or proselyting mission of not more than 36 months and who are not gainfully employed.

Customers age 18 and older are not required to undergo knowledge nor skills testing required for driver's licenses if they hold or ever held a valid driver's license issued by:

- Any state (of the United States) or U.S. territory
- The U.S. Department of state, Office of Foreign Missions, or Diplomatic Motor Vehicle Office
- The U.S. Armed Services or U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR)
- U.S. Forces Japan (Operator's Permit for Civilian Vehicle)
- Present other proof document such as a driver transcript or other documentation from a court or insurance company indicating the customer previously held a license.
- Refer to [DLG-2103](#) if the customer presents a license from a country that has a reciprocity agreement with Virginia DMV.

**EXCEPTION:** Customers complying revoked and/or medical order(s) are required to complete all testing requirements.

For customers presenting a NATO or “A” Visa, the CSR must determine if the customer (or their dependent) has travel orders **OR** a letter from their country’s Office of Defense Administration indicating an end date to their stay.

- If the customer presents travel orders, the expiration date of the credential will be the end date shown on the orders.
- CSRs must scan all documents to Identification Review (IR) and wait for further instructions if the CSR is unable to determine if the customer is a dependent of the primary visa holder **OR** the customer has a letter from their country’s Office of Defense Administration.

**NOTE:** If IR provides an answer on the same day, the CSR is responsible for contacting the customer.

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<b>REQUIREMENTS: Under Age 18 – Learner’s Permit (Original Issuance)</b>		
<b>Requirements</b>	<b>VA Learner’s Permit<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Submitting Out-of-State Learner’s Permit<sup>1,6</sup></b>
<b>Minimum Age</b>	15 years & 6 months	15 years & 6 months
<b>Application<sup>2</sup></b>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>2</sup></a>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>2</sup></a>
<b>Proof Documents<sup>3</sup> (<a href="#">DMV 141</a>)</b>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>
<b><a href="#">Driver Education</a></b>	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b>Vision Screening<sup>4</sup> (<a href="#">DLG-2601</a>)</b>	REQUIRED <sup>4</sup>	REQUIRED <sup>4</sup>
<b>Knowledge Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2602</a>)</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<b>Road Skills Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2603</a>)</b>	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b>Fee</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<b>TDP Validity Period<sup>5</sup></b>	30 Days	30 Days
<b>NOTES</b>		
1. Out of state learner’s permits surrendered must be recorded in Customer Notes. The CSR must include issue and expiration dates. <b>IMPORTANT:</b> A customer who possesses a learner’s permit from another state will be given credit towards the minimum holding period for the time that their permit is valid (not suspended, canceled, expired or revoked.)		
2. All DL1Ps must be signed by a parent/foster parent/legal guardian unless the applicant is married (marriage certificate required) or emancipated (original court order or teste copy required).		
3. Customers must present all proof documents each time application is made until a Virginia credential is first issued (refer to <a href="#">DLG-0201</a> , <a href="#">0301</a> , <a href="#">0401</a> , <a href="#">0701</a> ).		
4. Customers must successfully complete the Vision screening before any other testing may begin.		
5. The system will automatically calculate the validity period and print the TDP.		
6. All applicants are required to take a photo at the time of application.		
• Associated Virginia Code §§: <a href="#">46.2-325</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334.01</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334.1</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335.1</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335.2</a> , <a href="#">46.2-336</a>		

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<b>REQUIREMENTS: Under Age 18 – Driver’s License (Original Issuance)</b>		
<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Submitting VA Learner’s Permit<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Submitting Out-of-State Learner’s Permit<sup>1,9</sup></b>
<b>Minimum Age</b>	16 years and 3 months	16 years and 3 months
<b>Application<sup>2</sup></b>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>2</sup></a>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>2</sup></a>
<b>Proof Documents<sup>3</sup> (<a href="#">DMV 141</a>)</b>	<a href="#">Identity</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>
<b>Learner’s Permit Holding Period</b>	9 Months	9 Months <sup>1</sup>
<b><a href="#">Driver Education</a></b>	Certificate of completion Required	Certificate of Completion Required <sup>3</sup>
<b>Vision Screening<sup>4</sup> (<a href="#">DLG-2601</a>)</b>	REQUIRED <sup>5</sup>	REQUIRED <sup>5</sup>
<b>Knowledge Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2602</a>)</b>	NOT Required	REQUIRED
<b>Road Skills Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2603</a>)</b>	Completed through Driver’s Education <sup>6</sup>	REQUIRED
<b>Fee</b>	NOT Required	REQUIRED
<b>Court Ceremony<sup>7</sup></b>	Required	Required
<b>TDP Validity Period<sup>8</sup></b>	90 Days	30 Days
<b>NOTES</b>		
<p>1. Out of state learner’s permits surrendered must be recorded in Customer Notes. The CSR must include issue and expiration dates. <b>IMPORTANT:</b> A customer who possesses a learner’s permit from another state will be given credit towards the minimum holding period for the time that their permit is valid (not suspended, canceled, expired, or revoked.)</p>		
<p>2. All DL1Ps must be signed by parent/foster parent/legal guardian unless applicant is married (marriage certificate required) or emancipated (court order required (original or teste copy)).</p>		
<p>3. Customers submitting an out of state learners permit may submit acceptable proof of a government approved driver education program completed (while residing) in the other state, territory or province that meets the minimum classroom and in-car hour requirements (refer to <a href="#">Driver Education Requirements</a> below).</p>		
<p>4. Customers must present all proof documents each time application is made until a Virginia credential is first issued (refer to <a href="#">DLG-0201</a>, <a href="#">0301</a>, <a href="#">0401</a>, <a href="#">0701</a>).</p>		
<p>5. Customers must successfully complete the Vision screening before any other testing may begin.</p>		
<p>6. Home School students MUST submit a completed <a href="#">CSMA-19</a> and successfully pass the road skills exam at the CSC to obtain their licenses (<a href="#">DLG-0801.1</a>).</p>		
<p>7. Customers required to attend a court licensing ceremony must be accompanied by a parent/foster parent/legal guardian if they are under age 18 at the time of the ceremony. <b>NOTE:</b> The court licensing ceremony may be waived or conducted in an alternative method by the city/county of residence. If the ceremony is waived or conducted in an alternative method, the minor is not required to attend the ceremony in person at the court and will receive their license by mail from DMV. (Refer to the <a href="#">Court Licensing Ceremony Requirements</a>)</p>		
<p>8. The system will automatically calculate the validity period and print the TDP.</p>		
<p>9. All applicants are required to take a photo at the time of application.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associated Virginia Code §§: <a href="#">46.2-325</a>, <a href="#">46.2-334</a>, <a href="#">46.2-334.01</a>, <a href="#">46.2-334.1</a>, <a href="#">46.2-335</a>, <a href="#">46.2-335.1</a>, <a href="#">46.2-335.2</a>, <a href="#">46.2-336</a></li> </ul>		

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**REQUIREMENTS: Under Age 18 – Submitting an out-of-state, US Territory, Canadian Province or Canadian Territory driver’s license applying for a Virginia Driver’s License (Original Issuance)**

Requirements	Submitting acceptable Driver’s Education <sup>8</sup>	Not Submitting acceptable Driver’s Education <sup>1,8</sup>	Submitting Driver’s Education that does not meet minimum requirements <sup>1,2,8</sup>	
			License held LESS than one year <sup>1,8</sup>	License held at least one year <sup>2,8</sup>
<b>Minimum Age</b>	16 years and 3 months	16 years and 3 months	16 years and 3 months	16 years and 3 months
<b>Application<sup>3</sup></b>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>3</sup></a>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>3</sup></a>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>3</sup></a>	<a href="#">DL1P<sup>3</sup></a>
<b>Proof Documents<sup>4</sup> (DMV 141)</b>	<a href="#">Legal Presence Identity/Age SSN Residency</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence Identity/Age SSN Residency</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence Identity/Age SSN Residency</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence Identity/Age SSN Residency</a>
<b>Learner’s Permit Holding Period</b>	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b><a href="#">Driver Education</a></b>	Certificate of Completion Required <sup>5</sup>	Certificate of Completion Required <sup>1</sup>	Certificate of Completion Required <sup>1</sup>	Certificate of Completion Required <sup>2</sup>
<b>Vision Screening<sup>6</sup> (DLG-2601)</b>	REQUIRED <sup>6</sup>	REQUIRED <sup>6</sup>	REQUIRED <sup>6</sup>	REQUIRED <sup>6</sup>
<b>Knowledge Exam (DLG-2602)</b>	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required	REQUIRED <sup>2</sup>
<b>Road Skills Exam (DLG-2603)</b>	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required	REQUIRED <sup>2</sup>
<b>Fee</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<b>Court Ceremony</b>	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b>TDP Validity Period<sup>7</sup></b>	30 Days	30 Days	30 Days	30 Days
<b>NOTES</b>				
1. Applicant may be issued a 6-month temporary Virginia driver’s license (DRM) to allow time to take Virginia driver’s education or obtain proof of completing acceptable government approved out-of-state or Canadian driver’s education.				
2. Applicant has completed some government approved driver’s education, but it does not meet Virginia’s minimum requirements. The applicant may obtain a Virginia driver’s license without completing the normally required driver’s education by successfully completing the Virginia knowledge AND road skills exams. (Refer to <a href="#">Driver’s Education Requirements</a> .)				
3. All DL1Ps must be signed by parent/foster parent/legal guardian unless applicant is married (marriage certificate required) or emancipated (court order required – must be either original or teste copy).				
4. Customers must present all proof documents each time application is made until a Virginia credential is first issued (refer to DLG-0201, 0301, 0401, 0701).				
5. Some states’ licenses serve as proof of the driver education and no additional proof is necessary. To check which states’ licenses qualify, refer to the table ( <a href="#">Driver’s Licenses serving as Proof of Driver Education</a> ) within this DLG.				
6. Customers must successfully complete the Vision screening before any other testing may begin.				
7. The system will automatically calculate the validity period and print the TDP.				
8. All applicants are required to take a photo at the time of application.				
• Associated Virginia Code §§: <a href="#">46.2-325</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334.01</a> , <a href="#">46.2-334.1</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335.1</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335.2</a> , <a href="#">46.2-336</a>				

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## REQUIREMENTS: Age 18 and Older – Learner’s Permit (Original Issuance)

Requirements	VA Learner’s Permit <sup>4</sup>	Submitting Out-of-State Learner’s Permit <sup>4,5</sup>
<b>Application</b>	<a href="#">DL1P</a>	<a href="#">DL1P</a>
<b>Proof Documents<sup>1</sup> (<a href="#">DMV 141</a>)</b>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>
<a href="#">Driver Education</a>	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b>Vision Screening<sup>2</sup> (<a href="#">DLG-2601</a>)</b>	REQUIRED <sup>2</sup>	REQUIRED <sup>2</sup>
<b>Knowledge Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2602</a>)</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<b>Road Skills Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2603</a>)</b>	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b>Fee</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<b>TDP Validity Period<sup>3</sup></b>	30 Days	30 Days
<b>NOTES</b>		
1. Customers must present all proof documents each time application is made until a Virginia credential is first issued (refer to <a href="#">DLG-0201</a> , <a href="#">0301</a> , <a href="#">0401</a> , <a href="#">0701</a> ).		
2. Customers must successfully complete the Vision screening before any other testing may begin.		
3. The system will automatically calculate the validity period and print the TDP.		
4. All applicants are required to take a photo at the time of application.		
5. Out of state learner’s permits surrendered must be recorded in Customer Notes. The CSR must include issue and expiration dates. <b>IMPORTANT:</b> A customer who possesses a learner’s permit from another state will be given credit towards the minimum holding period for the time that their permit is valid (not suspended, canceled, expired or revoked).		
• Associated Virginia Code §§: <a href="#">46.2-325</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335.2</a>		

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## REQUIREMENTS: Age 18 and Older – Driver’s License (Original Issuance)

Requirements	Submitting VA Learner’s Permit <sup>8</sup>	Submitting Out-of-State Learner’s Permit <sup>8,9</sup>	Submitting Out-of-State Driver’s License <sup>2,8</sup>
Application	<a href="#">DL1P</a>	<a href="#">DL1P</a>	<a href="#">DL1P</a>
Proof Documents <sup>3</sup> (DMV 141)	<a href="#">Identity</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>
Learner’s Permit Holding Period	60 Days <sup>1</sup>	60 Days <sup>1,9</sup>	NOT Required
<a href="#">Driver Education</a>	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required
<a href="#">Virginia Approved Driver Training Course</a>	Optional <sup>1</sup>	Optional <sup>1</sup>	NOT Required
<a href="#">Vision Screening<sup>5</sup> (DLG-2601)</a>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<a href="#">Knowledge Exam (DLG-2602)</a>	NOT Required	REQUIRED	NOT Required
<a href="#">Road Skills Exam (DLG-2603)</a>	REQUIRED <sup>7</sup>	REQUIRED <sup>7</sup>	NOT Required
<a href="#">In-Car Maneuvers Observation Record (CSMA-19)<sup>4</sup></a>	REQUIRED <sup>4</sup>	<<<<REVISION REQUIRED <sup>4</sup> END REVISION>>>>	NOT Required
Fee	NOT Required	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
Court Ceremony	NOT Required	NOT Required	NOT Required
TDP Validity Period <sup>6</sup>	30 Days	30 Days	30 Days
<b>NOTES</b>			
1. The holding period for customers age 18 or OLDER may be waived if the customer has completed a <a href="#">Virginia approved Driver Training Course</a> (classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction).			
2. Some states may automatically extend the validity of driver’s licenses for active duty military personnel. Refer to the ID Checking Guide when presented with an expired out-of-state license (by active duty military personnel) to verify its expiration date.			
3. Customers must present all proof documents each time application is made until a Virginia credential is first issued (refer to <a href="#">DLG-0201</a> , <a href="#">0301</a> , <a href="#">0401</a> , <a href="#">0701</a> ).			
4. If the customer provides proof of successfully completing a Virginia approved Driver Training Course, the CSMA-19 is not required.			
5. Customers must successfully complete the Vision screening before any other testing may begin.			
6. The system will automatically calculate the validity period and print the TDP.			
7. Customers age 18 or OLDER who present a Virginia Driver Training – Adult Waiver Certificate ( <a href="#">DTS D</a> ) are not required to complete a DMV road skills exam.			
8. All applicants are required to take a photo at the time of application.			
9. A customer who possesses a learner’s permit from another state will be given credit towards the minimum holding period for the time that their permit is valid (not suspended, canceled, expired, or revoked).			
• Associated Virginia Code §§: <a href="#">46.2-325</a> , <a href="#">46.2-335</a>			

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## REQUIREMENTS: Age 18 and Older – Submitting a Foreign driver’s license applying for a Virginia Driver’s License (Original Issuance)

Requirements	Submitting a Foreign License from Canada, France, Germany, Japan, South Korea, or Taiwan <sup>1,7</sup>	Submitting a Foreign License from any other country <sup>1,7</sup>
<b>Minimum Age</b>	18 <sup>2</sup>	18 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Application</b>	<a href="#">DL1P</a>	<a href="#">DL1P</a>
<b>Proof Documents<sup>3</sup> (<a href="#">DMV 141</a>)</b>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>	<a href="#">Legal Presence</a> <a href="#">Identity/Age</a> <a href="#">SSN</a> <a href="#">Residency</a>
<b><a href="#">Driver Education</a></b>	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b>Vision Screening (<a href="#">DLG-2601</a>)</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<b>Knowledge Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2602</a>)</b>	REQUIRED - TAIWAN NOT Required - Others	REQUIRED
<b>Road Skills Exam (<a href="#">DLG-2603</a>)</b>	NOT Required	REQUIRED <sup>5</sup>
<b>Fee</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
<b>Court Ceremony</b>	NOT Required	NOT Required
<b>TDP Validity Period<sup>4</sup></b>	30 Days	30 Days
<b>Additional Information</b>	While customers from Canada are fully addressed above, customers from France, Germany, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan must submit a <a href="#">DL7</a> upon initial application (refer to <a href="#">DLG-2103</a> )	Customers are NOT required to hold a learner’s permit and may take both knowledge and road skill exams on the same day
<b>NOTES</b>		
1. Licenses submitted should be verified as authentic using the International I.D. Checking Guidebook. Previous versions of a foreign license are acceptable even if they are not pictured in the current guidebook. If the license does not match the guidebook’s exact description, management should use discretion in verifying the license as authentic.		
2. Customers younger than age 18 are not eligible to take advantage of foreign reciprocity. Such customers should follow procedures for first-time issuance in accordance with their age.		
3. Customers must present all proof documents each time application is made until a Virginia credential is first issued (refer to <a href="#">DLG-0201</a> , <a href="#">0301</a> , <a href="#">0401</a> , <a href="#">0701</a> ).		
4. The system will automatically calculate the validity period and print the TDP.		
5. Customers age 18 or OLDER who present a Virginia Driver Training – Adult Waiver Certificate ( <a href="#">DTS D</a> ) are not required to complete a DMV road skills exam.		
6. All applicants must take a photo at the time of application.		
7. If the customer presents a NATO or “A” Visa, the CSR must determine if the customer (or their dependent) has travel orders <b>OR</b> a letter from their country’s Office of Defense Administration indicating an end date to their stay. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the customer presents travel orders, the expiration date of the credential will be the end date shown on the orders.</li> <li>• CSRs must scan all documents to Identification Review (IR) and wait for further instructions if the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CSR is unable to determine if the customer is a dependent of the primary visa holder.</li> <li>○ Customer has a letter from their country’s Office of Defense Administration.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTE:</b> If IR provides an answer on the same day, the CSR is responsible for contacting the customer.</p>		
• Associated Virginia Code §: <a href="#">46.2-307</a>		

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**DMV CONTACT CENTER ACTIONS**

- CONTACT CENTER AGENT CAUTION: Continue to be diligent in not promising acceptability of documents to customers.
  - Do NOT use phrases like:
    - “You have everything you need. Just go to a CSC and they will issue your document.”
  - Use phrasing such as:
    - “The documents you have listed sound like they may be acceptable. You will need to take the documents to the CSC and have them verified. The CSC will make the final determination of your eligibility to receive your driver’s license.”
- For customers with out-of-state licenses who cannot produce a license, advise the customer to obtain a driver’s transcript from their home state that indicates the **Issue Date**, **License Status** and **Expiration Date**.
  - National Driver Register (NDR) and Commercial Driver’s License Information System (CDLIS) responses or clearance letters from another state are not acceptable proof that the customer was issued an out of state license or permit.
  - The transcript will be recorded on the customer’s application and used as proof of licensing, but NOT as a proof document for identification.

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**DRIVER’S EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Virginia driver education program is required for the following customers:

DRIVER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS – BY LICENSE TYPE	
STANDARD LICENSE (FIRST TIME APPLICANTS)	
Age of Applicant	Requirement
Under 18 (Never held a license)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must complete a state approved driver education program, and</li> <li>• Hold a Learner’s Permit for at least 9 months.</li> </ul>
18 or Over (NEVER HELD A LICENSE)	Driver Education is <b>OPTIONAL</b> . A customer may choose to either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a state approved driver education program <b>and have the 60 day learner’s permit and road skills exam requirement waived</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a Virginia learner’s permit for at least 60 days and complete a road skills examination at DMV.</li> </ul>

Customers younger than age 18 are required to complete a Virginia approved driver education program prior to receiving their Virginia driver’s license. The program must consist of 36 classroom periods (completed online or in-person) and 14 in-car instruction periods, of which 7 are periods of driving and 7 are periods of observation. A period is defined as a session at least 50 minutes in duration where instruction is being administered (refer to [DLG-0801.2](#) for more information regarding Driver Education requirements).

Customers younger than the age of 18 applying for a Virginia driver’s license; presenting a learner’s permit from another state, must hold the permit(s) for a period of 9 months and prove that they have completed an out-of-state driver education program. If they are unable to prove successful completion of an out-of-state driver education program, then they will be required to complete a Virginia approved driver education program.

Customers younger than the age of 18, transferring a driver’s license from another state, U.S. territory, Canadian province, or territory, must prove that they completed a government approved driver education program in the other state, territory, or province that meets a minimum of 30 classroom hours and 6 in-car hours.

- Out of state driver’s license holders, who do NOT present proof of driver’s education, may obtain a 6 month driver’s license (DRM) during which time they must either:
  - Present proof of the government approved out-of-state or Canadian driver’s education that meets Virginia’s minimum requirements,
  - OR
  - Complete a Virginia approved program.

**IMPORTANT:** No additional extensions will be granted.



- Out of state driver license holders who present proof of driver's education that DOES NOT meet a minimum of 30 classroom hours and 6 in-car hours, AND
  - Have held a license for LESS than one year may obtain a 6 month driver's license (DRM) during which time they must complete a Virginia approved program.
 

**IMPORTANT:** No additional extensions will be granted.
  - Have held a license **for at least one year** may either:
    - Successfully complete BOTH the driver knowledge and road skills exams.
    - OR
    - Obtain a 6 month driver's license (DRM) during which time they must complete a Virginia approved program.

**IMPORTANT:** No additional extensions will be granted.

Customers submitting an out of state learners permit may submit acceptable proof of a government approved driver education program completed (while residing) in the other state, territory or province that meets the minimum classroom and in-car hour requirements.

The driver education programs for some other states have already been determined to be acceptable in Virginia. For customers from these states, the out-of-state licenses serve as proof of completion and no further proof is required. A license issued by one of the following acceptable states can be used as proof of driver education if the customer was at least the age indicated below ON THE ISSUE DATE of the out-of-state license. The ages listed are based on the age that these states require driver education.

<b>Driver's Licenses Serving as Proof of Driver Education (for customers younger than 18)</b>	
<b>Customers' Minimum Age</b>	<b>Applicable States' Licenses</b>
The customer must have been at least age <b>14</b> when the license was issued to be exempt from providing proof of driver education.	South Dakota
The customer must have been at least age <b>14 and 6 months</b> when the license was issued to be exempt from providing proof of driver education.	North Dakota
The customer must have been at least age <b>15</b> when the license was issued to be exempt from providing proof of driver education.	Idaho and Montana
The customer must have been at least age <b>16</b> when the license was issued to be exempt from providing proof of driver education.	California, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana <sup>1</sup> , Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Vermont, Washington (state) and Wisconsin
1. A customer from Louisiana whose license was issued at age 16 (ONLY) is exempt from providing proof of driver's education. A customer whose license was issued at age 17 or older is required to provide proof of successful completion of driver's education.	
The customer must have been at least age <b>16 and 6 months</b> when the license was issued to be exempt from providing proof of driver education.	Maryland, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island
Regardless of age, these states' licenses <b>DO NOT</b> prove completion of a comparable driver education program. The customer must present proof of successful completion of a program that is comparable to Virginia driver education programs; or complete a Virginia approved driver education program. Or, if the customer has held a driver's license <b>for at least 1 year</b> AND they present proof of a government approved program that does not meet minimum requirements of Virginia approved driver education, they may successfully complete and pass a driver knowledge exam and a road skills exam to obtain a Virginia driver's license.	Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington DC, West Virginia, and Wyoming

## IMPORTANT NOTES - MINORS

- Applicants younger than age 18 must have a parent/foster parent/legal guardian sign the Driver's License and Identification Card Application ([DL1P](#)) to:
  - Give permission for the minor to receive the learner's permit.  
-And-
  - Give permission for the minor to receive the permanent driver's license (upon completion of a Virginia approved driver education program).
- For a minor who is a foreign exchange student, the host parent's signature is NOT acceptable. Under this circumstance, the school at which the student is attending may mail or fax the [DL1P](#) to the parent/foster parent/legal guardian in the minor's native country to obtain the parental consent.
- A judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court where the minor resides must sign the DL1P if:
  - The minor has no parent or guardian.
  - The minor has been found "Not Innocent" of any offense by a court.
  - The minor has been found to be in need of supervision.
- In the case of minors who have been found Not Innocent of an offense in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court; who are required to obtain court consent to obtain a learner's license; and who subsequently fail their exam, CSRs are to photocopy the application and return the original application to the customer. The photocopy should be filed appropriately with all other driver work and a note should be added to the photocopy indicating the reason that the original was returned.
- If driver education is completed at a public/private school or Driver Training School (DTS), the school often sends the driver education certificate to [License and ID](#) work center where the license is processed. Once it is produced, it will be sent to the juvenile and domestic relations court in the jurisdiction in which the minor resides to be held for a court presentation in person at the court or mailed directly to the minor.

**NOTE:** The court licensing ceremony may be waived or conducted in an alternative method by the city/county of residence. If the ceremony is waived or conducted in an alternative method, the minor is not required to attend the ceremony in person at the court and will receive their license by mail from DMV. (Refer to the [Court Licensing Ceremony Requirements](#))

- If a minor brings the driver education completion certificate (expired or unexpired) to a CSC, and the customer's record shows that the minor is not suspended nor revoked, and that no permanent driver's license has been issued, the CSC is required to process the license transaction. Once the permanent driver's license is produced, it will be sent to the court located in the same jurisdiction as the juvenile's residence or mailed directly to the minor.

**NOTE:** The court licensing ceremony may be waived or conducted in an alternative method by the city/county of residence. If the ceremony is waived or conducted in an alternative method, the minor is not required to attend the ceremony in person at the court and will receive their license by mail from DMV. (Refer to the [Court Licensing Ceremony Requirements](#))

- If a customer needs to prove the original issue date of a previously issued learner's permit (usually necessary for behind the wheel programs), the CSR may issue a driver's transcript for a fee.
- Driver's Licenses for minors are usually issued from the [License and ID](#) Work Center using the image, signature and demographics captured during the learner's permit application process. Also, the driver's license expiration date will be the same as on the learner's permit.
- When customers (students) pass the knowledge test at a remote location, the high school provides the student with a remote testing receipt, informs them the test results will transmit immediately to DMV, and instructs the student to go to a CSC to obtain their instruction permit.
  - The test results must be recorded in the system as "passed" before the student may obtain his instruction permit.
  - The test results should automatically transmit to DMV and post to the customer's record immediately. The customer may or may not bring the receipt to the CSC – CSRs must verify the test results in the system.
    - If the test results are not recorded or are recorded incorrectly in the system, CSCs are not authorized to record or correct test results. CSRs must submit a DL9 eForm/Landing Zone request to the System Support Group to add the remote testing results or correct existing remote testing results that are displayed incorrectly in the system.
    - If the test results are over 1 year old, the customer must retest.

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**IMPORTANT NOTES - VARIOUS**

- Drivers' licenses issued on or after 7/1/2016 will automatically show a class "D" indicating the customer has an operator's license. Previously issued driver's licenses that display "none" under the class field will remain valid until expiration.  
**EXEPTION:** Class "D" will not display on a commercial driver's license.
- Learner's Permits cannot be renewed.
- If a customer holds a valid driver's license or learner's permit, issued from any state within the United States, they CANNOT hold a Virginia ID card.
- For a customer authorized to be in the U.S. temporarily, a LIMITED DURATION learner's permit or driver's license is issued (unless the person is authorized to stay in the U.S. for fewer than 30 days).
- Payment for the Learner's Permit is also payment for the Driver's License (with no extension of expiration date).
- Limited duration license applicants will be required to pay the following [fees](#):
  - **DRIVER'S LICENSE ONLY:** must pay the minimum issuance fee for any driver's license issued (up to 5 years).
    - If the customer is authorized to stay in the U.S. for more than 5 years, the customer must pay the minimum issuance fee PLUS the yearly license fee (for every year beyond the fifth year.)
  - **LEARNER'S PERMIT/DRIVER'S LICENSE COMBINATION:** must pay the yearly license fee for every year they are authorized to stay in the U.S. PLUS the Learner's Permit fee. Customers receiving this credential will **NOT** be required to pay the minimum issuance fee.
- A customer who possesses a learner's permit will only be given credit towards the minimum holding period for the time that his permit is valid (not suspended, canceled, expired, or revoked). The system will automatically calculate the period(s) of time that a customer has held a valid learner's permit.
  - A customer with a limited duration learner's permit that expires prior to satisfying the minimum holding period will be required to apply for another ORIGINAL learner's permit.
- If a customer's presented credential does not display an issue date, NDR/CDLIS responses may be used as proof of the credential's issue date.

**<<<<REVISION**

- If the system returns the message "review/correct surrendered out of state license information", verify you have entered the information correctly. (i.e., special characters in the license number like -, \*, or spaces), make the necessary changes and inquire again.  
**NOTE:** The system allows three inquiries. After the third inquiry, the system will return the message to "Contact CDL Work Center." **END REVISION>>>>**
- If a NDR/CDLIS inquiry does not yield an issue date, the CSR may contact the [CDL NDR](#) work center at (804) 367-1772 in attempt to discover the issue date.
  - If an issue date can not be found in a NDR/CDLIS response, and the [CDL NDR](#) work center cannot provide an issue date, then the customer must present a driver's transcript as proof of the credential's issue date.
- A customer requesting a learner's permit is not required to retake the knowledge exam if they have successfully completed their (Virginia) exam within 12 months. If the time lapse is greater than 12 months, a retest is required.
- The following individuals will be issued a license valid for five years:
  - Customers whose license will expire at the age of 75 or older.
  - Individuals who are required to register with the Virginia State Police Sex Offender and Crimes Against Children registry (Virginia Code Chapter 9 of Title 9.1).
- See the chart below for a listing of U.S. Territories and Canadian Territories and Provinces:

U.S. Territories	Canadian Territories	Canadian Provinces	
American Samoa	Northwest Territory	Alberta	Nova Scotia
Guam	Nunavut	British Columbia	Ontario
Northern Mariana Islands	Yukon	Manitoba	Prince Edward Island
Puerto Rico		New Brunswick	Quebec
Virgin Islands		Newfoundland and Labrador	Saskatchewan

- For customers who indicate they are a veteran:

- Provide the customer with a Veteran Service Brochure ([DMV 308](#))
- Advise the customer to review the Virginia Veterans Resource Guide developed by the Department of Veterans Services for information on resources available to Virginia veterans at [www.dvs.virginia.gov](http://www.dvs.virginia.gov).
- Customers applying for a license to operate a school bus designed to carry less than 16 passengers (including the driver) are NOT required to obtain a CDL. They **are required** to pass the school bus knowledge and the CDL road tests only. Upon passing all required tests, the customer will be issued a regular driver's license with an "S" endorsement and will be restricted to driving a school bus designed to carry less than 16 passengers (restriction "7" will be added to the regular driver's license).
  - A bus with a capacity of less than 16 passengers (including driver) qualifies as a school bus only if the bus meets **all the following requirements**:
    - Designed and used primarily for the transportation of pupils to and from school.
    - Painted yellow and bears the words "School Bus" in black letters and
    - Is equipped with warning devices.
- A vehicle that does not meet **all the requirements** above is not considered a school bus. Drivers **are not required** to undergo any CDL testing or obtain any additional endorsements on their regular driver's license.

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