STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

How to Get a New Driver’s License in Connecticut
Eligibility Check
New Driver’s License

Before you can apply for your Connecticut driver’s license, you must meet the following eligibility requirements:

✔ Have a learner’s permit or out-of-state driver’s license.

✔ Complete a Safe Driving Practices course.

✔ Be at least 16 years of age.

✔ Reside in Connecticut.

✔ Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or have legal presence in the U.S.

✔ Have a Social Security Number (SSN), if eligible.
How to Apply for a License

What You Need

✔ A learner’s permit or out-of-state driver’s license

✔ A hard copy of your completed eight-hour Safe Driving Practices Certificate (CS-1)

✔ A completed Application for a Non-Commercial Learner Permit and/or Driver License (R-229)

✔ The following proofs of identity from this list of acceptable documents:
  
  • Two proofs of identification
  
  • Two proofs of Connecticut residency
  
  • Proof of your Social Security Number or evidence of your ineligibility for an SSN
  
  • Name change documents, if applicable
  
  • Proof of legal presence in the U.S., if applicable
Payment for the $72 license and testing fee

- While acceptable payment methods vary by DMV office, you can obtain specific information here.

To take a road test at a DMV office, you must also submit the following:

- A copy of your DMV road test appointment confirmation page
  - You may reprint your confirmation page online here.
  - A working vehicle, insurance card, and a valid car registration certificate.

To take your road test at a commercial driving school, you must present:

- A learner’s permit.
- An Application for a Non-Commercial Learner Permit and/or Driver License (R-229), signed by your driving instructor.
- An original copy of your completed Safe Driver Education Certificate (CS-1).
Steps to Take

1. Obtain your learner’s permit

   a. If you are 18 years of age or older, you must hold your permit for at least 90 days before applying for a driver’s license

   b. If you are younger than 18 years of age, you must hold your permit for at least 120 or 180 days, depending on your situation.

2. Schedule your road skills test at a DMV Hub Office or commercial driving school

   a. Schedule your DMV road test online or call one the following telephone numbers:

      i. 860-263-5700 if you reside in Hartford or outside of the state

      ii. 800-842-8222 if you reside in any other part of Connecticut
b. Contact your driving school directly to learn how to schedule your road test

3. On the day of the road exam, arrive at your testing location 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment time to present the following:

   a. An Application for a Non-Commercial Learner Permit and/or Driver License

   b. A road test appointment confirmation page

   c. Your CS-1 form

   d. Identification documents

   e. Your learner’s permit or out-of-state license

   f. Your vehicle insurance and registration cards

   g. Payment for the licensing fee

4. Undergo a vision screening
5. Take your road exam
   a. If you fail your exam, you must wait at least 14 days before you can retake the skills test
   b. The fee to retake a driving test is $40

6. After passing your test, wait to receive your driver’s license in the mail
   a. If you pass your road test at a commercial driving school, you must wait 48 hours before you may visit a local DMV Hub Office to submit your Road Test Evaluation Report
Note:
If you are younger than 18 years of age, a qualified trainer (such as a parent or legal guardian) must accompany you to your road test appointment and sign a form as proof of your eligibility for a license.
Interim or Temporary Licenses

After applying for your driver’s license, you will receive a temporary paper credential (TPC) to use until your permanent license arrives in the mail. While your permanent credential typically arrives within 20 calendar days, you may track the delivery of your license online here.
Driving Permits

Regardless of age, all new drivers in Connecticut need a learner’s permit before they may apply for a regular driver’s license. If you are younger than 18 years of age when you obtain your learner’s permit, however, you must complete additional steps before you may take your road test and apply for your regular driver’s license.

Steps to Take

1. Pass a vision screening and knowledge test to obtain your learner’s permit.

2. Obtain a combined 40 hours of classroom instruction/safe driver training, parent training and behind-the-wheel driving practice.

   a. Those who are older than 18 years of age only need to complete the eight-hour Safe Driving Practices course.
3. Hold your learner’s permit for at least 120 days if you enrolled in a commercial driving school or 180 days if you received home training.

4. Schedule your road test at a DMV Hub Office or commercial driving school.

5. Submit your application materials and eligibility documents on the day of your test.

6. Complete your road test.

7. Wait to receive your license in the mail.
Note:
After applying for a driver’s license in Connecticut, your credential will comply with the requirements under the REAL ID Act. As proof of its federal compliance, your driver’s license will display a star in the top right corner.
VIP Concierge Services

Still have questions? We’re here to help.

Call us at 1-866-529-6007

From 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST.