



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Section: I Issuance of Driver's License
Number: 12.00

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ROAD SKILLS TESTS

POLICY:

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

AUTHORITY

R.S. 32:408

DEFINITION

Road skills test - An examination designed to test the driver's ability to safely operate and maneuver a vehicle in traffic.

REQUIREMENTS

Chauffeur's (class D) and Personal (class E) class driver's license

- A class D or E road skills test may be administered by the Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) or a contracted Third Party Tester (TPT)
- A road skills test will be required when:
 - An applicant is applying for a class D license and did not hold a class E license at the time of application.
 - A first time applicant for a class E license who is 17 years of age or older at the time of application
 - An applicant who was issued a learners permit and has held it for the appropriate amount of time
- Road skills test for class D or E license administered by OMV:
 - Road skills test will be performed at OMV, however, it may be necessary to schedule the skills test to be performed.
 - The applicant must furnish the vehicle for the road skills test.
 - Road skills testing will not be performed by OMV if:
 - The vehicle does not pass a safety inspection performed by the motor vehicle examiner. This does not disqualify the applicant as he may use another vehicle.
 - The vehicle is not currently licensed, inspected and insured.
 - The area is experiencing inclement weather or unsafe driving conditions.
 - The heat index is above 100 degrees and the vehicle is not equipped with an operable air conditioner.
- Road skills test for class D or E license administered by a Third Party Tester
 - Third party testers may provide vehicles for administration of the road skills test. Rental fees may apply.
 - All private driving school providers shall be required to administer the road skills tests.
 - Public school driver education providers are not mandated to provide the Third Party Skills tests. The applicant must visit OMV to have road skills testing scheduled.
 - Applicants must provide a copy of successful completion of a road skills test. Proof will be given to the applicant in a sealed envelope. OMV will not accept the test form UNLESS it is presented in a sealed envelope

- A list of contracted third party test providers may be accessed at: <http://dpsweb.dps.louisiana.gov/OMVThirdPartyTesters.nsf>

Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Road Skills Test

- All commercial road skills test must be performed by a contracted third party test providers. A list of providers may be accessed at <http://dpsweb.dps.louisiana.gov/OMVThirdPartyTesters.nsf>
- **Military CDL Skills Test Waiver**
 - The CDL skills test may be waived for a CMV (Commercial Motor Vehicle) driver with military CMV experience.
 - The applicant must meet the requirements as specified on the Application for Military Skills Test Waiver ([DPSMV2280](#)).
 - The applicant will be waived from performing the CDL skills test only. All other licensing requirements must be met.

Motorcycle Road Skills Test

- A motorcycle helmet is required for the skills test.
- Maneuvers and factors to be observed on the skills test are: Start Up, Posture, Shifting, and Turns.
- **Skills Test Waiver**
 - An operator's skills test shall not be required for an applicant who has successfully completed a course provided by the following entity:
 - Taboo Harley- Davidson (Renegade Harley-Davidson) (Alexandria, LA)
 - Hammond Harley-Davidson (Hammond, LA)
 - Cajun Harley-Davidson (Lafayette, LA)
 - New Orleans Harley-Davidson (New Orleans, LA)
 - 720 Motorsports, LLC – (NOLA Riding Academy) Cut Off, LA
 - A certificate of successful completion must be provided to the Office of Motor Vehicles before the motorcycle endorsement will be added to the applicant's driver's license.
- **Skills and Knowledge Test Waiver**
 - An operator's skills test shall not be required for an applicant who successfully completed the Department of Public Safety Motorcycle Safety, Awareness and Operators Training Program.
 - Participation in the course is voluntary.
 - An applicant must provide the original certificate of completion to the Office of Motor Vehicles.
 - The course schedule may be found at <http://www.lsp.org/motorcycle.html>

ADMINISTRATION OF ROAD SKILLS TEST BY OMV (Class D and E)

- Each applicant must achieve a score of 80 or better to successfully pass a road skills test.
- Each applicant begins the road skills test with 100 points. Each unsatisfactory maneuver is assigned a value. Unsuccessfully performing a maneuver will result in the value assigned to the maneuver being deducted from the 100 points.
- If the applicant fails the road skills test, he may not return until the waiting period prescribed by the examiner has expired. Depending on the cause for disqualification/failure, the waiting period may vary from one to thirty days.
- If an applicant does not currently hold a learner's permit and fails the road skills test due to inexperience, the examiner may recommend a learner's permit. The learner's permit is the only legal means by which the applicant may practice and improve his performance.

MANEUVERS

- The average skills test should take approximately 15 minutes to complete and will be scored on the following behaviors and maneuvers:

SCORED BEHAVIORS & MANEUVERS FOR CLASS D & E ROAD SKILLS TEST			
Starting/Backing Out	2 Lane Changes	Slow Signs	Lane Usage
Straight In Parking	2 Traffic Signals	Speeding	Attention/Distracted
3 Left Turns	2 Intersections	RR Crossing (not req'd)	Time
3 Right Turns	2 Stop Signs	Yield Right of Way	Following

CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION OR FAILURE

- The following conditions or actions may disqualify the applicant OR cause the skills test to be discontinued.
 - **Various or Repeated Minor Mistakes**
 - **Clear Violation of A Traffic Law**
 - Speeding 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**
 - 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**
 - 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**
 - **Offering a bribe or gratuity**

RELATED POLICIES

SECTION I 11.00 [Vehicle Inspection Prior To Road Skills Test](#)