Got skills?  
A guide to taking the Noncommercial (Class D) Skills Test.

What is a restricted driver’s license?
- A restricted driver’s license gives applicants some mobility while only allowing them to safely operate a motor vehicle within their abilities.
- The skills test route is designed around the applicants intended area of travel.

Other important information
- If you do not have a valid driver’s license, you are not allowed to drive yourself to the skills test.
- A passenger may ride in the vehicle during the skills test if they are a translator, parent or legal guardian, missionary companion or law enforcement as long as the liability waiver is signed
- A service dog may accompany the applicant on the skills test if needed.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off during the skills test.

What must I do to pass the skills test?
- You must not have more than 12 errors, or commit a critical driving error.
- Five errors of the same skill is considered a critical driving error and is an automatic fail.

When you pass the skills test, you must:
- Return to the county DMV with your sealed unopened envelope
- Pay the appropriate fees. Then a driver’s license will be issued to you.

If you fail the skills test, you must:
- Wait three days to schedule another skills test with the same or a different skills test examiner.
- Pay the county DMV fee and obtain another skills test receipt.
- Pay the skills test examiner the remainder of the skills test fee.

Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), ITD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, economic status or Limited English Proficiency.

Persons that require a reasonable accommodation based on language or disability should contact ITD Civil Rights Office at civilrights@itd.idaho.gov. Requests should be made as early as possible to ensure the state has an opportunity to address the accommodation.
What is the purpose of the skills test?
To ensure future Idaho driver’s license holders are:
• Able to take a skills test in a reasonable amount of time and distance from their home
• Administered a valid and reliable skills test
• Able to demonstrate the required skills and abilities to safely operate a motor vehicle

Who is required to take a skills test?
Skills tests are required for applicants who have:
• Never been licensed before.
• Completed an approved driver’s training course and the SIP (under 17) (Skills test eligibility dates are strictly enforced).
• Been driving on an instruction permit (17 years of age or older) and want to become a licensed driver.
• Been required by a medical or vision professional.
• Been required to take a reoccurring skills test.
• A foreign driver’s license if there is no reciprocity agreement between the United States and the driver’s country.

Applicant Vehicle Knowledge and Inspection
The applicant vehicle knowledge and inspection section consists of items that must be located and or demonstrated by the applicant and meet standards.

If the required items do not meet standards or the applicant fails to locate and or demonstrate the items in "bold" below the skills test will not continue.

- Driver door*
- Driver seatbelt*
- Brake/pedal lights*
- Turn Signals front/ back*
- Headlights*
- Windshield wipers*
- Hazards/emergency lights*
- Driver window*
- Horn*
- Arm signals
- Defroster/defogger
- Emergency/parking brake

*Must be functioning according to Idaho Code or is required by the Idaho Transportation Department for safety reasons.

Scored Skills
- Acceleration
- Attentive
- Complete stop
- Curb
- Deceleration
- Gap or stop line
- Lane position
- Right-of-way
- Signal
- Spacing
- Speed
- Steering control
- Traffic check
- Unnecessary stop

Critical Driving Errors
A driving skill performed or not performed that may result in an incident, injury or death. If a CDE occurs anywhere on the route, the error constitutes as an automatic FAIL and the skills test ends immediately. The critical driving errors are:

- Dangerous action
- Disobeys emergency/safety vehicle
- Disobeys police or safety personnel
- Disobeys traffic signal/ signal
- Drives up onto curb or sidewalk
- Habitual violation (5 of the same skill)
- Intervention by or disobeys skills test examiner
- Lane violation
- Passenger interference
- Speed (>10 mph or unsafe)
- Street curb parking > 18 inches
- Strikes object

Helpful hints when scheduling an appointment with a skills test examiner:
• Contact the skills test examiner of your choice (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.).
• If the skills test examiner cannot be reached, leave a voicemail with your name and phone number.
• They will not be able to return calls unless a voicemail with your information is provided (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.).

How do I prepare for a skills test:
• Study the Idaho Driver’s Handbook.
• The handbook is available at the county DMV or online at itd.idaho.gov/dmv

An Idaho or out-of-state driver’s license that has been expired 25 months or more (does not apply to Commercial Driver’s Licenses (CDL)).

Skills tests may also be required for applicants who have:
• Any mental or physical impairment that might affect the safe operation of a motor vehicle.
• When a county agent has concerns about an applicant’s ability to safely operate a motor vehicle

What skills are on the test?
Driving Skills
The applicant will be required to demonstrate the ability to safely operate a motor vehicle over a predetermined route containing a variety of traffic situations. There are three categories:

- Driving
- Parking
- Stopping

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