



OBTAINING A DRIVER'S LICENSE IN VIRGINIA

DMV - 1-866-368-5463

Learner's permit information <http://www.dmv.state.va.us/webdoc/citizen/drivers/learners.asp>

Driver's manual <http://www.dmv.state.va.us/webdoc/citizen/drivers/manual.asp>

Applicants **less than 19 years** old must:

1. be at least 16 years and 3 months old;
2. successfully complete a state-approved driver education course which includes
 - a minimum of 36 periods of classroom instruction;
 - 14 periods of in-car instruction (7 periods observing and 7 periods driving);
3. pass a road skills test;
4. hold a learner's permit for at least 9 months; and
5. receive written permission from the parent/guardian to issue the driver's license.

In addition, parents, guardians or foster parents of applicants **less than 18 years old** must certify that the applicant has driven a motor vehicle for at least 45 hours, 15 of which were after sunset.

90-day driver's license process

After the student meets all of the requirements listed above, the in-car teacher can issue a PDL-90. A PDL-90 becomes a valid driver's license when accompanied by a Virginia learner's permit.

The in-car instructor or program administrator will:

1. Complete all sections on the PDL-90 form. DMV staff will use this information to "update" the student's driving record. If a section is left blank (no classroom or in-car date, no validation date, etc.), DMV cannot process the student's license. Hence, the student is an unlicensed driver until DMV receives this information from the school.
2. Make sure the address on the learner's permit is the student's current address.
3. If a student has completed the classroom phase at another school in Virginia, attach a photocopy the DEC-1 or CDT-B form to the student's PDL-90 and mail it to DMV.
4. If the student took the classroom course in another state, call the school to verify the student received at least 30 hours of driver education instruction. Attach the classroom certificate of instruction to the student's PDL-90.
5. Provide a legible in-car teacher signature on the form (not an autograph).
6. Mail a copy of the PDL-90 to DMV for issuance of a permanent driver's license.

Juvenile Licensing Restrictions

1. A provisional driver's license shall not authorize its holder to operate a motor vehicle with more than one non-family passenger less than 18 years old until the holder **has held a provisional license for one year**, and no more than three non-family passengers less than 18 until the licensee turns 18.
2. The holder shall not operate a vehicle on the highways of the Commonwealth between the hours of midnight and 4 a.m. except when driving: to and from work; to and from a school-sponsored activity; when accompanied by a parent or person in *loco parentis* or by a spouse who is 18 years old or older; or when responding to an emergency call by volunteer firefighter and rescue squad personnel.

If you are a Virginia resident 19 years of age or older, you must hold a learner's permit for at least 30 days or show proof of completion of a state-approved driver education program.