

C. MOTORCYCLE LICENSE

1. You must complete Form DL-5, take a vision test, and bring a check or money order payable to PennDOT for the appropriate fee.
2. Once you pass the motorcycle knowledge test, you will be issued a learner's permit (Class M). This permit is valid for one year, and you can schedule to take the skills test any time thereafter.
3. When you have your permit, you are only permitted to drive the motorcycle from sunrise to sunset. You cannot carry other passengers with you (instructors with a motorcycle license are allowed). Additionally, if you do not have another type of license, you can only operate the motorcycle under the supervision of a licensed motorcycle operator.
4. You must take a skills test to obtain a motorcycle license.
5. You can also obtain a motorcycle license through the Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety Program (PAMSP). If you take and pass the course, you will be issued a motorcycle license at the end.

KEY POINTS

✓ You can schedule your non-commercial, commercial, or motorcycle license road tests by calling PennDOT at 1-800-423-5542 or visiting <http://www.dmv.state.pa.us> to schedule online.



WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?

You can visit our website at www.nlsa.us. You can also obtain legal information on a variety of legal topics by visiting www.PALawHELP.org.

ABOUT NLS

Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) is a private, nonprofit corporation created in 1966 to provide high-quality, free civil legal services to low-income individuals, the elderly, and the abused of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence counties. Our mission is to meet the civil legal needs of the poor and vulnerable in our communities through effective legal representation and education. If you have a civil legal problem, please call our Legal Helpline at 1-866-761-NLSA (6572) to see if you qualify for assistance.

www.nlsa.us



Funding for this Driver's License Manual project was provided by the Trueheart Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, the George and Anna Neider Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, a Bequest of E. Florence Tucker of The Pittsburgh Foundation, the Mogus and Mance Families Fund, of The Pittsburgh Foundation, The Hetty E. Knox Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, the Charles Harbaugh and Helen Mason Moore Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, the John L. McKenna Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, the Pine Road Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, and The Pittsburgh Foundation.

REMEMBER. The law often changes. Each case is different. This pamphlet is meant to give you general information and not to give you specific legal advice. Please use the information found in this brochure carefully since the law is constantly changing and the information may not accurately reflect any changes in the law that occurred following the creation and publication of the brochure.

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Updated 12/22



NEIGHBORHOOD
LEGAL SERVICES

PENNSYLVANIA DRIVER'S LICENSES

How to Get a Driver's License,
Commercial Driver's License,
and Motorcycle License



AGENCY RESPONSIBLE:

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is an administrative agency responsible for issuing and regulating driver's licenses. Visit <http://www.dmv.state.pa.us> for more information about PennDOT.

PennDOT has a Driver's Manual, Commercial Driver's Manual, and Motorcycle Manual that contains the information you need to know in order to obtain a driver's license, commercial driver's license, or motorcycle license. You can visit any PennDOT Driver's License Center to get a manual or go online to download a copy.



You must be 16 years of age or older to be able to get a driver's license

KEY POINTS

- ✓ You must be 16 years of age or older to be able to get a driver's license or motorcycle license.
- ✓ You must be 18 years of age or older to obtain a commercial driver's license.
- ✓ For all three types of licenses, you will first have to obtain a permit before being able to take a road test to get the license itself.
- ✓ You must provide proof of identity and residency to obtain a permit for all three types of licenses.

WHO TO CALL FOR HELP

To find out if you qualify for legal assistance from NLS, please call the office in your county.

Bridgewater 724-378-0595
Butler 724-371-3880
New Castle 724-658-2677
Pittsburgh 412-255-6700
(toll-free) 1-866-761-6572

A. OBTAINING A NON-COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE

1. If you are 16 or older, a new resident who has never been licensed, or a new resident who has been licensed in another state but whose license has been expired for longer than six months, then you must submit an application to PennDOT (Form DL-180). If you are under 18, you must also complete Form DL-180TD.
2. You must provide two forms of identification: a) Social Security card **and** b) birth certificate, certificate of U.S. citizenship, valid passport, **OR** Certificate of Naturalization.
3. You must provide two forms showing proof of residency such as utility bills, a W-2 Form, tax records, a current weapons permit, a lease agreement, or mortgage documents. If you are 16 or 17, then proof of residency is **NOT** required.



If you are under 18, you must wait six months and log 50 hours of driving **before** you can take the road test

4. Bring all of the above along with a check or money order payable to PennDOT for the appropriate fees. You will have to pass an eye screening and a knowledge test. A Learner's Permit will then be issued to you and is valid for one year. Please note that you **CANNOT** drive by yourself with a learner's permit and you must have a licensed driver who is at least 21 or licensed spouse, parent, or guardian who is at least 18 ride in the front every time you drive.
5. If you are under 18, you must wait six months and log 50 hours of driving before you can take the road test. Once this requirement is met (or if you are over 18), you must then take a road test to get a driver's license. You get three chances to pass a road test. If you do not pass the road test in three tries or your learner's permit expires before you pass, you must ask PennDOT to extend your permit by submitting Form DL-31.



Once you pass the knowledge test, you will be issued a CDL learner's permit to practice driving. The KTA and permit together are valid for one year from the date of issuance

B. COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE (CDL)

1. If you are 18 years or older, you can get a commercial driver's license, regardless of whether you have a non-commercial license. You must complete a Form DL-31CD.
2. You must provide proof of identity and residency, bring a Pennsylvania driver's license (if you have one), and a check or money order payable to PennDOT for the appropriate fees.
3. PennDOT will issue a Knowledge Test Authorization (KTA). This **CANNOT** be used like a learner's permit to operate a vehicle; rather, it indicates the CDL classes, endorsements, and restriction removals requested by an applicant and provides you with the opportunity to take the CDL knowledge test at a Driver License Center.
4. Once you pass the knowledge test, you will be issued a CDL learner's permit to practice driving. The KTA and permit together are valid for one year from the date of issuance.
5. If your requested commercial driving privileges require a CDL road test, you must wait 15 days after obtaining your CDL learner's permit. You can schedule the road test when you get the learner's permit, but it must be scheduled more than 15 days after you get the learner's permit.