

1. The Driver's License

Who Needs a License?

Anyone who operates a motor vehicle or motorcycle or moped on public streets and roads in Iowa is required to have a license. You are considered an Iowa resident for purposes of driver licensing if you have:

- registered to vote in this state;
- enrolled your children in public school;
- accepted a permanent job in the state; or
- lived in Iowa continuously for 30 days.

You do not need an Iowa driver's license if you:

- are driving a military motor vehicle while on duty with the U.S. Armed Forces;
- are driving farm equipment between the home farm and any nearby (not more than two miles) farmland or farm operation; or
- are a student or visitor and have a current license from your home state or country.

If you have any questions, contact the Motor Vehicle Information Center by calling 800-532-1121 (toll-free).

You may obtain a driver's license if you:

- are at least 16 years of age; (see Iowa's graduated licensing system, page 7)
- are able to submit proof of name and age;
- have successfully completed an approved driver education course if you are under age 18;
- have parent's/guardian's consent if under age 18;
- pass required driver's license tests;
- turn in any other driver's license or identification card you have;
- have not had your license suspended, revoked, denied, canceled, disqualified or barred;
- have not been found incapable of safely operating a motor vehicle due to a mental or physical disability; and
- have no unpaid fines for moving traffic violations.

Vision

Vision is so important that Iowa requires that you pass a vision screening before you get a driver's license or permit, or when you renew your license. This screening is to make sure you have at least 20/40 vision in at least one eye, with or without corrective lenses.

Other important aspects of vision are:

- **Side vision** - You need to see "out the corner of your eye." This lets you spot vehicles and other potential trouble on either side of you while you look ahead. Because you cannot focus on things to the side, you also must use your side mirrors and glance to the side if necessary.

- **Judging distances and speeds** - Even if you can see clearly, you still may not be able to judge distances or speeds very well. In fact, you are not alone, many people have problems judging distances and speeds. It takes a lot of practice to be able to judge both. It is especially important to know how far you are from other vehicles, and to be able to judge safe gaps when merging, and when passing on two-lane roads.

- **Night vision** - Many people who can see clearly in the daytime have trouble seeing at night. All people have more trouble seeing at night than in the daytime, but some drivers have problems with glare while driving at night, especially the glare of oncoming headlights. If you have problems seeing at night, do not drive more than is necessary; and when you do, be very careful.

Because it is so important to safe driving that you see well, you should have your eyes checked every year or two by an eye specialist. You may never know you have poor vision unless your eyes are tested.

If you need to wear glasses or contact lenses for driving, remember to:

- Always wear them when you drive, even if you are only going a short distance. If your driver's license says you must wear corrective lenses and you don't, you could get a ticket if you are stopped by a law enforcement officer.
- Try to keep an extra pair of glasses in your vehicle. Then if your regular glasses get broken or lost, you can drive safely. This also can be helpful if you do not wear glasses all the time and you forget to take them with you when driving.
- Don't wear dark glasses or tinted contact lenses at night, even if it is to help with glare. The problem is that they shut out too much light, light you need to see clearly.

Vision Screening

You may decide to go directly to your doctor and have your doctor check your vision if you are applying for a non-commercial license. The information can be on a form furnished by the department or it can be a letter from your doctor if the doctor has measured your vision within 30 days of when you apply for a license.

Vision Standards

Acuity

20/40	No restrictions unless you wear glasses or contacts.
Less than 20/40 but at least 20/50	No driving when headlights are required.
Less than 20/50 but at least 20/70	No driving when headlights are required; no driving at speeds over 35 mph.
Less than 20/70	Not eligible for licensing.*

Field of Vision

140° or better	No restrictions.
Less than 140° but at least 115° in single best eye (70° temporal and 45° nasal)	Left and right outside rearview mirrors will be required.
Less than 115°	Not eligible for licensing.*

**Not eligible for licensing means suspension of your driving privileges as specified in Section 321.210(1c) of the Iowa Code, or denial of driving privileges as required by Iowa Code Section 321.177(7).*

During the test, the examiner will sit in the front seat with you. The examiner will give you directions and score your driving ability. After the test, the examiner will explain the results. If you did not pass the test, the examiner will explain when and how you may take the test again.

Proof Of Age And Identity

When applying for any license, permit, duplicate license, renewal or nondriver ID, you must prove your age and identity.

If you are under 18 years old and not married, you must furnish a primary form of ID, a secondary form of ID, verification of a Social Security number, and a parent's/guardian's consent form. The Social Security card may be used for secondary ID AND proof of a Social Security number. The consent form proves permission from your parent or guardian to drive and is required even if you have a valid operator's license from another state. You can get the form at any Iowa driver's license station.

If you are under 18 years old and married, you will have to prove your age and identity by showing your birth certificate and marriage license.

All persons must provide one item from the primary list and one item from the secondary list shown below, unless they have an Iowa-issued DL or ID in their possession. Photocopies or faxes of these documents are not acceptable.

Primary List

1. Photo driver's license or a certified copy of a license that is valid or has not been expired more than one year.
2. Photo ID card or certified copy of the card issued from the same state agency that issues driver's licenses, and the card must not have been expired more than one year. There are some exceptions to this. Check with the personnel at the driver's license station or call the Motor Vehicle Information Center at 800-532-1121.
3. Original or certified copy of U.S. or Canadian birth certificate that has a raised seal and is government-issued. A hospital birth certificate is **not** acceptable.
4. United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) document
5. Court order containing your FULL name, date of birth, and court seal. This does **not** include an abstract.
6. Military ID card. This does **not** include a dependent ID card.
7. Valid U.S. or Canadian passport. Foreign passports must have a valid INS document.
8. ID card issued by the Canadian Department of Indian Affairs. A U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs or tribal ID card is **not** acceptable.
9. A notarized copy of either an Inmate Descriptor Inquiry or a Client Information Inquiry from the Iowa Department of Corrections.

Knowledge Test

The knowledge test shows how well you know and understand highway signs and Iowa traffic laws. Each copy of the test tells you the number of questions you must answer correctly to pass the test. Iowa's larger driver's license stations offer a computer-based electronic way to complete the knowledge exam. Your license is valid for another 60 days.

Driving Test

The driving test shows how well you can control your vehicle. Unless you can already legally drive in Iowa, you will need to have a licensed driver bring you and your test vehicle to the test site. That driver should wait for you in case you do not pass the test. He or she will not be able to be in the vehicle when you are taking the driving test.

Before you start on the driving test, the examiner will inspect your vehicle's safety equipment. Safety equipment includes, but is not limited to, seat belts, lights, turn signals, horn, brake lights, tires and windshield wipers. If the safety equipment does not work, you will not be able to take the test unless the equipment is not needed; for example, if it is a sunny day and your vehicle's windshield wipers do not work, you can use your vehicle for the test. Your vehicle should also have a current registration sticker on the license plate. Iowa registration laws require both a front and back plate on most vehicles. You should have the registration receipt in the vehicle since the examiner may ask to see it. Evidence of liability insurance is also required.

Secondary List

1. Any document from the primary list.
2. Bureau of Indian Affairs card.
3. Photo driver's license or photo ID card expired one year or more.
4. Court order that does not contain your date of birth, but does have your FULL name.
5. Foreign birth certificate translated by an approved translator.
6. Military discharge or separation papers (DD214).
7. Military dependent ID card.
8. Employer ID card.
9. Health insurance card.
10. IRS or state tax document completed by the government agency. W-2, 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ and related forms completed by the taxpayer are **not** acceptable.
11. Marriage license or certificate.
12. Medical records from doctor or hospital that are original or authenticated.
13. Gun permit.
14. Pilot's license.
15. Certified school record or transcript.
16. Social Security card issued by the Social Security Administration. A metal card is **not** acceptable.
17. Canadian Social Insurance card.
18. Photo student ID card.
19. Vehicle certificate of title. Vehicle registration is **not** acceptable.
20. Voter registration card.
21. Welfare card.
22. Prison release document.
23. Certified or notarized affidavit personally provided by the child's parent or guardian that identifies a minor child. The parent or guardian must provide acceptable proof of his/her identity.

Iowa law requires that a Social Security number be a part of the driver's license application. This requirement applies regardless of the class of license being issued or the age of the applicant.

Social Security Number

You must give your Social Security number to the DOT. Your Social Security number will then become part of the DOT records, but will not be on your license.

If applying for a Commercial Instruction Permit or a Commercial Driver's License (CDL), you must show the examiner your actual Social Security card.

Driver's license personnel will make the final decision on what is acceptable proof of identity. If you have questions concerning this requirement, please contact your local examining personnel for more information.

If you are a foreign national temporarily in the United States and are not eligible for a Social Security number, the Social Security number requirement will not apply. However, you must bring your United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) documents to the examiner. The USCIS control number will be used in lieu of the Social Security number. Your license or non driver identification card will be limited to the period of time you are authorized to be present, but not to exceed two years.

Certification of Iowa Residency

Upon application for a driver's license or nondriver identification card, you must show evidence of Iowa residency. Acceptable items to certify your Iowa residency include:

- Iowa voter registration card.
- An Iowa vehicle registration certificate.
- Utility bill showing 30 days of residency.
- A statement from an Iowa financial institution showing 30 days of residency.
- Rental or lease agreement showing 30 days of residency.
- Pay check or pay stub from an Iowa employer.
- Children's school enrollment papers.
- Documentation showing a filing for homestead or military tax exemption on property in Iowa.
- Other items will be reviewed by licensing personnel.

Types Of Driver's Licenses

Graduated Driver's License

On January 1, 1999, Iowa began a graduated driver's license (GDL) system for drivers under the age of 18. GDL includes three steps that allow for increased driving privilege as the driver accumulates more skill and demonstrates responsible driving practices. The three steps are: the instruction permit; intermediate license; and the full license. Driver education is part of the GDL system, as well as a remedial driver improvement program if traffic violations occur or if the driver contributes to the cause of a crash or accident.

Instruction Permit

- Available at age 14
- Must be held for a minimum of 6 months
- Written approval of parent/guardian
- Vision screening and knowledge tests
- All driving must be supervised. May drive only with parent/guardian, family member over 21, driver education teacher, or driver over 25 with written permission of parent/guardian
- Number of passengers limited to the number of seat belts in the vehicle
- Must complete approved driver education course
- Must log 20 hours of supervised driving; minimum of two hours must be between sunset and sunrise
- Must drive accident- and violation-free for six consecutive months immediately prior to application for intermediate license
- Instruction permit will have the words “under eighteen”

Driver Education

- Available at age 14
- Must have instruction permit
- Thirty hours of classroom to include four hours substance abuse education, minimum of 20 minutes on railroad crossing safety, information on organ donation, and information on bicycle and motor cycle awareness
- Six hours laboratory; minimum three hours must be behind the wheel; may use simulators for the remaining time
- No parental waiver of any behind-the-wheel drive time

Intermediate License

- Available at age 16
- Must meet all conditions of instruction permit
- Written approval of parent/guardian
- Must be held for a minimum of 12 months
- May drive without supervision from 5 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.; driving is permitted between 12:30 a.m. and 5 a.m. only with a parent/guardian, family member over 21, or designated adult over 25; with a waiver, may drive to and from work or school-related extracurricular activities
- Must log 10 hours of supervised driving; minimum of two hours must be between sunset and sunrise
- Passengers limited to the number of seat belts in the vehicle
- Must drive accident- and violation-free for 12 consecutive months immediately preceding application for a full license
- Intermediate license will have the words “intermediate license”

Remedial Driver Improvement

- Applies to all drivers under age 18
- Driver will be referred if involved in one moving violation or involvement in an accident to which the driver contributed

- Both the driver and a parent/guardian must participate in an interview with a Department of Transportation (DOT) official
- DOT official may impose additional driving restrictions or impose a suspension
- Must begin 6-month or 12-month accident- and violation-free driving period again to qualify for next licensing level

Full License

- Available at age 17
- Must meet all conditions of intermediate license
- Written approval of parent/guardian
- Full driving privileges with no restrictions
- For drivers under age 18 or age 21, the license shall have the words “under eighteen” or “under twenty-one”

Class C - Operator (Non-Commercial)

This is the license most Iowans have. With this license, you may drive cars, pickups and trucks whose gross vehicle weight is 16,000 pounds or less. To get an operator’s license, you will have to take the vision screening. You will also have to take the knowledge test if you have an invalid or expired (over one year) out-of-state license, or if you have not had a driver’s license before. If you have a valid out-of-state license that allows you to drive by yourself, the driving test may be waived.

The DOT may also issue this license or a Class M (Motorcycle) license to you if you are 16 or 17 years old, and, if before you became an Iowa resident, you had a valid driver’s license for at least one year as a resident of another state. To be eligible you must:

- live with a parent or guardian;
- have no moving violations on your driving record;
- pass the vision screening; and
- pass the required written and driving tests.

If you meet all of these requirements, you do not have to take a driver education course to get your license. The license may be restricted as an Intermediate License under Iowa’s Graduated Driver Licensing Law.

Your license will be issued for five years if you are 17 years and 11 months through 69 years old. If you are age 70 or older, or less than 17 years and 11 months, your license will be issued for two years.

Certain medical conditions and disabilities may restrict license issuance to only a two-year period, regardless of your age.

A two-year license costs \$8 and a five-year license costs \$20.

Class D - Chauffeur (Non-Commercial)

This license covers operation of light straight trucks and small passenger-for-hire vehicles. This also includes persons exempted from commercial licensing, such as a farmer who is driving a farm truck-tractor semitrailer combination, a paid firefighter who is driving vehicles in excess of 16,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating, and a taxi driver.

The Class D license has one of three endorsements allowing a driver to operate:

- **Endorsement 1:** tractor-trailer combinations if a CDL farm exemption applies.
- **Endorsement 2:** single-unit vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 16,001 pounds or more up through a 26,000-pound gross vehicle weight rating.
- **Endorsement 3:** passenger vehicles which carry less than 16 passengers, such as taxis.

To get a chauffeur's license you must be at least 18 years old. You must pass the vision screening and must have passed the general knowledge test. You will also be required to turn in any out-of-state licenses you have.

Under the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, it is a violation of federal law for the driver of a commercial motor vehicle to have more than one license. A Class D license is not valid for operating commercial motor vehicles. If you need a commercial license, you will need to study the commercial driver's manual available at your local driver's license station.

You will be required to take the driving test in the largest class of vehicle you want to drive. This also allows you to operate smaller class vehicles.

If you currently have an out-of-state license valid for the same driving privilege you require in Iowa, the knowledge and driving tests may be waived.

Your chauffeur's license is good for five years if you are 18 through 69 years old. It is good for two years if you are 70 years old or older, or where certain medical conditions and disabilities are involved. A two-year license costs \$16 and a five-year license costs \$40. The license expires on your birthday, but remains valid for another 60 days.

Motorcycle

Motorcycle riders must have a license valid for motorcycle before being able to ride by themselves. If riding with a qualified operator, a motorcycle instruction permit is necessary. (See motorcycle instruction permit.) To get motorcycle added to your current license, you must pass a written test and a motorcycle skills test.

If you wish to have a Class L license without another license class, you will be required to pass written tests for both a Class C non-commercial license and motorcycles. The driving test will be a motorcycle skill test and an on-the-road test with the motorcycle. If an on-the-road test is required with the motorcycle, the examiner will ride in or on another vehicle and give you directions by prearranged signals.

If you are under age 18, in addition to driver education, you must have passed an approved motorcycle rider education course. (The skills test may be waived.) A motorcycle instruction permit may be necessary for the course if street riding is part of the motorcycle rider education course.

Adding the motorcycle class to an existing class costs \$2 for each year the license is valid.

There is a separate manual for motorcycles; motorcycle study manuals are available at any driver's license station.

Motorcycle Instruction Permit - Restriction 1

For operating a motorcycle with a motorcycle permit, the person instructing you must have a license valid for motorcycles. The accompanying person must stay within sight and hearing distance and be on or in a different motor vehicle. Only one learner may be supervised by any one licensed driver.

To add the motorcycle instruction permit to an existing class, the cost is \$2 for each year the license is valid.

A motorcycle instruction permit will be issued for one four-year term with no renewal permitted.

Operator Instruction Permit - Class C Restriction 2

This gives you the chance to learn how to drive with the help of an experienced driver. To get an instruction permit you must be at least 14 years old and pass the vision screening and knowledge test. You must present a parental consent form available at any Iowa driver's license station and prove your age and identity (page 6).

If you are 14 through 17 years old and have a valid permit, you can drive with the following people:

- a driver education instructor;
- a prospective driver education instructor;
- a licensed parent or guardian;
- a member of your immediate family who is licensed and at least 21 years old; or
- another licensed adult who is at least 25 years old and has your parent's/guardian's written permission to accompany you while you drive.

If you are at least 18 years old and have a valid permit, you can drive with:

- a driver education instructor
- a prospective driver education instructor
- a licensed member of your immediate family who is at least 21 years old
- another licensed adult who is at least 25 years old

An instruction permit is issued for four years, expiring on your birthday, with a 60-day grace period after your birthday. The cost is \$6.

Commercial Instruction Permit - Restriction 3

This permit allows a person to operate a commercial motor vehicle while learning to operate it as long as there is a person with a CDL valid for that type of vehicle occupying the seat beside the driver. To get this permit you must pass the vision screening and CDL general knowledge test. This restriction is added to your existing license. It is not possible to obtain a commercial instruction permit only. If you do not have a license when you apply for the commercial permit, you will be required to obtain at least the non-commercial Class C license (operator's license) and the commercial instruction permit will be added to the license. The commercial instruction permit is issued for six months and can be renewed only once in a two-year period. (When you are ready to apply for your commercial license, you will be required to pass any other applicable CDL knowledge tests and the skills test.) The permit costs \$12.

Chauffeur's Instruction Permit - Restriction 4

This allows you to learn to drive a vehicle for which you need a Class D license, but not commercial motor vehicles that require a CDL. When driving, you must have someone who has a Class D or commercial license valid for that type of vehicle in the seat next to you. This restriction is added to your existing license.

To get your chauffeur's permit, you must be at least 18 years old and pass the vision screening and general knowledge test.

Moped License - Restriction 5

If you are 18 years old or older and have never had a license, you will need to pass the vision screening and the knowledge test. You may also have to take a skills test to show you can properly operate a moped. Additional licensing is not required if you possess a valid driver's license. See page 53 for additional information.

To get a moped license you must be at least 14 years old and pass the vision screening and knowledge test and present a parental consent form, along with proof of age and identity (see page 6). (If you are under 16 years old, you must pass an approved moped education course to get a moped license.)

If you are 16 years old or older and have never had an Iowa driver's license, you must pass the vision and knowledge test. (If you are under 18 years old, you will also need to present a parental consent form, along with proof of age and identity. See page 6.)

Minor's Restricted License - Restriction 6

A "Minor's Restricted License" (valid only for travel to and from work, or to transport dependents to and from temporary care facilities **if necessary to hold a job**) may be issued to a person age 16-18 who has completed an Iowa-approved driver education course **and** to whom any of the following apply:

- is not in attendance at school;
- has not completed the requirements for graduation in an accredited school; or
- has not obtained a high school equivalency diploma.

The Minor's Restricted License is not valid for driving during work or as an instruction permit.

To get a Minor's Restricted License, your school district superintendent or principal **and** your employer must complete a form available from any driver's license station. If you quit or lose your job for any reason, your employer is required to notify the DOT and your license will be canceled.

You must also pass the vision screening and driving test. You may not have to take the knowledge test if you have a permit that is valid or has not been expired for more than 60 days.

Minor's School License - Restriction 7

This lets you drive back and forth to school and school activities between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. You must use the most direct and accessible route between your home and school.

To get a school license you must have successfully completed an Iowa-approved driver education course (unless you show a hardship exists) and live one mile or more from school. One of your parents must sign a consent form, and your school superintendent or chairperson of the school board must furnish a statement of need on a form provided by the DOT. This form is available from any Iowa driver's license station.

You must pass a vision screening, but the driving test may be waived. You will also need to take the knowledge test unless your instruction permit is still valid.

The license will be issued for a maximum of two years and expires on your birthday. You do not need an instruction permit when you have a school license because the school license will be valid as an instruction permit when not driving to and from school.

You must hold an instruction permit for six months and be conviction- and accident-free during that period before the school license is issued.

Commercial Driver's License (CDL)

Class A For a combination vehicle with a gross combination weight rating of 26,001 or more pounds where the gross vehicle weight rating of the towed unit is 10,001 or more pounds.

Class B For a single-unit vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 or more pounds. A unit can be towed with this class of license if the gross vehicle weight rating of the towed unit is less than 10,001 pounds.

Class C For a single unit vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,000 pounds or less, is designed to carry 16 or more persons--including the driver, or is carrying hazardous material that requires placarding.

The fees for commercial licenses are \$16 for two years and \$40 for five years. The removal of an air brake restriction or addition of endorsements will be added to this base fee.

Commercial driver's license study manuals are available at the local driver's license stations. Explanations of special endorsements or restrictions are included in this manual.

Summary Chart Of License Types

License Class	Minimum Age	Expiration Date	Tests Required	Cost
A (Commercial)	18	2- or 5-year on birthdate	See CDL Manual	\$16* \$40*
B (Commercial)	18	2- or 5-year on birthdate	See CDL Manual	\$16* \$40*
C (Commercial)	18	2- or 5-year on birthdate	See CDL Manual	\$16* \$40*
C (Non-commercial - Operator)	16	2- or 5-year on birthdate	Knowledge Vision Driving	\$ 8 \$20
D (Non-commercial - Chauffeur)	18	2- or 5-year on birthdate	Knowledge Vision Driving	\$16 \$40
M (Motorcycle License only - new issuance)	16	2- or 5-year on birthdate	Knowledge Vision Driving	\$10 \$25
Restriction 1 (Motorcycle Instruction Permit - must be added to an existing license)	14	Same as current license	Knowledge Vision	\$ 1 & \$ 2 per yr
C Restriction 1 (Motorcycle Permit only - new issuance)	14	4 years on birthdate	Knowledge Vision	\$ 8
C Restriction 2 (Instruction Permit)	14	4 years on birthdate	Knowledge Vision	\$ 6
C Restriction 3 (Commercial Instruction Permit - must be added to an existing license)	18	6 months	Knowledge Vision	\$12
C Restriction 4 (Chauffeur's Instruction Permit)	18	2 years on birthdate	Knowledge Vision	\$12
C Restriction 5 (Moped/Motorized Bicycle License)	14	2 years on birthdate	Knowledge Vision	\$ 8
C Restriction 6 (Minor's Restricted License)	16	2 years on birthdate	Knowledge Vision Driving	\$ 8
C Restriction 7 (Minor's School License)	14	2 years on birthdate	Knowledge Vision Driving	\$ 8

* There are additional fees for the commercial endorsements.

Persons under the age of 18, and age 70 or older may be issued a two-year license only. All others will be issued a five-year license.

Restricted Commercial Driver's License

The restricted CDL allows suppliers or applicators of agricultural chemicals, fertilizer, seed or animal feed to drive Class B or Class C commercial vehicles. Class B or C vehicles are generally single vehicles that normally do not pull a trailer or semitrailer. The only hazardous materials a holder of a restricted CDL can carry are liquid fertilizer such as anhydrous ammonia (3,000 gallons or less) and solid fertilizer such as ammonium nitrate (provided it is not mixed with any organic substance).

The restricted CDL is only valid if the distance between the business and the farm being served is 150 miles or less. To obtain the restricted CDL, a person must have a good driving record for two years before applying for the license. A good driving record is defined as:

- holding no more than one license;
- no loss of license (suspension, revocation, etc.) for any reason;
- no convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs (no test refusals), leaving the scene of an accident, any felony involving a motor vehicle, driving while privileges are withdrawn, speeding 15 mph or more over the posted speed limit, reckless driving, improper or erratic lane changes, following too closely, driving a CMV without a CDL or proper endorsements, driving a CMV without a CDL in possession; and
- no convictions for accident-connected traffic law violations, and no record of accidents in which the applicant was determined to be at fault.

The initial fee for a restricted CDL is \$16 for two years or \$40 for five years. There is a \$1 fee to update the license for a different season than the one for which it was issued. The seasonal periods during which a restricted CDL may be used are March 15 through June 30, and October 4 through December 14.

License Renewal

Your license expires on your birthday. It is valid for another 60 days.

You will have to pass the vision screening any time you make a personal appearance for renewal. If your license has been expired for more than one year, you will have to pass the vision screening and the knowledge and driving tests.

You can apply for your license renewal from 30 days to one year before the expiration on your license. If you want to renew your license more than 30 days before the expiration date, you may have to explain to the licensing personnel why you are applying for the early renewal.

Special License Information

Change of Address

If your address changes, you must report the address change to the DOT within 30 days. Any driver's license station can make an address change on your license for \$1. Your license will always show your residence address, but your mailing address will also be requested.

Name Changes

Individuals wishing to change their name must provide acceptable proof for any name changes. Acceptable items are:

1. Court-ordered name change containing full name, date of birth and court seal.
2. Divorce decree.
3. Marriage license or certificate.

Driver Education

To get your license before you are 18 years old, you must pass an Iowa approved driver education course. Take your certificate of completion to the driver license station.

If you have successfully completed an out-of-state driver education course, you should take your certificate or transcript to the driver education instructor at your school. The instructor will verify that the course meets Iowa's standards and may issue an Iowa Completion Certificate. See page 8 for information on licensing for persons under age 18 who have had a license in another state.

Duplicates, Replacements and Validations

If your license or permit is lost or destroyed, you may get a duplicate from any driver's license station. You must prove your age and identity (see page 6) and pay a \$3 fee.

License Number

The DOT will assign a number to be used as your driver's license number. However, you must give your Social Security number on your driver's license application.

License and Permit Possession

You should have your license or permit with you at all times while driving. If you are arrested for not having your non-commercial driver's license with you, you will not be penalized if you can produce your license or permit in court and show that it was valid at the time. You are required to have your commercial driver's license in your immediate possession when operating a commercial motor vehicle.

Military Service

If your Iowa license expires while you are on active duty with the Armed Forces, it can be extended until six months after you leave active duty. A five-year extension may apply to your spouse and children if they are living with you outside of Iowa. You may obtain military service extensions by writing the Office of Driver Services, P.O. Box 9204, Des Moines, IA 50306-9204. You can also request the department restore your license to its records by showing you are in the military and were at the time the license expired.

Organ Donor/Medical Alert

Anyone 18 years of age or older may become an organ donor. A person under 18 years of age may become a donor with parental consent.

When you apply or reapply for any type of license, the clerk will ask you if you would like to become an organ donor. This information will print on the front of your license to the right of your address. You can obtain a uniform donor card at the driver's license station. For further information, consult your physician.

A medical alert designation may be placed on the front of your license to indicate a medical condition that may need special attention.

Medical Advance Directive

There is a growing concern about how medical care decisions will be made when people are unable to make decisions for themselves. An increasing number of people are stating their health care choices in writing while they are still able to make these decisions. These legal documents are called Advance Directives, more commonly known as a Living Will and Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. These are documents stating your health care choices or naming someone to make the choices for you if you become unable to do so. When you apply or reapply for any type of license, the clerk will ask you if you would like to have Medical Advance Directives indicated on the face of your license. Ask your physician for more information on Advance Directives.

Voter Registration

If you are not registered to vote, you may apply to register electronically when you apply for your license. Voter registration application cards are also available. The forms can be filled out and mailed by the applicant, or DOT employees will mail the cards to the proper office after they have been completed. You may also update your voter registration.

Driver's Privacy Protection Act

Certain personal information about you will not be released except to authorized recipients under the provisions of the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act and state statutes. Personal information includes your photograph, Social Security number, driver's license number, name, address, telephone number, and medical or disability information.

Special Restrictions

For safety reasons it is sometimes necessary to limit driving privileges. You may be limited to certain types of vehicles, special mechanical controls, or certain other operating restrictions. Your license is good only under those conditions and can be suspended if you violate the restrictions.

Selective Service Registration

If you are a male age 18 through 25, your application for a driver's license or nondriver identification card will serve as consent to be registered with the United States Selective Service System. If you refuse to give consent, your license or ID can still be issued. However, DOT will provide consent or refusal information to Selective Service.

Review Questions (Section 1)

T/F

- _____ 1. Your vision will be checked any time you apply for or renew a permit or license in person. **True/False**
- _____ 2. You need to take a knowledge test if you renew your license within 60 days after your license expires. **True/False**
- _____ 3. The driving test determines if you can reasonably control your car. **True/False**
- _____ 4. If you are under 18 years old and married, or you are 18 years old or older and are applying for your first license or permit, you must furnish acceptable proof of your age and identity. **True/False**
- _____ 5. Acceptable proof of a primary document includes an out-of-state driver's license or passport with a valid immigration form, as long as it shows your full name and birthdate. **True/False**
- _____ 6. If you are practicing driving a motorcycle, the person with you must have a driver's license which is valid for motorcycle and be within sight and hearing distance of you. **True/False**
- _____ 7. Your school license allows you to drive to and from school over the most direct route between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. **True/False**
- _____ 8. The only requirement to drive a motorized bicycle (moped) is to legally register the moped. **True/False**
- _____ 9. If you are between 16 and 18, you must successfully complete an approved motorcycle education course to operate a motorcycle alone. **True/False**
- _____ 10. Military personnel have one year to renew an operator's license after leaving active duty. **True/False**
- _____ 11. Your license number may be your Social Security number. **True/False**
- _____ 12. You should always carry your permit or license with you when operating a motor vehicle. **True/False**
- _____ 13. If your license is lost or destroyed, you may get a duplicate, but must show proof of your age and identity again. **True/False**
- _____ 14. Your instruction permit gives you the right to operate a moped if you are 14 to 16 years old. **True/False**
- _____ 15. You need a license to operate farm machinery on your farm. **True/False**

Answers on page 72