

TENNESSEE

Comprehensive Driver License Manual

tn.gov/safety



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The information in this manual is not copyrighted and may be reproduced or translated by the user as needed.

Every effort has been made to provide, in this publication, the most current and accurate information as of July 1, 2022.

Misprints or outdated information that may appear within these pages will not override or supersede changes that have occurred in the law, promulgated rules and regulations or policy that has been initiated since the printing date.

Where You Can Obtain a Copy of this Publication

This publication is available at every Driver Service Center location across the state.

This publication is also available online at the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security website: tn.gov/safety

Written comments/concerns about this publication should be sent to:

Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security
Driver Services Division
PO Box 945
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Service Locations to Obtain or Renew Your License:

The Department of Safety and Homeland Security has Driver Service Centers located throughout the state. Our centers are normally open 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and closed on official state holidays. Our centers will typically have an increased volume after being closed for a holiday so please plan your visit accordingly.

To find the nearest location that best fit your needs, go to our website at tn.gov/safety or by calling toll-free 1-866-849-3548.

TDD assistance for the hearing impaired can be provided by dialing 615-532-2281 (Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired).



The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security (TDOSHS) is now issuing more secure driver licenses and identification cards. These new licenses will be produced using an improved production and issuing process resulting in a more temper-proof construction. This will make it much more difficult to alter or counterfeit, protecting private information even more effectively. This process will also help protect you by combating identity theft by allowing TDOSHS to verify photographs stored in the system with customers presenting themselves for new documents.

Interim Documents

A new security practice has been implemented with the issuance of an interim license or ID for customers who are getting a driver license for the first time or renewing their license. This interim license is valid for up to 20 days, and the permanent license or ID will be mailed to the customer's address. All interim licenses are printed on special security paper and include a photo and signature for identification purposes. The information on the front of the card can be validated by reading the 2D barcode. Many other security features have been incorporated to protect you in preventing driver license fraud and identity theft.



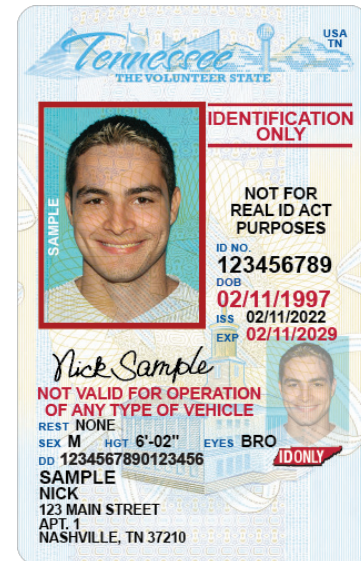
REAL ID

The Real ID Act of 2005 establishes minimum security standards for license issuance and production. It prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for certain purposes driver licenses and identification cards from states not meeting Act's minimum standards. Beginning **May 7, 2025**, all persons must have a REAL ID license or a valid non-expired US Passport, or other forms of TSA acceptable identification to board a commercial airline flight within the United States, entry on to certain Federal properties such as military bases and federal buildings, as well as nuclear facilities. Please visit our website at **TN.gov/safety** for the latest information on REAL ID.

Tennesseans are not required to obtain a REAL ID compliant license or ID. The decision to obtain a REAL ID credential is completely up to you. A REAL ID driver license or identification license is not for any other reason than to allow you to board a domestic commercial aircraft within the US and access certain federal facilities including Military bases and nuclear facilities. The currently scheduled effective date is May 7, 2025.



REAL ID COMPLIANT CREDENTIAL EXAMPLE



NON-COMPLIANT ID EXAMPLE

For the latest information on REAL ID, please visit the Department of Safety website at:
<https://www.tn.gov/tnrealid/>

Additional information from the Transportation Security Administration's website can be found at:
<https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification> for additional acceptable forms of identification.

REAL ID

You DO NOT need a REAL ID compliant credential to:

- Drive a Motor Vehicle
- Vote
- Access federal court buildings
- Visit the post office
- Apply for or receive federal benefits such as Social Security or Veterans' benefits
- Purchase alcohol or cigarettes
- Access hospitals

There is no difference in cost to obtain a REAL ID compliant credential and a non-compliant REAL ID Tennessee license or ID. If it is time to renew your license, the cost to obtain a REAL ID driver license or identification credential will be the standard renewal fee of an 8 year credential. If you are not renewing your license and wish to obtain a REAL ID credential will be the cost of a duplicate license.

Persons under 18 years of age are eligible to obtain a REAL ID compliant license or ID credential. If you are under 18, and have a current driver license or ID credential, you have the same choice as existing license holders and can obtain a REAL ID compliant credential by following the same process as adult credential holders.

Any REAL ID compliant credential issued from another state can be transferred into the state of Tennessee, however you must present and meet all the documentation requirements to obtain a Tennessee REAL ID credential.

You can schedule an appointment to obtain a REAL ID credential at any Driver Service Center. Scheduling an appointment will allow you to be served on a specific day and time. To make an appointment use the QR code below or visit our website at: <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/safety/driver-services/online.html#Appointments>



DISTRACTED DRIVING

Every employee of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security is committed to your safety to ensure you get from point A to point B safely anytime you are driving a motor vehicle or using other forms of travel. With the information located throughout this manual, we want to make every effort possible, we reduce your chance of being involved in a crash in Tennessee as well as becoming a fatality.

For just a minute, can you ask yourself as a driver of a motor vehicle, what do you consider as distracted driving? Anything that takes your hands off the wheel, your eyes off the road and your visual, mental, and physical focus away from your driving is distracted driving. Distracted driving comes in many different forms. It could be cognitive, it could be visual, or it could be manual. It can be a combination of all three forms of distraction, but anything that a person does that takes their mind off of what they need to be doing while operating a motor vehicle is distracted driving. It is any activity that diverts attention from driving, including talking or texting on your phone, eating and drinking, talking to people in your vehicle, putting on make-up, shaving, finding your favorite radio station, as well as make adjustments to your stereo, entertainment or navigation system — anything that takes your attention away from the task of safe driving.

The most common form of distracted driving is cell phone usage and it can be extremely dangerous. It has caused death and destruction across our nation with the severe consequences of fatalities and serious bodily injuries in Tennessee. Texting is the most alarming distraction. Sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for a minimum of 5 seconds. Driving at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of an entire football field with your eyes closed.

Distracted driving is a serious problem in Tennessee. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 3,142 people were killed by distracted driving in 2019. One out of every four car crashes in the United States is caused by texting and driving. Cell phone use while driving leads to 1.6 million crashes every year. According to Tennessee's integrated traffic analysis network "also known as Titan," a crash involving a distracted driver in Tennessee occurs every 26 minutes and 13 seconds. As a result of poor driving habits, there are approximately 191,065 crashes reported annually to the Department of Safety

It's quite simple, just put your phone down and pay attention to your driving when you get behind the wheel of your vehicle. Having access to the World Wide Web on our mobile devices is great too, however it's not meant to be used while operating a motor vehicle. Taking your hands off the wheel to look at that text you received or replying by sending a text, or just using your phone to call back, is distracted driving as it only takes a few seconds of distraction to result in a crash.

Tennessee implemented a hands-free law in 2019. According to Public Chapter No. 412, it is illegal for a driver to:

- (a) hold a cellphone or mobile device with any part of their body,
- (b) write, send, or read any text-based communication,
- (c) reach for a cellphone or mobile device in a manner that requires the driver to no longer be in a seated driving position or properly restrained by a seat belt,
- (d) watch a video or movie on a cellphone or mobile device, and
- (e) record or broadcast video on a cellphone or mobile device.

Technology is being adding to our vehicles with each new model. However, in some instances it can potentially contribute to distracted driving if not used properly. GPS is great in place of a paper map however if you are trying to use it while operating a motor vehicle, you are still taking your eyes off the road. You are not allowed to touch your phone in order to use GPS. If you need to access GPS or to use your phone, you must find a safe place to pull over such as in a parking lot, bring your vehicle to a full stop and operate your phone or GPS technology.

We encourage you to plan your travel and travel your plan. You need to set your navigation before you begin your drive. If you have to change or make trip adjustments, please pull your vehicle safely off the roadway. Please don't try to do handle your GPS while you're driving as this is a very easy and deadly way to be distracted.

Attempting to video record from your phone or other devices while driving, is also very dangerous to do, as often seen and evidenced by persons posting on social media. It's very dangerous and it is a violation of law to video while you're driving. Please commit to yourself and your loved ones to not use your phone while driving and that you will keep your eyes on the road and hands on the steering wheel.

One of the hardest jobs for any law enforcement officer is having to notify a family that a loved one has been killed in an auto crash. If you will commit to these simple practices to prevent distracted driving, you can save a life and that life you save, may be your own. Help us help you arrive alive!

INTRODUCTION

This Tennessee Comprehensive manual has been divided into three (3) separate sections. The purpose of this manual is to provide a general understanding of the safe and lawful operation of a motor vehicle. Mastering these skills can only be achieved with practice and being mindful of Tennessee laws and safe driving practices.

Section A.

This section is designed for all current and potential drivers in Tennessee. It provides information that all drivers will find useful. Section A consists of pages 1 through 24. This section will help new and experienced drivers alike get ready for initial, renewal, and other license applications by explaining:

- the different types of licenses available
- the documentation and other requirements for license applications
- details on Intermediate Driver Licenses and how this graduated driver license works for driver license applicants under age 18
- basic descriptions of the tests required to obtain a Driver License

Section B.

This section is designed to help new drivers study and prepare for the required knowledge and skills for an operator license. It includes helpful practice test questions at the end of each chapter. Section B consists of pages 25 through 90.

This section of the manual provides information related to:

- Examination requirements for the vision, knowledge and road tests
- Traffic signs, signals, and lane markings
- Basic Rules of the Road
- Being a responsible driver and knowing the dangers and penalties of Driving Under the Influence of alcohol and drugs.

Section C.

This section provides information and safety tips to improve the knowledge of all highway users to minimize the likelihood of a crash and the consequences of those that do occur. This section consists of pages 91-117. It also provides information about sharing the road with other methods of transportation, which have certain rights and privileges on the highways which drivers must be aware of and respect.

It is important to read this information and learn what you can do to stay safe, and keep your family safe, on the streets, roads and highways of our great state.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section A. Chapter 1 Your License

Determining Which Class of License You Need?	1
Who Needs a Tennessee Driver License?	2
Class D	2
Class D With F (For-Hire Endorsement)	2
Class M (Motorcycle)	2
Commercial Driver Licenses – Class A, B, or C	3
Learner Permit (Class PD)	3
Class H (Hardship)	3
Identification Licenses (“ID Only”)	3
Penalties for Driving Without a License	4
Who Is Not Required to Have a License?	4
Who Is Not Eligible?	4
Temporary Driver License (TDL)	4
Other Driver Related Topics	5
Organ and Tissue Donation-Donate Life Tennessee	5
Veteran Designation on Your License	6
Voter Registration – Motor Voter	6
International Driving Permit (IDP)	6
Registered Sexual Offender	6

Section A. Chapter 2 Applying For Your License

Documents and Forms Checklist	7
What Do You Need to Bring?	8
Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Permanent Residency	8
Proof of Identity	9
Proof of Any Name Change	10
Proof of Tennessee Residency	10
Accepted Methods of Payment	11
Social Security Numbers	11
If You Have Never Been Issued a Social Security Number	11
License Fees At a Glance	11
Temporary Driver License (TDL) Fees At A Glance	11
Other Applicants	11
New Residents	11
Military Personnel	12
Frequently Asked Questions	12
License Fees Table	12
Changing Your Address on your Driver Record and License	13

Section A. Chapter 3 Intermediate Licenses For Drivers Under 18 – Graduated License Procedures

Learner Permit	14
Intermediate License	14
First Level – Intermediate Restricted License	14
Second Level – Intermediate Unrestricted License	14
Final Level – Regular Driver License	14
New Residents Under 18	14
Restriction Cards for Learner Permit and Intermediate License Holders	16
Additional Documentation Requirements for Minors	17
Minor/Teenage Affidavits	17
Proof of School Attendance/Progress	17
Cell Phone Usage Prohibited	18
Texting While Driving Prohibited	18
Teen Driving in Work Zones	18
Teen Driver FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)	19

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section A. Chapter 4 The Examinations

General Information	21
Determining Which Tests Are Required	21
Vision Screening.....	21
Knowledge Test	21
When You Don't Pass the Knowledge Test	22
Road Test	22
Appointment Required for Road Test	22
Pre-Trip Vehicle Inspection.....	22
Causes for Immediate Failure	23
When You Don't Pass the Road Test	23
When You Pass.....	23

Section B. Chapter 1 Getting Familiar With Your Vehicle

Be Prepared for the Driving Task	27
Getting Ready to Drive.....	27
Vehicle Condition	27
Seat Adjustments	27
Mirror Adjustments.	27
Safety Belts Fastened	27
Starting the Vehicle Engine	28
Steering the Vehicle	28
Backing, Moving Forward and Stopping	29
Special Warning about Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	29
Texting While Driving Prohibited	30
Operating a Hand-Held Phone In a School Zone Prohibited	30
Video Devices in Vehicles	30
Chapter Sample Test Questions	30

Section B. Chapter 2 Tennessee Safety Belt Laws

Tennessee Safety Belt Laws	31
"It's the Law"	31
Child Safety Restraint Rules	31
Safety Belt Facts.....	31
1. Preventing ejection.....	31
2. Shifting crash forces to the strongest parts of the body's structure	31
3. Spreading crash forces over a wide area of the body.....	31
4. Keeping the body more closely in the "proper driving posture"	32
5. Protecting the head and spinal cord	32
Common Fears and Misconceptions about Safety Belts	32
Tennessee's Child Passenger Protection Laws	32
Set a Good Example – Always Buckle Up	32
Tips for Using Safety Belts with Children.....	32
"Belts to Bones"	33
Air Bag Safety.....	33
Air Bags and Children	33
Air Bags and Adults	33
Air Bag Deactivation	33
Other Child Passenger Protection Laws	33
Special Warning – Do Not Leave Children Unattended in a Vehicle	33
Chapter Sample Test Questions	34

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section B. Chapter 3 Traffic Signs and Signals

Traffic Signs.....	35
Sign Shapes and Colors	35
Color Codes On Highway Traffic Signs	35
Temporary Traffic Control Zones	36
Octagon Shape – Stop	36
Triangular Shape – Yield	36
Round Shape – Railroad Ahead	36
Broad “X” Shape – Railroad Here.....	36
Diamond Shape – Hazardous Or Unusual Condition Ahead.....	36
Rectangular Shape – Special Laws, Regulations or Important Information	36
Regulatory Signs	37
Warning Signs – Diamond Shape (Yellow).....	38
Work Area Signs	39
Construction Signs	39
Channeling Devices	39
Highway Flaggers	39
Slow-Moving Vehicle (SMV) Emblem.....	40
Object Marker	40
Guide Signs for Highways.....	40
Interstate Route Marker	40
Guide Signs on Interstates	40
Service Signs	40
Handicap Symbol	40
Directional Signs	41
Emergency Reference Markers	41
Traffic Signals.....	41
Red	41
Yellow	41
Green.....	41
Protected Arrows.....	41
Permissive Arrows	41
Malfunctioning Traffic Light	41
Pedestrian Signals.....	42
“Walk”.....	42
“Don’t Walk”	42
Lane Control Signals.....	42
General Principles of Pavement Lane Markings	42
Uniform Highway Markings.....	42
Edge and Lane Lines.....	42
Crosswalks	43
Stop Lines	43
High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes.....	43
Turn Lane Arrow	43
White Crossbuck with RR	43
Chapter Sample Test Questions	44

Section B. Chapter 4 Rules of the Road

Some Basic Rules	45
Use of Headlights	45
Emergency Flashers.....	46
Littering	46
Slow-Moving Vehicles	46
Funeral Procession.....	46

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Basic Speed Rule	46
Tennessee Speed Laws	47
Interstate Speed Limits	47
Rural Interstate Limits	47
Urban Interstate Limits	47
Work Zone Crashes	47
Braking, Following and Stopping Distances	47
The Two Second Rule	48
Stops Required by Law	49
Stopping for Railroad Crossings	50
The School Bus Stop Law	51
Stopping for Police Vehicles	52
Intersections	52
Approaching Intersections Safely	52
The Right-Of-Way Procedures	53
Turning	55
Signaling a Turn	55
Making Turns	56
Left Turns	56
Right Turns	58
Special Turns: Roundabouts and U-Turns	58
Traffic Lanes and Lane Usage	59
Passing Other Vehicles	61
Passing Bicycles	63
Backing and Parking	64
Backing	64
Parking	65
Chapter Sample Test Questions	67

Section B. Chapter 5 Interstate Driving

Interstate Highway Driving is Different	68
Entering the Interstate	68
Driving on the Interstate	68
Leaving/Exiting the Interstate	69
Interchanges	70
Special Interstate Driving Instructions	70
Dealing with Traffic Congestion	72
Move Over Law	72
Vehicle Breakdowns, Crashes and Emergency Stopping	72
Chapter Sample Test Questions	73

Section B. Chapter 6 Driving at Night and in Inclement Weather Conditions

Driving At Night	74
Driving in Inclement Weather Conditions	75
High Water and Flooding Dangers	76
Driving in Winter Weather Conditions	77

Section B. Chapter 7 Alcohol, Other Drugs and Driving

Impaired Driving	79
Alcohol and You	79
An Overview of the Effects of Alcohol	79
How Does Alcohol Affect the Body?	79
What is Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)?	79

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Relationship of Alcohol to Traffic Crashes	79
Alcohol's Effects on Driving Ability	80
Judgment	80
Vision	80
Reaction Time and Coordination	80
Alertness and Concentration	81
"Every Day" Drugs.....	81
Driving Under the Influence of Drugs or Alcohol.....	81
Implied Consent Law	81
Consequences of a DUI Arrest	81
Penalties Applying to any DUI Conviction	81
Young Driver Risks and Laws	82
Prevention of Drinking and Driving	83
Chapter Sample Test Questions	84

Section B. Chapter 8 Driving Responsibility

Problem Driver Pointer System	85
Losing Your Privilege to Drive.....	85
Hearings.....	85
Non-Resident Violator Compact	86
Reinstatements.....	86
Driver Improvement Program	86
Frequent Traffic Violations	86
Restricted Driver License	86
Points for Moving Traffic Violations and Crashes Table.....	87
1. DUI	88
2. Driver Improvement.....	88
3. Implied Consent	88
4. Juvenile	88
5. Failure to Satisfy a Citation	88
Physical Or Mental Disabilities	88
Re-Examination of Drivers.....	88
Financial Responsibility	88
Reporting Crashes	89
Traffic Crashes.....	89
If You Are Involved in a Crash – STOP!	89
If You Arrive First At a Crash Scene.....	89
Chapter Sample Test Questions	90
Study Questions Answer Key	90

Section C. Chapter 1 Defensive Driving and Road Rage

Safety Tips for Safe Driving and Sharing the Road	93
Concentration and Alertness are Important Elements	93
Drive Cautiously.....	93
Scanning the Road and Traffic for Defensive Reactions	93
Sharing a Safe Driving Space	94
Road Rage	95

Section C. Chapter 2 Special Driving Conditions and Your Vehicle

Avoiding Collisions	96
Collisions with Animals	97
The Driver, the Vehicle, and Road Important Facts	98

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Maintenance Needs for a Safe Vehicle	99
Vehicle Tires	100
Vehicle Steering	100
Understanding Road and Traffic Conditions	101

Section C. Chapter 3 Sharing the Road Safely

Sharing the Road with Pedestrians	103
Your Role as a Pedestrian	103
Safety Tips for Pedestrians	104
Sharing the Road with Bicycles	105
Sharing the Road with Motorcycles	106
Driver Tips for Sharing the Road with Motorcycles	107
Safety Tips for Motorcycles	107
Safety Tips for Car Drivers.....	108
Sharing the Road with Large Trucks and Buses.....	108
Risky Situations with Large Vehicles	109
Learn the “NO-ZONES” for large vehicles.....	110
Sharing the Road with School Buses.....	111
Sharing the Road with Slow Moving vehicles and Equipment	111
Sharing the Road with Highway Work Zones	112
Sharing the Road with Trains	113
If your Vehicle Stalls on the Train Tracks	114
Emergency Notification System for Vehicle Stuck on Train Tracks	114
Safety Tips for 15-Passenger Vans	114
Safety Tips for Recreational Vehicles (RVs)	115

Section C. Chapter 4 Helping Teens and New Drivers Learn to Drive

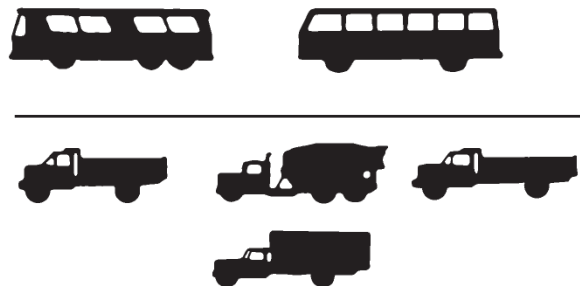
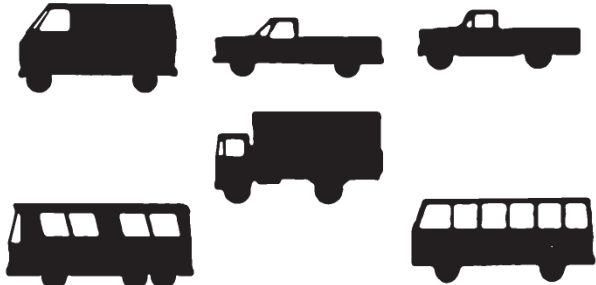
A SAFE Attitude for Driving and Learning	116
Planning Safe and Informative Practice Sessions	116
Reference Tools to Consider.....	117
Driving Contracts	117
Helping Non-English Speaking Beginners.....	118
A Special Final Word to Parents	118

Graduated Driver License Driving Experience Log	119
--	------------



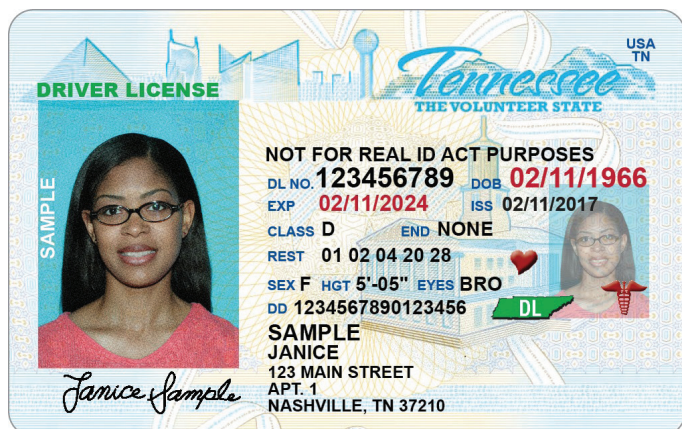
SECTION A

Determining Which Class Of License You Need

CLASS OF LICENSE	If you want to get a license to drive this type of vehicle or a similar tank vehicle	Special endorsement may also be needed
A - Combination vehicles - GCWR over 26,000 lbs. - Towed vehicle(s) over 10,000 lbs. - Used for commercial purposes		ENDORSEMENTS N Tanks 1,000 gallons or greater H Hazardous materials (Haz Mat) X Tanks and Haz Mat T Double/triple trailers P Designed to seat 16 or more passengers including Driver S School bus GCWR Gross Combination Weight Rating GVWR Gross Vehicle Weight Rating
B - Trucks or buses over 26,000 lbs. GVWR used for commercial purposes - Any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 lbs. GVWR used for commercial purposes		
C - Vehicles weighing 26,000 lbs. GVWR or less, used for commercial purposes: - Placarded for hazardous materials - Designed to seat 16 or more passengers including Driver - OR - Used as a school bus		
D Generally, all passenger vehicles, not used for commercial purposes, excluding vehicle in Classes A, B, C, or M		F For Hire When a Class D vehicle is operated by a person employed for the principal purpose of driving, and used as a public or common carrier of persons or property
H Hardship license for drivers between the ages of 14 & 16 in special hardship cases		SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY
M Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles		SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY
P Issued as an instructional permit for a Class A, B, C, D, and M license	SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS APPLY DEPENDING UPON THE PARTICULAR CLASS	

Section A-1 YOUR LICENSE

Who Needs a Tennessee Driver License?



If you live in Tennessee and want to drive a motor vehicle, you must have a valid Tennessee driver license or Temporary Driver License (TDL).

A person who moves to Tennessee and has a valid driver license from another state or country must apply for a Tennessee driver license (or TDL) if they:

- live in Tennessee longer than 30 days OR
- are working in Tennessee OR
- would otherwise qualify as a registered Tennessee voter.

WHAT CLASS OF LICENSE DO YOU NEED?

In Tennessee, driver licenses and Temporary Driver Licenses are issued specifically for the class and type of vehicle you operate. The class of license you need depends on the type of vehicle you operate and why you use your vehicle.

The chart on page A1 and the discussion below should help determine which class of driver license is needed, as well as whether or not any special endorsements are needed.

Class D License

Driver license applicants who will be operators of regular passenger vehicles, pick-up trucks, or vans need a Class D license. This handbook provides the information you need to get a Class D license.

- A Class D license is required to operate any vehicle, up to a maximum weight of 26,000 pounds. Vehicles that are under 26,000 pounds cannot be operated with a Class D license if the vehicle is (a) transporting hazardous materials, (b) transporting sixteen (16 or more passengers (including the driver), or (c) used as a school bus. (If the vehicle is used for any of these purposes, a Class C license is required.)

To qualify for a Class D license, you must be at least 16 years of age, and must pass a vision screening, knowledge test, and driving test. If you are under age 18, you must also

meet special qualifications for the Intermediate Class D license. (Graduated Driver License Program - See Chapter A3.)

Class D with F (For-Hire Endorsement)

If a person's main job is to drive or transport persons, or transport property in a Class D vehicle, a For Hire endorsement must be added to the Class D license.

The Class D license with a For-Hire endorsement serves as a bridge between the regular driver license required for private transportation and the commercial driver license required for tractor-trailers, large trucks, buses and the like. Examples of persons whose job requires them to have the For-Hire endorsement include:

- **Persons** Taxi, shuttle service drivers, ambulance drivers, etc.
- **Property** Couriers, delivery services (flowers, pizza, etc.)

The chart on page 1 and the discussion below should help determine which class of driver license is needed, as well as whether or not any special endorsements are needed.

Persons hired for some purpose other than driving but drive in the course of doing their job, generally do not need this endorsement. Examples of persons that normally do not need a for-hire endorsement are plumbers, meter readers, and engineers. While they are driving in the course of their business, their main job is not to drive or transport people or property.

NOTE: Although you may not be required by law to have the For-Hire endorsement, your employer may require you to obtain this endorsement for insurance or safety requirements.

To add the For-Hire endorsement, drivers must meet the eligibility requirements, pass the appropriate tests, and pay a fee of \$4.50. Applicants are eligible to apply for this endorsement if:

- They are at least 18 years of age, or 16 years of age if the vehicle the applicant is hired to drive is owned by the applicant's family business to conduct deliveries of goods and products exclusively for the family business.
- They will be operating a Class D vehicle.
- They have 2 years of unrestricted driving experience.

For-Hire endorsement applicants must pass a vision screening, and a knowledge test designed specifically for the For-Hire Endorsement. The knowledge test uses information from Section B of this manual.

CLASS M (MOTORCYCLE)

The operator of a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or motorized bicycle/scooter will need to apply for a Class M license. These two and three-wheeled vehicles are categorized by cylinder capacity and other design features. Generally, if the vehicle is

over 125 cubic centimeters, a Class M license is needed; if the vehicle is under 125 cubic centimeters, a Class M limited license is needed.

Class M licenses may be issued as a single license, or along with another primary class. For example, if a driver wishes to be able to operate both a motorcycle and a Class D vehicle, Class DM license is required.

Applicants wishing to apply for a Class M license should obtain and read the **Motorcycle Operator Manual** in addition to this manual. The Commercial Driver License manual is online at: tn.gov/safety.

“Off-road” motor vehicles cannot be used for the road test. In fact, “off-road” motor vehicles or All-terrain Vehicles (ATVs) may not be driven on any Tennessee/Federal highways/interstate roads. Legally this type of vehicle can only cross roadways by taking ninety-degree (90 degree) angles and must not directly cross any road/highway/interstate.

Class A, B, or C - Commercial Driver Licenses -

Operators of larger and more complex vehicles weighing 26,001 or more pounds will need to apply for a Commercial Driver License (CDL). These licenses include Class A, B, and C depending upon the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), Gross Combination Weight Rating (GCWR), and what is being transported.

Drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMV) require a CDL. A CMV is a vehicle or combination of vehicles weighing 26,001 pounds. Smaller vehicles require a CDL if they are used to transport hazardous materials; to transport sixteen (16) or more passengers including the driver, or used as a school bus.

Drivers who need a CDL should obtain the Commercial Driver License Manual which contains detailed information necessary to prepare for the tests. These manuals are available at all Driver Service Centers or online at: tn.gov/safety

NOTE: If a person holds a valid commercial driver license (Class A, B, or C license), this license is also valid for operating a Class D vehicle. No separate Class D license is required. A Class M license would be needed, if a commercial driver also wanted to operate a motorcycle. (Example: Class AM for class A vehicles and Class M for motorcycle vehicles)

Class PD - Learner Permit

Instructional permits are issued with another class of license, indicating the class of vehicle which the operator is legally entitled to drive. For example, the Class PD license allows drivers to learn how to drive Class D vehicles.

To obtain a Class PD license, you must have reached the age of 15 and pass the written knowledge test and vision screening for a class D license. A driver with a Class PD license may operate an automobile only when accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old and is sitting in the seat beside the driver.

To exchange your Class PD license for a class D license, you are required to take a road skills driving test. If you are younger than 18 years old, you must have held a valid Class PD for 180 days and abide by all the requirements of the Graduated Driver License law as outlined in Section A-3, of this manual.

When Class PD drivers apply for an Intermediate Class D license, they do not need to repeat the knowledge test unless the license permit expired more than 12 months prior to the driving skills test.

Class H-Hardship

A hardship license (Class H) may be issued to a minor who is 14 years old to operate either a Class D passenger vehicle or Class M motorcycle or both. This license is only issued in cases of family hardship and are limited to specific needs.

Proof of hardship must be mailed with a Hardship License application to the Driver Services Administrative Office for evaluation. Each application is reviewed and evaluated on an individual basis. Less than one percent of all licenses issued to minors are hardship licenses. If approved, the applicant will receive a letter authorizing application for a hardship license.

Applicants who are approved to apply for a Class H hardship license must pass a vision screening, knowledge test, and road test to operate a Class D passenger vehicle. However, to drive a Class M vehicle, the applicant will also be required to take the Class M knowledge and driving test in addition to the Class D knowledge test. Upon being licensed, operation of the Class M vehicle is limited to 125 cc.

The Class H license is valid only for daylight hours and for travel to authorized locations as specified in the approval letter.

Drivers with a hardship license who are at least 15 years of age are extended the same privileges as those holding a Class PD license, when they are accompanied by any of the responsible adults listed for the Class PD.

Regardless of age at time of approval, a Hardship License will expire when the applicant reaches the age of 16.

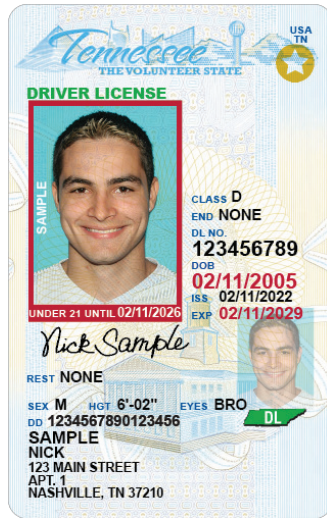
NOTE: If you are approved for a hardship license and it is less than 6 months until your 16th birthday, you will be required to renew a Class PD upon expiration of your hardship license. You will need to hold the learner permit until you have attained a total of 180 days driving experience between the two license types and meet the Graduated Driver License Requirements as outlined in Section A-3 of this manual.

Identification Licenses (“ID Only”)

There are two types of licenses for identification purposes available to United States Citizens and persons with lawful permanent resident status. No testing is done, but the applicant must meet the same standards for proof of identity and residency as for any driver license. The sole purpose of the ID is for identification and is not valid to operate any vehicle or

motorcycle. If an applicant is under the age of 18 years of age a responsible adult must complete a portion of the Minor/Teen-age Affidavit form (available at any driver license service center) at the time of application.

As a service to Tennessee residents, families with children, including infants, may obtain these identification-only licenses for their children. Children must meet all documentation requirements.



1. The first type of identification is an **“Expiring Identification License”** that may be issued to any person not currently holding a valid driver license. The person must present proof of identification and all other requirements detailed in the next chapter. NOTE: At age 65 or older, this ID does not expire.

- Any applicant who does not have a social security number shall complete an affidavit, under penalty of perjury, affirming that the applicant has never been issued a SSN, and must provide a certified copy of one of the following:
 - Certified Birth Certificate issued by Tennessee or another state, possession, territory or commonwealth of the USA – or Valid United States Passport
 - Documentation proving lawful permanent resident status issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services acceptable to the Department of Safety.

2. The second type is a “permanent identification license” that any person who is mentally challenged or physically disabled may obtain. In addition to presenting proof of identification, the applicant must submit a certified statement from a licensed medical doctor stating that the applicant is unable to operate a vehicle. Those who qualify for this ID may receive it free of charge. ID licenses issued in this manner do not expire.

Driving while revoked, canceled, or suspended is a class B misdemeanor. The penalty is a fine up to one-thousand dollars (\$1,000) and/or six months in jail.

PENALTIES FOR DRIVING WITHOUT A LICENSE

While driving in Tennessee you must have your driver license or Temporary Driver License in your possession to show on request to any law enforcement officer. It is a Class D misdemeanor. If you do not have your license with you, you may be fined not less than two dollars (\$2.00) and no more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

WHO IS NOT REQUIRED TO HAVE A TENNESSEE DRIVER LICENSE?

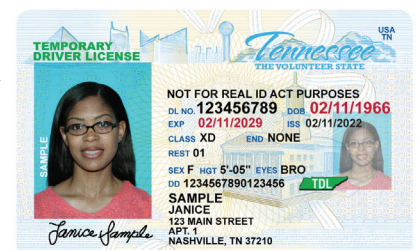
- Any member of the armed forces while operating a motor vehicle owned or leased by any branch of the Armed Services of the United States, including the National Guard.
- Operators of any road machinery, farm tractor, or other farm equipment which is temporarily operated or moved on a highway.
- Non-Tennessee residents who have in their immediate possession a valid driver license issued by their home state or country, equivalent to the appropriate class or type of Tennessee license.
- Non-U.S. citizens and who, in connection with their employment in managerial or technical positions in Tennessee, may operate vehicles with a valid driver license issued by another state, country, or international body for a period of 6 months. These individuals must apply for a Tennessee license at the end of 6 months.
- Students enrolled in a Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security approved driver training course in a public or private secondary school, or in a licensed commercial driver training school for passenger vehicles, when accompanied by a certified instructor.

WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE?

- Anyone whose license is currently suspended or revoked in this, or any other state.
- Anyone the Commissioner (or the Commissioner’s designee) has determined would not be able to operate a motor vehicle safely because of mental or physical disabilities.
- Anyone required to show proof of car insurance/financial responsibility who has not done so.
- Anyone under the age of 18, who has dropped out of school before graduating, or who does not make “satisfactory progress” in school.
- Anyone who cannot provide the required proof of U.S. Citizenship, Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR) or Temporary Legal Presence, will not qualify for a driver license or identification license (ID Only).

TEMPORARY DRIVER LICENSE (TDL) OR TEMPORARY IDENTIFICATION LICENSE (TID)

Temporary Driver Licenses (TDL) are issued to Tennessee residents who are not U.S. Citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents but have temporary legal presence status and authorized stay in the United States. Their presence in the U.S. has



been authorized by the federal government for a specific purpose and for a specific time period. All other applicants for Tennessee Driver Licenses or Identification Only Licenses must provide proof of U.S. Citizenship (USC) or Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR). Proof of temporary legal presence is generally made with one or more of the following documents: (a) Conditional Resident Alien Card (I-551), (b) Temporary Resident Identification Card (I-688), (c) Employment Authorization Card (I-766), or (d) Valid Foreign Passport with a valid Visa and I-94 attached. Valid Foreign Passport with an I-94W. (Holders of F1 or F2 status should also present a valid SEVIS I-20. Holders of J1 or J2 status should also present a valid DS-2019)

This license type is issued as proof that the holder has successfully passed Tennessee's driver license examinations/requirements for the operation of Class D and/or Class M vehicles. The Temporary Driver License (TDL) also serves as a valid identification document.

Other TDL features include:

- TDL class types will be preceded by the letter "X" (XD, XM, XPD)
- TDL may be issued as a Learner Permit (XPD, XMPD) or as a combo type (XDM, XMPD)
- The expiration date of the TDL will be tied to the corresponding dates of the legal presence documentation.

A Temporary Identification License (TID) is also now available for those non-driving applicants who are not U.S. Citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents but have proof of temporary legal presence status and authorized stay in the United States. The Temporary Identification card will be shown as Class XID.

- The expiration date of the TID will be tied to the corresponding dates of the legal presence documentation.
- Maximum length of time a TID can be issued is 5 years

Applicants for either the Temporary Driver License or Temporary Identification card must meet all other identification and residency requirements as mandated in Handbook Chapter A2 of this manual.

OTHER DRIVER RELATED TOPICS

Organ & Tissue Donation-

Donate Life Tennessee

Sign Up to be an organ and tissue donor by circling "YES" on your license or state ID application or renewal.

With this simple step, your name will be added to the Donate Life Tennessee organ and tissue donor registry and serve as legal consent to donate your organs and tissues. Minors who are between the ages of 13 and 17 years old, and who have driver's license, permit or state ID can choose to register as a donor, according to the Tennessee Uniform Anatomical Gifts Act. A red heart will be printed on



Procurement Organizations in Tennessee

Middle and East Tennessee

Tennessee Donor Services
888-234-4440
www.tennesseedonor.org

East Tennessee Lions Eye Bank Bank
Knoxville...865-305-9625

Memphis Area

Mid-South Transplant Foundation, Inc.
901-328-4438 or 877-228-5433
www.midsouthtransplant.org

Mid-South Eye Bank
901-446-0927

your license or ID, to reflect your decision. Please share this decision with your family and loved ones.

Be the Gift! One organ donor can save as many as 8 lives and one tissue donor can improve the lives of 75 or more individuals.

Currently, there are more than 100,000 individuals waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant, including an average of 3,000 Tennesseans. Each year, organ transplants save the lives approximately 40,000 Americans, who move from the waiting list to their second chance at life. More than 2.5 million tissue transplants heal men, women, and children in the United States every year.

An average of 20 die each day waiting for an organ transplant, while every 10 minutes a name is added to the national organ transplant waiting list.

Lifesaving, transplantable organs include the heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, pancreas, and small intestine. Healing tissue grafts are made from skin, bones, ligaments, vertebral bodies, heart valves, pericardium, veins, blood vessels, nerves, and eyes/corneas.

Registered donors can specify, update or remove their registration on the DonateLifeTN.org website.

To remove the heart from your license or ID, you must visit a Tennessee Department of Safety Driver Service Center and complete an application to obtain a duplicate license.

For more information, call (877) 552-5050 or visit: DonateLifeTN.org

Veterans

If you are an Honorably Discharged Veteran you may now have “Veteran” displayed on your license. At the time of application you will need to certify on the driver license application that you are an honorably discharged veteran and want it displayed on your license. You must present a certified copy of your Department of Defense Form DD-214, the NAVPERS-660 honorable discharge certificate or your Department of Defense form DD Form 2 (Retired) identification card.

Voter Registration – Motor Voter

To make it easy for citizens to register to vote, you may apply to register to vote or update your voter record, when you apply for a driver license or ID. The Department does not process your voter registration application. The application is forwarded to your local election commission.

- **REMEMBER:** Only the Election Registrar can process and issue a voter registration card. The Driver Service Center sends your application to the appropriate County Election Commission to save you an additional trip. If you have not received your Voter Registration Card within 30 days of applying at the Driver License Service Center, you should contact your local County Election Commission immediately.

International Driving Permit (IDP)

Possession of an International Driving Permit does not mean that the holder is valid to operate an automobile in Tennessee or any other state. Do NOT be fooled by Internet sites that claim that you can drive on such a permit if your license is suspended or revoked in any state. The facts about International Driving Permits (IDP) are as follows:

- An International Driving Permit is an official translation of a driver’s home state or country driver license into the official languages of the United Nations, including English. This translated document is to be used in conjunction with the valid driver license issued by the driver’s home state or country.
- U.S. Citizens traveling abroad and/or foreign visitors to the United States are NOT required to have an International Driving Permit. However it can be useful in emergencies such as traffic violations or auto accidents when a foreign language is involved.
- The International Driving Permit MUST be obtained in the home country of the driver.

U.S. Citizens: In order to obtain an IDP a United States citizen must:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age
- Hold a VALID U.S. State, Territorial or U.S. Department of State Driver License, which is NOT under revocation or suspension at the time the IDP is issued.
- The IDP is valid for one (1) year only from the date of issuance and if the applicant’s state license expires and is not renewed or is suspended during that year the IDP becomes invalid.
- **The IDP is NOT valid for driving in the United States or its territories and it is NOT valid by itself for driving.**

- The IDP **MUST** be carried with the driver’s regular valid U.S. Driver License.
- **NON-U.S. Citizens:** must obtain their International Driving Permit in their native country prior to arrival in the U.S. if desired.
- An IDP can NOT be issued to a foreign visitor by any agency in the United States.
- The Tennessee Driver Service Centers do NOT issue International Driving Permits.
- Any Tennessee resident who is interested in obtaining an IDP before traveling abroad should contact a local American Automobile Association (AAA) office or visit their website at: www.aaasouth.com

Registered Sexual Offender and Violent Sexual Offender

If you are a registered sexual offender or violent sexual offender and making application for a new driver license, or renewing your current driver license, it is your responsibility to inform the Department of Safety Driver License Examiner that you are required to register as a sexual offender or violent sexual offender.

A Sex Offender Declaration and Supplemental Application must be completed along with documentation acceptable to the Department of Safety, evidencing identity, legal presence, and residency if the license requested requires such documentation. If you are ineligible to be issued a driver license, the Department of Safety will issue a photo identification license, or identification certificate. The applicant is required to pay any applicable fees related to the issuance of the driver license or photo identification card.

Sexual Offender and Violent Sexual Offenders shall always have their driver license, photo identification card or identification certificate in their possession.

Section A-2 APPLYING FOR YOUR LICENSE

DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT DOCUMENTS ?

IMPORTANT: All Documents Must be Originals or Certified. No Faxes or Photocopies.  = REQUIRED FOR TYPE OF LICENSE:	Temporary Driver	Temporary Photo-ID	Driver License	Photo ID
	TDL	TID	DL or CDL	ID
PROOF OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP OR LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT EXAMPLE: U.S. Birth Certificate, U.S. Passport, I-551 / Permanent resident card, etc.			✓	✓
PROOF OF TEMPORARY LEGAL PRESENCE EXAMPLE: Conditional Resident Alien Card (I-551), Employment Authorization Card (I-766), Valid Foreign Passport with Visa & Valid I-94, etc.	✓	✓		
PRIMARY PROOF OF IDENTITY EXAMPLE: Certified Birth Certificate, Military ID Card, Passport, Valid Driver License Or ID Card Issued By Another State, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓
SECONDARY PROOF OF IDENTITY EXAMPLE: SSN Card, Work ID, Voter Registration Card, School ID, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓
PROOF OF ANY NAME CHANGES IF DIFFERENT THAN PRIMARY ID EXAMPLE: Certified Marriage Certificate, Divorce Decree, Certified Court Order, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓
TWO PROOFS OF TENNESSEE RESIDENCY WITH YOUR NAME AND RESIDENT ADDRESS – NO P.O. BOXES (CURRENT=FROM LAST 4 MONTHS) EXAMPLE: Utility Bills, Vehicle Registration/Title, Bank Statement, LES Statement, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER* EXAMPLE: SSN Card, Paycheck stub with full SS# AND Name, IRS Forms, etc. *SSN Affidavit may be signed IF no SSN assigned by the U.S.	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>If under eighteen (18) years of age you will also need:</i>				
TEENAGE AFFIDAVIT/FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY If guardian or step-parent is not named on school attendance; proof of relationship will be required such as custody or adoption papers or marriage certificate if step-parent is signing.	✓	✓	✓	✓
PROOF OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE / PROGRESS – SIGNED AND DATED WITHIN PAST 30 DAYS – Form SF1010 completed and signed by School Principal/Guidance Teacher – OR – letterhead statement from out-of-state or private schools, clearly stating student is not truant.	✓		✓	
CERTIFICATION OF 50 HOURS BEHIND THE WHEEL DRIVING EXPERIENCE (SF-1256) – after holding learner permit for six months.	✓		✓	
<i>If applying for or currently holding a Commercial Driver License (CDL) you may also need:</i>				
VALID DOT MEDICAL CARD			✓	
PROOF OF TENNESSEE DOMICILE – STRICT LIMITS ON ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS – NO P.O. BOXES (CURRENT=FROM LAST 4 MONTHS) EXAMPLE: Utility bill, Vehicle Title/Registration, Lease/Mortgage papers, Tax return.			✓	
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: Federal regulations require CDL holders to have an SSN. The SSN Affidavit is NOT allowed when applying for a commercial license.			✓	
FORM 2-C FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS – OR – SCHOOL LETTER FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS.			✓	

Please Note

A Detailed List of Acceptable Documents is available at www.tn.gov/safety
 Practice knowledge tests are available on-line at www.tn.gov/dlpractice

The checklist and overview will provide you with a handy reference guide to the various documents and forms needed for obtaining a Tennessee issued driver license or identification document. Please be sure to review the entire chapter to become familiar with the requirements and items acceptable by the examiner. Tennessee has intensive identification requirements for all applicants including new and returning residents as well as Tennesseans needing to renew an existing license, certificate or identification.

If you have moved from out of state, your valid driver license from your former state can be used to prove your identity. The out-of-state driver license cannot be used to prove U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Permanent Resident status. Because identification and citizenship documentation requirements are very specific, it is very important that you read through these requirements carefully to avoid unnecessary trips to a Driver Service Center.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BRING?

To protect your identity and to reduce the potential for fraud, we must determine that you are “who you say you are.” This is why you must bring proof of your full legal name and date of birth. The proof must be original or certified documents.
NO PHOTOCOPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

If your current name is different from the one shown on these documents, you must provide all the necessary information to document changes in your name currently on file and the name(s) you want to have shown. Each supporting piece of information to establish the change must be original or certified legal documents. We cannot accept name changes through the mail.

Proof of U.S. Citizenship, Lawful Permanent Residency

Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Permanent Residency is required to obtain a Tennessee driver license or Identification Only License. (See Table 2.1.) Documentation that they are either a U.S. Citizen or a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) must be provided by the following:

- First-time applicants
- New and returning Tennessee residents
- Applicants reinstating a driver license after being revoked, suspended or cancelled (regardless of when the license was issued) or
- Anyone issued a Tennessee driver license or photo identification license since January 1, 2001 who is renewing for the first time.

Table: 2.1 Acceptable documents proving an applicant is a U.S. citizen or a lawful permanent resident include, but are not limited to, the following: • Certified Birth Certificate issued by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Swain’s Island, Guam); • U.S. Government-issued Certified Birth Certificate; • U.S. Certificate of Birth Abroad (DS-1350 or FS-545); • Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the U.S. (FS-240); • Valid U.S. Passport; • Certificate of Citizenship (N560 or N561); • Certificate of Naturalization (N550, N570 or N578); • U.S. Citizen Identification Card (I-197, I-179); • I-551 Permanent Resident Alien Card; • Foreign passport stamped by the U.S. Government indicating that the holder has been “Processed for I-551”; • Permanent resident Re-entry Permit (I-327); • Temporary I-551 stamp on Form I-94 Arrival/Departure Record, with photograph of the applicant; • U.S. Department of Receptions and Placement Program Assurance Form (Refugee) and I-94 stamped refugee; • Form I-94 Record of Arrival and Departure stamped Asylee; Parolee, refugee, asylum, HP (humanitarian parolee or PIP (public interest parolee).
--

If an applicant is unable to provide the required proof or only has “temporary” legal presence status he/she will NOT be eligible for a driver license or identification only license. However, the applicant may be eligible for a Temporary Driver License (TDL) or Temporary Identification License (TID) if proof of temporary legal presence status and authorized stay can be provided. One or more of the following documents may provide the necessary proof:

- Conditional Resident Alien Card (I-551)
- Temporary Resident Identification Card (I-688)
- Employment Authorization Card (I-766)
- Valid Foreign Passport with Visa and I-94 Arrival/Departure Record

The above documents usually have an expiration date(s) for legal presence status. These dates are important in issuing TDL licenses.

REMEMBER: To receive a Temporary Driver License or Temporary Identification License in addition to establishing Temporary Legal Presence status, **all** Tennessee’s driver license examinations/requirements for operation of Class XD and/or Class XM vehicle must be met.

Primary Identification Table: 2.2

Acceptable primary identification includes but is not limited to original or certified documents with full name and date of birth, such as the following items:

Document	Notes
- U.S. photo driver license or photo ID card or license from another country. Photo document must be issued by state or federal agency. - Certified Birth Certificate	May also include photo learner permits - Licenses not issued in English, must be translated and accompanied by a Certificate of Accurate Translation —or— a valid International Driving Permit. - Must be certified and have a seal and be issued by an authorized government agency such as the Bureau of Vital Statistics or State Board of Health. - HOSPITAL ISSUED CERTIFICATES AND BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES ARE-NOT ACCEPTABLE. - Foreign birth certificates, not issued in English, must be translated and accompanied by a Certificate of Accurate Translation.
Military Identification	Active Duty, Retiree or Reservist military ID card Discharge papers Military Dependent ID card
Passport (Valid)	Passports, not issued in English, must be translated and accompanied by a Certificate of Accurate Translation. Passports are not acceptable if expired.
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	<i>Certificate of Naturalization</i> N-550, N-570, N-578 <i>Certificate of Citizenship</i> N-560, N-561, N-645 Northern Mariana Card, American Indian Card U.S. Citizen Identification Card (I-179, I-197) Temporary Resident Identification Card (I-688)
	<i>Travel Documents</i> - Record of Arrival and Departure (I-94) I-551 U.S. Re-entry Permit (I-327) Employment Authorization card (I-688A, I-688-B, I-766) <i>Refugee I-94</i> Record of Arrival and Departure stamped "Refugee", not likely to be in a foreign passport Refugee Travel Document (I-571)
Marriage Certificate	Must include the applicant's full name and date of birth. The certificate must be the copy that is registered AFTER the marriage; NOT just the "license" authorizing the union.
Federal Census Record	Must include the applicant's full name and date of birth (age)
Applicant's Own Child's Birth Certificate	Must include the applicant's full name and date of birth (age)
Adoptive Decree	Must include the applicant's full name and date of birth
Legal Change of Name (Divorce, etc.)	As recorded in court decree with judge's original signature and/or official court seal
Any confirmation of date of birth in court of law	As recorded in court document(s) with judge's original signature and/or official court seal

Any other documentary evidence which confirms to the satisfaction of the Department the true identity and date of birth of the applicant.

Secondary Identification

Document	Notes
Computerized Check Stubs	Must include the applicant's full name pre-printed on the stub.
Union Membership Cards	Must include the applicant's full name
Work IDs	Preferably with photo
Financial Institution Documents	Computer printouts of bank statements, savings account statements, loan documents, etc.
Social Security Documents	SS Card (original only not metal or plastic replicas), printout, benefits statements, etc.
Health Insurance card	TennCare, Medicaid, Medicare, etc.
IRS / state tax form	W2 Forms, Property tax receipts, etc.
Military Records	Assignment orders, selective service cards, Leave & Earnings Statement, etc.

Proof of Identity

The Driver License Examiner will require proof of identity and date of birth from any person of any person applying for a driver license or photo identification license. The Driver license examiner will require the same information for an applicant applying for a temporary driver license or temporary identification license.

The Examiner will ask for two (2) items of proof as follows:

- ORIGINAL applicants must have at least one item from the Primary Identification list. The second item may be from

the Secondary Identification list or another item from the Primary Identification list. (See Table 2.2 above)

- Applicants for **DUPLICATES** or **RENEWAL** of an existing Tennessee DL/ID must provide 2 items from either list.
- NEW RESIDENTS** must surrender their license from their former state. If a new resident's license from the other state has been lost, the new resident must provide the same two (2) items of proof, as required of an **ORIGINAL** applicant.
- CHANGE OF NAME:** Applicants will need proof (such as an original certified court order, marriage certificate, divorce

Proof of Tennessee Residency Table: 2.3

Documents must show the residence used for the application and the applicant's name (or name of the applicant's parent, guardian or spouse)

Two Documents From the List Below Showing residence address used on application and your name, or name of your parent, guardian or spouse (Proof of relationship will be required)

- Current utility bill including telephone, electric, water, gas, cable, etc. (Must include postmarked envelope bill was mailed in) Initial Deposit Receipt is NOT acceptable.
- Current bank statement (not checks)
- Current rental or mortgage contract fully signed and executed or receipt including deed of sale for property
- Current employer verification of residence address or letter from employer as long as it is on company letterhead with original signature. If employer does not have letterhead then signature must be notarized.
- Current automobile, life or health insurance policy (not wallet cards)
- Current driver license or ID issued by the State of Tennessee to a parent, legal guardian or spouse of applicant (proof of relationship required)
- Current Tennessee motor vehicle registration
- Current Tennessee voter registration
- Current IRS tax reporting W-2 Form
- Receipt for personal property or real estate taxes paid within the last year
- In case of student enrolled in public or private school in this state, student may provide a photo student ID and acceptable documentation that student lives on campus.

REMEMBER — NO PHOTOCOPIES

decree, etc.) of **name** changes when any of the primary or secondary identification documents listed below have a name different than the applicant's current name.

Proof of Any Name Change

You will be required to provide proof of any name changes if the name differs on the documents presented from the application.

For a Marriage, a Marriage License/Certificate is acceptable if it includes the applicant's full name and date of birth. The certificate must be the original or certified copy that is registered AFTER the marriage; NOT just the "license" authorizing the union.

For a Divorce Decree, acceptable proof is the documentation as recorded in the court decree with judge's original signature and/or official court seal.

NOTE: Copy of court document with an original signature/seal that is affixed to copy is acceptable. Copy of court document with copied seal/ signature is not acceptable. All documents are subject to verification with the issuing

agency or source. Documents subject to verification may delay the issuance of your permit, driver license, identification only license, temporary driver license or temporary identification license.

Proof of Tennessee Residency

The Driver License Examiner will require proof of Tennessee residency for the following applicants:

- ORIGINAL applicants for a first time ID, TDL, permit or license of any class.
- NEW RESIDENT applicants for an ID, TDL, permit or license of any class.
- RETURNING RESIDENT applicants for an ID, TDL, permit or license of any class (even when the applicant may have previously held a Tennessee ID or license before moving out of state).

Proof of residency requires applicants to provide two (2) documents from the list shown in the Acceptable Proof of Residency Table 2.3. Documents listed are valid for residency proof as long as the documents contain the following information:

1. The applicant's name - OR -
2. The name of the applicant's spouse, if the applicant has a spouse (proof of relationship will be required if this type of proof is used) - OR -
3. If the applicant is a minor, the name of a parent or legal guardian (proof of relationship will be required if this type of proof is used)
4. The Tennessee residence address used on the application for ID, TDL, permit or license of any class. Most items in List B will NOT have the address but are still acceptable.
5. Documents must be originals; **no photocopies or facsimile (FAX) copies can be accepted.**

NOTE: Proof of relationship can be established with a certified marriage certificate or a birth certificate (the long-form).

Proof of Social Security Numbers

Tennessee law requires the Social Security number for all applications where the U.S. Government has issued the applicant a Social Security number. The department maintains this information on each applicant's record. Your social security number will not be printed on your license.

Tennessee has a computer link with the Social Security Administration. This link will return a message indicating that the number matches (or not). If the Social Security number provided fails to match with the computer records, the Examiner will ask for additional proof of the number from the applicant. If adequate proof is not available to resolve the conflict, the applicant may be required to contact the Social Security Administration for resolution prior to acceptance of their driver license application.

The documents listed below can be used by the Examiner to prove the Social Security number and to prove identity.

- An original Social Security card.

- The Internal Revenue Service W-2 Wage and Tax Statement form. (Full SS# required)
- An employer's computer generated payroll check (check stub) or an original bank statement with your Social Security Number on it.
- Health insurance card with both name and Social Security number

If You Have Never Been Issued a Social Security Number

Applicants who have never been issued a Social Security number must appear in person and sign a sworn affidavit to that effect. This affidavit is available at any Driver License Service Center and must be signed in the presence of a Driver License Examiner or Notary Public. By signing this affidavit, the applicant attests, under the penalty of perjury, that no Social Security number has ever been issued to him/her by the U.S. Government. This affidavit allows the Department of Safety to process the application without the requirement of the Social Security number. Each subsequent application will require a new affidavit to be signed in person unless a Social Security number can be provided.

LICENSE FEES AT A GLANCE

As of January 1, 2016, Tennessee licenses for persons over the age of 21 expire every eight years from the date of issuance. This means your license will normally no longer expire on your birthday. The fees shown on Page 12 (Table 2.4) as "standard fees" are calculated for an 8 year driver license and include an application fee.

Acceptable Methods of Payment

Accepted methods of payment for a Driver License or Identification License at our Driver Service Centers are Cash, Check, Money Order, MasterCard, Visa and Discover Credit Cards.

Temporary Driver License (TDL) & Temporary Identification License Fees at a Glance

A Temporary Driver License (TDL) or Temporary Identification License (TID) will be issued for the period of authorized stay in the U.S.

The fees for a Temporary Driver License (TDL) and Temporary Identification License (TID) are fixed rates that do not change with the length of time the TDL or TID is issued. The cost for a Temporary Driver License or Temporary Identification License will be \$28.00 regardless of the type of license issued (XD, XPD, etc.) and whether it is issued for one day, one year or the maximum of five years.

Additional fees applied to the TDL cost the same as with a license. For example a minor applying for a GDL Temporary Driver License will pay the additional \$5.00 GDL fee at the applicable levels for a total of \$33.00.

If getting a TDL for a motorcycle the additional \$1.00 motorcycle fee will apply for a total of \$20.50 for XM. Also if the applicant is getting a TDL for two types there is a charge for each type plus any applicable additional fees (for example \$38.00 for a Class-Type XDM).

Other Applicants

New Residents-Returning Residents

New residents or those returning to Tennessee and holding a driver license from another state, must obtain a Tennessee driver license no later than thirty (30) days after establishing residency. New residents holding a valid learner's permit from another state must meet separate requirements to obtain a Tennessee learner permit or driver license.

- All new or returning residents must take a Tennessee vision screening at the Driver Service Center. There are additional requirements for commercial driver license holders. Only foreign country licenses/IDs may be retained.
- New or returning residents whose out of state license has been expired for more than six months must take the Tennessee knowledge exam, road skills test, and vision screening.
- New residents from other countries are required to take the following tests: vision screening, knowledge exam, and road skills test. They will be allowed to keep the license issued by that country.

At time of application, new or returning residents must present:

- Your current license (or certified copy of driving record and another acceptable ID)
- Proof of U.S. Citizenship, Lawful Permanent Resident Status or Proof of authorized stay in the United States
- Primary Proof of Identity
- Secondary Proof of Identity
- Proof of any Name Changes if the name differs from the documents presented
- Two Proofs of Tennessee Residency with your name and resident address - NO P.O. BOXES (Documents must be current and dated within last 4 months.)
- A Social Security Number or sworn affidavit if no Social Security number has ever been issued.

PLEASE NOTE: All documents are subject to further verification with the issuing agency or source. Documents subject to verification may delay the issuance of your permit, driver license or identification only license.

Items must be original documents. No photocopies will be accepted!

If a person holds a valid Tennessee license and is in the United States Armed Forces, that license shall remain valid regardless of the displayed expiration date as long as: the person remains on active duty; and is based outside the State of Tennessee, and the license is not surrendered, canceled or suspended.

License Fees* Table: 2.4

License Class (standard 8-year cycle)	License Fees	Minimum Age	Temporary Driver License & Identification License Type*	Temporary License Fees
D-Operator	\$28.00	16	XD-Class D Vehicle	\$28.00
D w/For Hire	\$30.50	18	XD w/For Hire	\$30.50
Adding for Hire	\$4.50	18	NA	\$4.50
PD- Learner Permit (over age 18)	\$5.50 (1yr)	18	XPD-Class D Permit (over age 18)	\$28.00
PD- Learner Permit (under age 18)	\$10.50(1yr)	15	XPD-Class D Permit (under age 18)	\$33.00
H-Hardship	\$5.50	14	XH-Hardship	\$28.00
Photo ID (under age 18)	\$4.50	Under 18	XID-Photo ID Only (under age 18)	\$12.00
Photo ID (over age 18)	\$12.00	Over 18	XID-Photo ID Only (over age 18)	\$12.00
M-Motorcycle	\$29.00	15	XM-Class M Vehicle	\$29.00
DM-Operator & Motorcycle	\$55.00	16	XDM-Class D & M Vehicles	\$55.00
Class A	\$70.00	21	NA	NA
Class B or C	\$62.00	21	NA	NA
1st Duplicate- D or M	\$8.00	-	1st Duplicate XD or XM	\$28.00
2nd or subsequent Duplicate D or M	\$12.00	-	2nd or subsequent Duplicate XD or XM	\$28.00
1st Duplicate-CDL	\$12.00	-	NA	NA
2nd or subsequent CDL	\$16.00	-	NA	NA
Intermediate Restricted- D	\$23.25	16	Intermediate Restricted -XD	\$33.00
Intermediate Unrestricted- D	\$2.00	17	Intermediate Unrestricted- XD	\$28.00
Graduating to Class D	\$8.00 or \$12.00	18	Graduating to Class XD	\$28.00

*Fees listed above include the applicable rebate and application fee.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

A Members of the National Guard and family members of military personnel are not eligible for this provision. While on active duty and stationed outside of Tennessee, military personnel may have a "Code 30" placed on the license to indicate that the license does not expire. To add this code, bring a copy of your military orders to the driver license service center and pay the appropriate fees.

To add this code, military personnel must provide proper identification and required military documents to the Driver Service Center and pay the appropriate fees or submit by mail. Renewals and duplicates can also be handled through the mail with the proper documents and fees.

Once the person has been discharged or separated from such services or has been reassigned to a duty station within the state, he or she must renew his/her license within sixty (60) days following the date of separation on the DD214 form or reassignment to Tennessee.

NOTE: Assignment to Fort Campbell Army Base is considered reassignment back to Tennessee. Fort Campbell Army Base is located in both the states of Tennessee and Kentucky.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How Do I Replace a Lost License?

If your driver license, learner permit or identification license is ever lost, stolen or destroyed, you may obtain a duplicate by applying at any driver license service center, or you can visit our website at tn.gov/safety to see if you are

eligible to apply for a duplicate online. Temporary Driver Licenses and Temporary Identification Licenses cannot be replaced online.

If you must apply in person, you will need to present proper identification. You will have a new photo taken and pay the appropriate fee. The fee may vary depending upon the number of duplicates applied for during the current renewal cycle of your license.

Q: How Do I Renew My License?

Your Class D license issued before January 1, 2016 normally expires in 5 years on your birthdate. Permits normally expire one year from date of issuance.

Tennessee law requires anyone issued a Tennessee driver license or photo identification license after January 1, 2001 to provide documentation that you are a United States Citizen or a lawful permanent resident at the time of your first renewal. In these instances, you may not renew by mail or by the internet and you will be required to visit a Driver Service Center to renew your license.

The department mails every driver a courtesy renewal notice eight to ten weeks before his/her license expires. Read your renewal notice carefully. The notice explains several ways to renew a driver license.

- If you have a current valid photo license, you may be eligible to renew by mail, or online through our website (www.tn.gov/safety).
- If you renewed by mail or internet on your last renewal, or have certain types of licenses, your renewal notice will direct you to go to your nearest Driver Service Center to have a new photograph made.

- If your license is a temporary driver license, temporary identification license or commercial driver license, your renewal notice will direct you to go to your nearest Driver Service Center to have a new photograph made.
- If you are 60 years old or older and choose to have a nonphoto license, you may obtain this by mail or internet. You will be sent a new non-photo license to replace your old license. Please note: if you travel, you may wish to consider obtaining a photo license to assist with the necessary credentialing to board a commercial aircraft, passenger rail service such as Amtrak and cruise ships. This will require you to go to your nearest Driver License Service Center to have a new photograph made.

Don't Let Your License Expire.

No matter how you renew, the important thing is to renew your license before it expires. If your license has expired more than thirty (30) calendar days, there will be a five-dollar (\$5.00) late fee. After six (6) months, the late fee doubles to \$10.00. If you let five (5) years go by without renewing, not only will you have to pay the \$10.00 late fee, you will also have to pass the vision screening, knowledge, and skills test.

These are no “grace periods.” When your license expires, you are no longer entitled to drive a vehicle or motorcycle and will be subject to the same penalties as someone who has never been licensed. It is your responsibility to maintain the validity of your license.

If you do not receive a renewal notice, you may simply take your current license to any driver license service center. The renewal notice itself is not necessary for you to be able to renew your license.

Q: How Do I Change My Address?

It is important to notify the Department of Safety if your address changes. If your residence address changes (even though you may not have moved) you are required by state law to notify the Department of Safety within **ten (10) days** of this change. This includes when you move as well as address changes made by the United States Postal Service or your local 9-1-1 Emergency Communications District when you have not physically relocated. Notifying the post office of an address change will not provide the information to us. By failing to notify us, you could miss the renewal date of your license, or other important correspondence from the Department of Safety.

The law does not require the address to be changed on your actual license, just on our files. The easiest way to update your record is go online to: https://dl.safety.tn.gov/_/

You may also notify the Department of your change of address by writing to us and giving us your name (as it appears on your license), driver license number, date-of-birth, your address as it appears on your current license and a good daytime phone number in the event we need to contact you. If you wish to write to us, please mail to:

TN DEPT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY
DRIVER LICENSE RECORDS
PO BOX 945
NASHVILLE TN 37202

You can also pick up a change-of-address form at any driver license service center.

If you want a new license issued that reflects your new address, you may go to a driver license service center, pay the appropriate fees, and have a new license issued or you may visit our website at https://dl.safety.tn.gov/_/ to see if you are eligible to apply for a duplicate with the new address online.

When giving us your new address, remember that by law, your license must show your legal residential address: a house, and/or apartment number and the street, road or highway.

The city along with the correct zip code is also required. A post office box alone will not be accepted as a residential address.

Q: Can Personal Information From My Record be released?

The Federal Driver Privacy Protection Act (DPPA) prohibits the dissemination or disclosure of personal information from a motor vehicle record without the “express consent” of that driver. This means that the personal information contained in your driver license record is protected. Without your express consent, we will not release your personal information to people wanting a mailing list or individuals who ask for your record for an unspecified purpose. If you want us to release your information, visit the local Driver License Service Center to file your request or visit our website at: tn.gov/safety.

Q: For persons 18 years old and over OR if under 18 years old who have graduated high school or received their GED, must they participate in the Graduated Driver License (GDL) Program?

No. The GDL law does not apply to anyone age 18 or older or to those persons under 18 who have graduated high school or received a GED.

Section A-3 INTERMEDIATE LICENSES FOR DRIVER UNDER 18—GRADUATED LICENSE PROCEDURES

Drivers under 18 years old are required to go through graduated steps of driving experience to gain full, unrestricted Driver License status. Parents and teen drivers are encouraged to read Chapter C4 titled *“Helping Teens and New Drivers Learn to Drive”* in Section C of this manual.

The graduated Driver License steps are designed to incrementally teach young drivers how to drive by requiring minimum levels of driving experience and a safe driving history record before allowing teenage drivers to receive a “full-fledged” Class D driver license. Motor vehicle crashes are the major cause of death for young people between the ages of 15 and 20. By requiring more supervised practice, the State of Tennessee hopes to save lives and prevent tragic injuries.

There are four steps to becoming a full, unrestricted Driver License holder:

1. Learner Permit
2. Intermediate Restricted License
3. Intermediate Unrestricted License
4. Regular Driver License.

The above four steps are part of the Graduated Driver License Program. A license issued under the first three steps will have “GDL” printed in the bottom left corner. See page 15 for pictures of graduated licenses.

Learner Permit

- You must be 15 years old and pass the standard written exams and vision screening.
- You must hold a learner permit for 180 days in order to move to the Intermediate Restricted License step.
- You may drive a car only when accompanied by a licensed driver 21 years or older who is riding in the front seat of the vehicle.
- You may not drive between the hours of 10 P.M. and 6 A.M.
- Driver and passengers must wear a safety belt.

Intermediate License

There are two Intermediate License levels for drivers under 18 years of age. The first level is the Intermediate Restricted License and the second level is the Intermediate Unrestricted License.

First Level - Intermediate Restricted License

- You must be 16 years old and pass the driving skills test, also known as the road test.
- You must have held a learner permit for 180 days.

- You cannot have been convicted of moving violations or contributed to accidents that equal to 6 or more points within a 12 month period.
- You must have verification from a parent, legal guardian or licensed driving instructor stating you have completed fifty hours (ten hours at night) of driving experience. Certification of driving experience must be made on the official form (SF-1256) provided by the Department of Safety. This form is available at all Driver License Service Centers or may be downloaded from our web site at: <http://www.tn.gov/safety/forms/index.shtml>. This form must be signed by either a parent, legal guardian or licensed driving instructor.
- Driver and passengers must wear a safety belt.

Second Level - Intermediate Unrestricted License

To apply for the Intermediate Unrestricted from the Intermediate Restricted License, you must be 17 years old and meet the following conditions:

- You must have held an Intermediate Restricted License for 1 year.
- You cannot have accumulated more than 6 points on your driving record or you must hold the Intermediate Restricted License for an additional 90 days.
- You cannot have had a traffic accident that was your fault.
- You cannot have 2 safety belt violations.
- Driver and passengers must wear a safety belt.
- No additional tests are required.

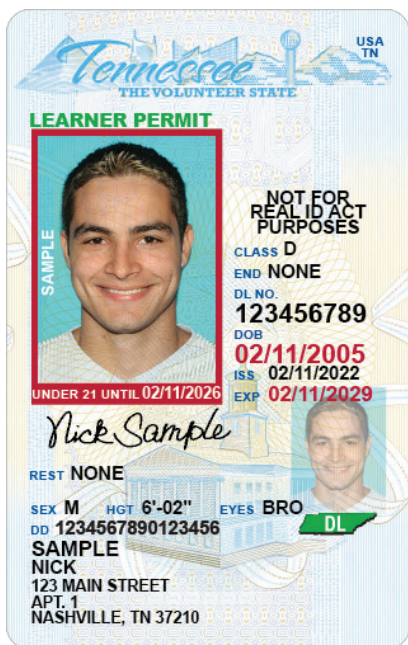
Final Level - Regular Driver License

You may obtain a Class D regular driver license when you are 18 years of age, or when you graduate from high school or receive a GED, whichever is sooner. The word “Intermediate” will be removed from your license when you move to the Regular Driver License. However, the license will still include the “Under 21” indicators.

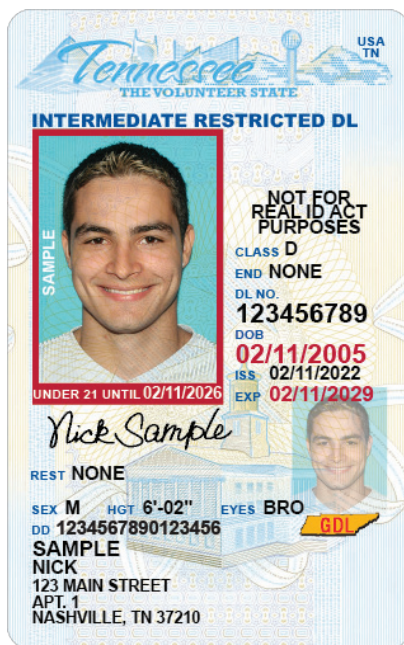
NEW RESIDENTS UNDER 18

If you are fifteen years old and have a valid permit from the state you previously lived in, you will only qualify for issuance of a Tennessee learner permit. You must hold a valid learner permit for a total of 180 days and turn sixteen (16) years old before being eligible for the Intermediate Restricted License Class D. The length of time that you held the permit in your previous state may be included in the 180-day period as long as you can provide a certified driving record from your previous state. The certified driving record must be issued within the thirty (30) days immediately preceding the date of the Tennessee application

Effective July 1, 2018 all licenses issued to persons under 21 years of age are in a vertical format. Examples are shown below.



Learner Permit



Intermediate Restricted



Intermediate Unrestricted

Front of PD Card



**Learner Permit
GDL Restrictions**

- Must have licensed driver age 21 or older in front seat
- Cannot drive between 10:00 PM - 6:00 AM
- Seatbelt use is mandatory for all passengers age 4 through 17

Front of IR Card



INTERMEDIATE GDL RESTRICTIONS

- Only one passenger allowed, UNLESS:
 - 1 passenger is 21 or older and has a valid driver license, or
 - All additional passengers are siblings from driver's house going to / from school (WP*)
- Cannot drive between 11:00 PM - 6:00 AM, UNLESS:
 - Accompanied by a parent, guardian OR a licensed driver age 21 or older, who has been designated by the parent or guardian (WP)
 - Driving to or from work, or scheduled specifically-identified school sponsored activities (WP)
 - Hunting or fishing between 4:00 AM to 6:00 AM with a valid hunting or fishing license.
- Seatbelt use is mandatory for all passengers age 4 through 17

*NOTE: WP indicates that written permission from parent/guardian identifying the person(s) event or work place is needed.

Back of PD Card

For the next level of GDL the teen driver must:

- Hold the valid learner permit for at least 180 days.
- Maintain a safe driving record with less than six points.
- Acquire a minimum of 50 hours of behind the wheel driving experience, including 10 hours at night.
- Be 16 years old.

PENALTIES:	YOU MUST:
IF YOU: Get 6 or more points on your driving record during the 180 days prior to applying for the next level...	YOU MUST: ...continue to hold the learner permit until your record has been clear for 180 days.

Dept. of Safety 349232 - Rev. 8/11 - cost .02 ea.

Back of IR Card

In order to proceed to the next level of GDL you must:

- Hold the valid Intermediate Restricted license for at least 1 year.
- Maintain a safe driving record with less than six points.
- Not contribute to an accident.
- Not get a 2nd seatbelt or 2nd moving violation.
- Be 17 years old

PENALTIES:	YOU MUST:
FOR: 6 or more pts., contributing to accident, or 2nd seatbelt ticket...	YOU MUST: ...hold Intermediate Restricted license for an additional 90 days
2nd moving violation...	...complete a Driver Ed. Class
Contributing to fatal accident, or a forged approval letter...	...drop back to a learner permit until you are 18 years old

Dept. of Safety 349233 - 1/07 - cost .019 ea.

This certified driving record must show no violations or accidents on the record. If there are any violations on the previous state record you will be required to retain the Tennessee Learner Permit until your driving record can be reviewed by the Department of Safety and Homeland Security's Driver Improvement Section to see if the record complies with Tennessee's "less than 6 points" requirement.

If the applicant is 16 years old and holds a valid license (regular, provisional, probationary, graduated, etc.) from a previous state (issued at least 90 days before applying for a Tennessee license), the application will be for an Intermediate Restricted license.

If the applicant had an out-of-state license for LESS than 90 days, an Intermediate Restricted License can only be issued if a clear driving record from the previous state is provided. The driving record must confirm:

1. That a valid learner permit and/or license class has been held for a combined period of at least 180 days. (e.g. - Georgia permit held for 120 days + Georgia license held for 60 days = 180 days total) and
2. That there are no violations or accidents on the driving record. If there are any violations on the record, a learner permit only may be issued until the previous state record can be reviewed and evaluated by the Department of Safety's Driver Improvement Section. It must comply with Tennessee's "less than 6 points" requirement.

Regardless of the length of time a license is held in the previous

state, a Tennessee Intermediate Restricted license must be held for **one year** before qualifying for the Intermediate Unrestricted license.

Upon graduating from high school or after receiving a GED before age 18, a regular Class D operator's license may be issued as described on page A2 (Section A1 of this manual).

Restriction Cards for Learner Permit and Intermediate License Holders

A driver with a learner permit will be given a "Restriction Card" to carry along with the permit that explains the restrictions of driving with the permit. The Restriction Card also explains the requirements for advancing to the Intermediate Restricted level of the Class D license. An example of the PD Restriction Card is shown on page 15.

- Both levels of the Intermediate License (Restricted and Unrestricted) show the license class as Class D and have the words Intermediate Driver License displayed in the yellow header bar on the front of the license.
- A driver with the first level Intermediate Restricted (IR) Class D will be given a "restriction card" to carry along with the license that explains the restrictions of driving with the IR. The Restriction Card also explains the requirements for advancing to the Intermediate Unrestricted level of the Class D license. An example of the IR Restriction Card is shown on page 15.

Unsafe driving incidents or violations that could result in the suspension or automatic downgrade of license level under the GDL Program are outlined in the following table:

GDL Penalties Table: 3.1

Incident	After PD Issued	After Intermediate Restricted Issued	After Intermediate Unrestricted Issued
(a) Six or more points on driving record	Requires the applicant to continue to hold the learner permit for an additional time period until they are able to maintain a record with less than 6 points for 180 consecutive days	Adds 90 days to the minimum 1 year teen required to hold Intermediate Restricted (Total = 1 year & 3 months)	If any of the violations listed in (a), (b), (c) or (d) occurred during the time the teen had an Intermediate Restricted license, but the DOS did not receive notice from the court until <i>after</i> we had already issued the teen an Intermediate Unrestricted license, the penalties in the preceding column will still apply. The teen will be "dropped back" to an Intermediate Restricted license for 90 days.
(b) Contributing to the occurrence of an accident	N/A	Adds 90 days to the minimum 1 year teen required to hold Intermediate Restricted (Total = 1 year & 3 months)	
(c) Conviction of a 2nd Seatbelt violation	N/A	N/A Adds 90 days to the minimum 1 year teen required to hold Intermediate Restricted (Total = 1 year & 3 months)	
(d) Conviction of a 2nd Moving violation	N/A	Requires completion of a certified driver education course	
(e) Forged letter of parental approval	N/A	Revocation of Intermediate Restricted and Re-issuance of a Learner Permit only until teen reaches the age of 18	If DOS notified <i>after</i> Intermediate Unrestricted issued, teen's Intermediate privileges will still be revoked and a Learner Permit re-issued until the 18th birthday.
(f) Contributing to the occurrence of a fatal accident	Must maintain a Learner Permit only until teen reaches the age of 18	Revocation of Intermediate Restricted and Re-issuance of a Learner Permit only until teen reaches the age of 18	Revocation of Intermediate Unrestricted and Re-issuance of a Learner Permit only until teen reaches the age of 18

- A driver with the second level Intermediate Unrestricted (IU) Class D does not have any restrictions on driving. Therefore there is no restriction card for this license level.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MINORS

In addition to the documentation requirements described in Chapter 2 (Proof of Identity, TN Residency, Social Security Number and U.S. Citizenship / Lawful Permanent Resident) all applicants under the age of eighteen (18) must also meet the requirements described in this section.

Minor/Teenage Affidavits

Applicants under eighteen years old must have an adult sign a Minor/Teenage Affidavit and Cancellation form, available at all driver license service centers. This form confirms that the adult signing the form joins in the application for the license and will be responsible for the actions of the minor driver. This includes assuming financial responsibility for the minor driver. It must be signed by a parent, foster parent, or step-parent living at the same address as the applicant, legal guardian, or a grandparent authorized by the parent, step-parent or guardian.

If adults cannot accompany the minor to the driver license service center to sign the form, it may be completed ahead of time and signed before a notary public.

If a grandparent is assuming financial responsibility for the youth, the grandparent must bring a notarized statement authorizing this, signed by the parent, a step-parent, custodian or guardian, as appropriate.

- If a minor applies for an additional class of license (such as motorcycle), the parents or legal guardian will be required to sign a second teenage affidavit for that license type.

The statement is not required to be on a Department of Safety form, but should be in the following general format:

"I do hereby authorize _____
to sign for a driver license for _____."
Signed: _____
(Notary certificate)

Proof of School Attendance/Progress

Applicants under the age of eighteen (18) must prove they are either enrolled in or have already graduated from high school. Acceptable proof of this status must be provided to the examiner in one of the following methods:

1. If the applicant has graduated, the applicant must **bring the original high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate** when applying (no photo copies).
2. If still enrolled in a Tennessee school, the applicant must **ask the school to complete a Certificate of Compulsory School Attendance (Form SF1010). The applicant must**

take the original, completed form to the Driver Service Center. This form is only valid for **thirty (30) days** from the date of signing by the school official.

NOTE: During the traditional summer vacation months, a properly completed SF1010 form signed within the last 30 days of the school year will be accepted throughout the summer until 30 days after the start of the following school year (e.g. a form signed in May is accepted through Aug/Sept, approximately).

3. If the applicant is enrolled in school outside of Tennessee (or in an approved private or church school in Tennessee without access to the SF1010 forms), the applicant must provide a statement from the school principal or headmaster on official school letterhead specifically confirming that the applicant is not truant. (Copies and Faxes cannot be accepted.)

IMPORTANT: Grade cards or school transcripts are not acceptable as proof of compliance with this law. Due to the various grading scales, evaluation of excused / unexcused absences and other factors that differ from school system to school system, the Driver License personnel are not authorized to interpret the information in these documents. It is the responsibility of the school system or Department of Education to confirm the applicant's eligibility. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide satisfactory documentation of this requirement.

4. **Home Schooled Applicants must provide the following documentation:**
 - **A letter from the local director of schools** in the district of the applicant's legal residence confirming the district received the proper annual notice of intent to home school.
 - **Verification of Home School Enrollment (Department of Safety Form SF-1193)** signed and completed by the parent or legal guardian, at time of application at the Driver License Center, affirming the student's satisfactory attendance.

If a student fifteen years old or older drops out of school, the school is required to notify the Department of Safety which suspends the student's driving privileges. The first time a student drops out, he or she may regain the privilege to drive by returning to school. However, **there is no second chance.** The second time a student drops out, he or she must wait to turn eighteen (18) years old before being eligible to apply for a license again.

If a person who dropped out returns to school, the appropriate school official can certify the student has returned by completing a different section of the Certificate of Compulsory School Attendance. The official will give the student a copy of the form to take with them to a driver license service center. The student will be required to pay a \$20 reinstatement fee, in addition to the appropriate application and license fees. Other fees may be added as well, depending on the individual's history.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TEENS AND PARENTS

Novice Teen Drivers at Higher Risk

In 2019 there were 1,603 young drivers (15 to 20 years old) killed and an estimated 205,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes (NCSA, 2021). Distracted driving, inexperience, risk-taking, as well as speeding are some of the major reasons why.

Loud music, changing discs as well as tuning the radio are also potentially deadly distractions when behind the wheel. And when a teen driver has friends in the car, the risk is even higher - the more passengers, the greater the chance of a serious crash. Here are common teen driver distractions that can be deadly:

- Friends in other vehicles: Don't let saying "hi" or other fun and games take your attention off the road.
- Loud music or headphones: Hearing what's going on around you is just as important as seeing. It is extremely dangerous to wear headphones or earbuds and have the volume of your radio so high that it interferes with your "hearing" of traffic conditions, such as other vehicle's warning horns or emergency sirens. In most states it is illegal to wear headphones and earbuds while driving.
- The "show-off" factor: It may be tempting to go faster, turn sharper or beat another car through an intersection. Many teens fail to realize that they are no longer just "competing for fun" and are now using a 5,000 pound "weapon" in this competition.

Keep focused on DRIVING in order to stay safe and stay alive.

Cell Phone Usage Prohibited

IMPORTANT FOR TEENAGE DRIVERS

NO CELL PHONES WHILE DRIVING

Tennessee law prohibits any driver possessing a learner permit or intermediate driver license from using a cell phone while driving on any Tennessee roadway. A cell phone is defined as:

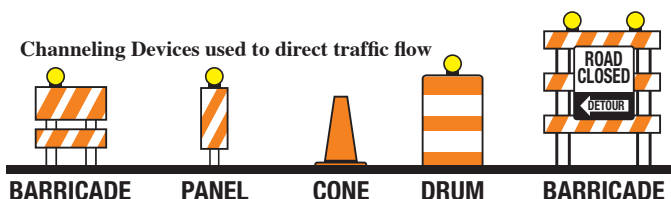
- (a) handheld cellular telephone
- (b) cellular car telephone or
- (c) other mobile phone

CONSEQUENCES OF CONVICTION

- Class C misdemeanor
- \$50.00 fine
- 6 points on to a minor's driving record
- 90 day delay in eligibility for intermediate Restricted Driver License



Channeling Devices used to direct traffic flow



Texting while Driving is Prohibited

As of July 1, 2009, texting while driving is also prohibited for teenage drivers as well as adult drivers. This includes a hand-held telephone or hand-held personal digital assistant to transmit or read a written message while the driver's motor vehicle is in motion. Violations can result in a fine not to exceed Fifty Dollars and court costs not to exceed Ten Dollars.

Teen Driving in Work Zones

Every three days a teen is killed and seven are injured in a work zone crash in this country according to NETS, The Network of Employers for Traffic Safety. This could be you and your driver, if you drive carelessly through a roadway work zone. They are considered the most hazardous place for workers in the U.S., but they can be even more dangerous for drivers - particularly young, inexperienced ones. Statistics show that drivers comprise four out of five deaths in highway work zones.

Teen drivers have higher rates of fatal crash involvement than any other age group. Studies show young drivers are more likely to become involved in work zone accidents than others, as they are more likely to engage in risk-taking behavior, exercise negative driving habits, are easily distracted while driving, and lack the basic driving skills needed to respond quickly to work zone demands. When it comes to driving, there is no such thing as beginner's luck!

Some work zone safety tips:

- Slow down! Drive within the posted speed limits, which are usually reduced in work zones. If you don't, you'll pay the price. The Tennessee Highway Patrol's program Project CAR (Construction Accident Reduction) places Highway Patrol State Troopers in work zones across the state targeting motorists who violate traffic laws while traveling through roadway work zones when workers are present.
- Don't tailgate! Most work zone accidents are caused by rear-end collisions.
- Eliminate distractions! Put down the cell phone; leave the radio dial alone. This is not the time to look for a new CD!
- Keep your ears open! Do not wear earphones or earbuds while driving.
- Merge early! You can be ticketed and be the cause of an accident for being a last chance merger.
- Watch for flaggers! Follow their signals, and don't change lanes within the work zone unless instructed to do so.
- Expect the unexpected! Work zones change constantly.
- Turn your lights on before you enter the zone! Turn on your vehicle's headlights to become more visible to workers and other motorists.
- Stay calm! Remember the work zone crew members are working to improve your future ride.

TEEN DRIVER FAQs

1. What is the Graduated Driver License law?

The graduated driver licensing system places certain restrictions on teens under the age of 18 who have a learner permit and driver license.

2. What are the restrictions for those with learner permits?

Anyone under the age of 18 who has a learner permit is prohibited from driving between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. When driving, permit holders must have a licensed driver age 21 or older in the vehicle with them in the front seat. Everyone inside the vehicle must wear a seat belt. The driver may not use a handheld device while operating the vehicle.

3. How long must I have a learner permit before applying for an Intermediate Restricted license?

- Anyone under the age of 18 must have their learner permit for a minimum of six months before applying for an intermediate restricted license.
- The minimum age for applying for an intermediate restricted license is 16.
- If someone with a learner permit has driving offenses adding up to 6 or more points on their driving record during the 180 days before applying for the Intermediate Restricted license, the applicant has to continue to hold the learner permit until his/her record has less than 6 points for a full 180 consecutive days.
- After the record is clear for 180 consecutive days (i.e., less than 6 points), the driver may apply for the next level, an Intermediate Restricted License.

4. What are the restrictions for an Intermediate Restricted License?

Those with an intermediate license can only have 1 other passenger in the vehicle. **UNLESS:**

- One or more of the passengers is age 21 or older and has a valid, unrestricted license; OR
- The passengers are brothers and sisters, step-brothers or step-sisters, adopted or fostered children residing in the same house as the driver and AND the Intermediate License holder has in their possession a letter from the driver's parent authorizing passengers to be in the motor vehicle for the sole purpose of going to and from school.

Those with an Intermediate Restricted License are prohibited from driving between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. UNLESS the meet one of the following circumstances:

- They are accompanied by a parent or guardian;
- They are accompanied by a licensed driver 21 or older who has been designated by the parent or guardian. This designation must be in writing and be in the possession of the teen driver;

- They are driving to or from a specifically identified school sponsored activity or event and have in their possession written permission from a parent or guardian to do this;
- They are driving to or from work and have in their possession written permission from a parent or guardian identifying the place of employment and authorizing the driver to go to and from work; OR
- They are driving to or from hunting or fishing between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m. and have in their possession a valid hunting or fishing license.

5. What would happen to an Intermediate Restricted License holder caught with a forged or fake letter regarding permission to drive outside of the allowed hours?

A driver with an Intermediate Restricted License who is convicted of having a forged or fraudulent letter or statement will have his/her Intermediate Restricted License revoked and will only be reissued a learner permit until he/she reaches the age of 18.

6. What will an Intermediate license look like?

You may view examples of these licenses on page 15.

7. How long must an Intermediate Restricted License be held?

Teens must hold their Intermediate Restricted License for a **minimum of one year**. After one year, an unrestricted Intermediate license may be applied for. There is a \$2 application fee. The word "Intermediate" will still be on the license, but the restrictions will be lifted.

IMPORTANT: A teen driver will be ineligible for an Unrestricted Intermediate License for additional ninety (90) days beyond the minimum one year if:

1. The driver has received six (6) or more points (the equivalent of two (2) minor traffic citations) on their Intermediate Restricted License, or
2. The driver has contributed to a traffic crash, or
3. The driver has been convicted of a second seatbelt violation,

ALSO: If the teen driver gets a second moving violation while holding the Intermediate Restricted Driver License, an approved Driver Education class **MUST BE COMPLETED** before receiving an Intermediate Unrestricted Driver License.

NOTE: At age 18, a driver can apply for a regular unrestricted license without the word "Intermediate" printed on it. There is an \$8 duplicate fee unless the driver chooses to keep the license with the word "Intermediate" on it until that license is at the end of its five-year renewal cycle.

GDL At-a-Glance Review

Table: 3.2



	LEARNER PERMIT CLASS PD	INTERMEDIATE RESTRICTED	INTERMEDIATE UNRESTRICTED	REGULAR CLASS D
Requirements:	- Must be 15 years old - Vision Exam - Knowledge Test - SF 1010 Form (<i>Proof of Compulsory School Attendance and Satisfactory Progress</i>) - Parent or Legal guardian must sign Teenage Affidavit of Financial Responsibility - Birth Certificate* - Social Security Number ** - Proof of citizenship or lawful	- Must be 16 years old - Held a valid PD for 6 months - Certification of 50 hours behind-the-wheel experience including 10 hours at night Cannot have: - six or more points on driving record during the 180 days immediately preceding application - Driving Test	- At least 17 years old - Held a valid Restricted Intermediate for 1 year Cannot have: - six or more points on driving record - have been at fault in a traffic crash - have been convicted of a 2nd seatbelt violation <i>[these would add a 90 day waiting period to the 1 yr]</i>	- Must be at least 18 years of age - Optional: can apply for a duplicate of license without 'the word "Intermediate" on' the face
Fees:	\$10.50, any age under 18 years old.	Age 16 = \$24.50 Age 17 = \$21.00 Age 18 = Eligible for regular driver license	Age 17 = \$2.00 Age 18 = Eligible for regular driver license (\$8 duplicate fee if had Intermediate license)	\$8.00 or \$12.00, regular duplicate fee depending upon if 1 st or subsequent duplicate
Issued for:	12 months	until age 21	Same expiration date @ age 21	Same expiration date @ age 21
Restrictions:	- Must have licensed driver age 21 or older in front seat - Cannot drive between 10:00 PM - 6:00 AM - Seatbelts mandatory for all passengers age 4 thru 17 (or child restraint device if under age 4)	- Only one passenger - Cannot drive between 11:00 PM - 6:00 AM - Seatbelts mandatory of all passengers age 4 thru 17 (or child restraint device if under age 4)	- Seatbelts mandatory for all passengers age 4 thru 17 (or child restraint device if under age 4) - No additional restrictions, however, license still states "Intermediate" prominently on the face of the license	No restrictions and license looks like regular "Under 21 license"

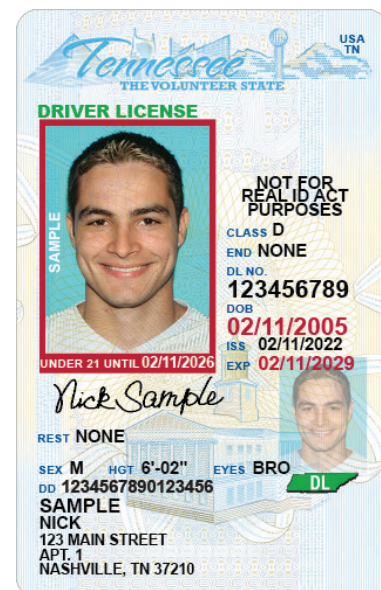
* See page 9 for information on acceptable forms of identification.

** See page 10 for more information on SSN requirements.

8. Are there any teens not required to complete the steps in the Graduated Driver License program?

The Graduated Driver License requirements do not apply to anyone age 18 and older OR anyone under the age of 18 who has graduated high school or received their GED. If you are 16 years of age you may also obtain a Class D regular driver license if you are emancipated by active duty military service, marriage or court order.

Effective July 1, 2018 all licenses issued to persons under 21 years of age are in a vertical format. Example of a Class D Under 21 license is shown to the right side of this page.



Section A-4 THE EXAMINATIONS

General Information:

- Your driver license examination will consist of a vision screening, a knowledge test, and a road test.
- Driver license tests are given at all Driver Service Centers except for the express service centers. The knowledge tests are administered on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Due to the length of time to administer, road tests are taken **by appointment**.
- Road tests are not given in extreme weather (heavy rain/snow, dense fog, hail, high winds, icy roads, etc.)
- During winter months road tests are not given in the dark.
- **No test may be repeated on the same day.**
- **Mandatory 1-day waiting period is required after failing the knowledge test.**
- **Mandatory waiting periods are required when an applicant fails the road test for the original issuance of a Class D license.** For details on these waiting periods, see Table 4.2.
- When you return to take a test over, you must bring back all of the original documents you are required to provide.
- You will be required to pay the \$2 application fee each time you take a test and fail. This fee applies to PD, D and H tests.

Determining Which Tests Are Required:

Table: 4.1

Original License	Class D or Class H Full Tests: Knowledge, Road Skills, Vision Screening Class PD Vision Screening and Knowledge tests Exchanging PD to D Vision Screening and Road Skills
Duplicate, Renewal	No Test
Adding For-Hire Endorsement	Vision Screening and Knowledge tests
New residents, with current and valid out-of-state license	Vision Screening only, if out-of-state license is valid and not expired; otherwise, knowledge and road skills test, Vision Screening
New residents, from other countries or no prior license	Vision Screening, Knowledge and Road Skills test

Note: See Motorcycle Manual for Class M tests, and CDL Manual for Classes A, B, and C

VISION SCREENING

To determine if a driver can see well enough to drive, a vision screening is required before any license or permit is issued. An applicant is required to have at least 20/40 vision in each eye individually and both eyes together. This may be with or without your glasses or contact lenses. If you are unable to successfully complete the vision screening, you must have an eye specialist

of your choice fill out an eye statement for the Department to evaluate.

KNOWLEDGE TEST

You will be given an exam covering knowledge needed to drive safely. The test will consist of multiple choice questions based on information contained in sections B and C of this manual. You can expect the test to approximately consist of the following four areas:

Traffic signs and signals—25%

Safe driving principles—25%

Rules of the road—25%

Drugs and alcohol—25%

1. Test Formats

The knowledge tests are administered in our Driver License Service Centers using computerized testing machines. In very limited circumstances, tests are administered in written formats.

Our Driver Service Centers that have the computerized testing are also currently able to offer the test in 3 alternate language formats of Spanish, Korean or Japanese. Applicants for whom English is not their first language may also use a translation dictionary as long as there are no notes or other handwriting visible within the pages of the book. The use of Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), Smart Phones, Electronic Dictionaries and other similar electronic devices are NOT allowed during testing. Interpreters are NOT allowed to assist with any of the driver license testing.

Oral tests are available by appointment at selected Driver License Service Centers for applicants who have a learning disability or cannot read. If the applicant requesting an oral test is under age eighteen (18), a written statement from a physician or educational specialist stating that the applicant has a medical condition or learning disability will be required before the test can be administered in the oral format. In the event the applicant requesting an oral test is deaf, the Department of Safety will furnish a certified sign language interpreter to assist with the administration of the exam.

Any form of cheating by an applicant on a required examination will result in an automatic failure and the applicant will not be allowed to re-attempt the test for 30 days. Forms of cheating include, but are not limited to the following:

- Use of any form of written notes (including notes on paper, clothing, body, digital pagers, etc.)
- Talking during the examination (includes cell phone use)
- Attempting to allow another person to take the examination
- All cell phones, pagers or text messaging devices must be turned off during both written and road test administration.

2. When You Don't Pass the Knowledge Test

In order to encourage the applicant to thoroughly study Section B of this manual and cut down on repeat visits by applicants who are not yet prepared for the examination, a mandatory 1-day waiting period is required after failing any driver license knowledge test.

All applicants will be required to wait a minimum of one day before returning to any Driver License Service Center to attempt the knowledge examination again. The date and information on failures is keyed into the Driver License computer system to ensure that all locations are aware of prior test dates and scores.

The waiting period outlined above will also be applied to wait times between additional re-testing if the applicant does not pass the examination on the second or subsequent attempts.

ROAD TEST

1. Make an Appointment to Schedule Your Road Test

All applicants that require a road test should make a pre-scheduled appointment at the Driver License Service Center of their choice. These appointments may be made using the Driver License Appointments system found on our Internet website at: tn.gov/safety/ or by calling toll-free 1-866-849-3548. **For the Hearing Impaired, TTY USERS SHOULD HAVE THE TENNESSEE RELAY SERVICE CALL (615) 532-2281.**

NOTE: Because road tests are not given in the dark, these times will be adjusted during winter hours to compensate for the shortened daylight hours.

All applicants will need to be aware of the following guidelines for road test appointments:

- You must have successfully passed the required knowledge test(s) prior to your road test appointment. If you arrive for your road test appointment and have not passed the knowledge test your appointment will be canceled.
- Applicants who do not successfully pass the Knowledge test on the first attempt or subsequent attempts, are not permitted to retake the examination for a second time on the same day.
- You will be able to make your appointment up to 45 days in advance of your desired test date. When scheduling, keep the following mandatory requirements in mind:
- If you do not already have a valid Tennessee learner permit you will be required to bring proof of U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent residency with you to your appointment. (When getting a TDL you will need current proof of Temporary Legal Presence (TLP).)
- You should plan to arrive at the Driver License Service Center at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time to allow for paperwork processing and review of your required documentation mentioned above.

- You must speak and understand enough of the English language to communicate with the Examiner during the road test.
- You must provide your own vehicle for use during the road test with all the operational equipment and safety features as outlined in the next section on vehicle inspection.
- If you are more than 5 minutes late for your appointment time, your road skills test will be canceled and you will need to reschedule for a later date.
- The Department of Safety reserves the right to cancel road test appointments for emergency situations or dangerous weather conditions. Road tests will be given in light to moderate rain, fog or snow. However, they will NOT be given in heavy rain, thunderstorms, thick fog cover, when roads are flooded, covered/packed with snow and ice, during severe weather warnings (i.e. tornado) or other similarly dangerous driving situations.

2. Pre-Trip Vehicle Inspection

The motor vehicle you bring for the road test must meet all Tennessee motor vehicle registration (valid tags) and safety law requirements and have equipment in proper working order. In addition, applicants will be asked to demonstrate their ability to use each of the following eight items.

Safety Belts. Any passenger motor vehicle manufactured or assembled in 1969 or later must be equipped with safety belts and must be in good usable condition for both the applicant and the examiner.

Brakes. (Emergency and regular). By law all automobiles must have two separate methods of applying brakes. They must have a regular foot brake and a parking brake.

Headlights. (High and low beam). Motor vehicles must be equipped with at least two headlights but no more than four white headlights.

Tail and Brake Lights. Passenger vehicles must be equipped with a rear license light, two red tail lights, and two red brake lights.

Windshield Wipers. Every vehicle equipped with a windshield should have 2 windshield wipers for cleaning rain or any other moisture in order to permit clear vision for the driver, unless 1 wiper cleans to within 1 inch of the inside of the windshield.

Windshield Defroster and Fan Control. Applicants need to be able to demonstrate how to 'defog' the windshield.

Rearview Mirrors. The vehicle must have at least one rearview mirror not interfering with the driver's view of the rear. For applicants with certain vision or hearing impairments, two outside rearview mirrors are also required.

Horns. A horn is required on all motor vehicles.

Also required:

Windows and windshields. Clear vision for the driver is required to the front, rear and both sides. It is unlawful to drive a motor vehicle with a windshield that is so cracked, or covered with steam or frost that clear vision is prevented.

No tinting material may be affixed to the windshield of any motor vehicle. Standards for the other windows depend on the vehicle as follows:

Passenger Car. No material which transmits less than 35% of visible light may be attached to any window.

Multi-Purpose Vehicles: All windows behind the front seat are exempt. Windows immediately to the left and right of the driver must comply the same as for passenger vehicles.

Mufflers. Every vehicle must be equipped with a muffler to prevent excessive or unusual noises and polluting smoke.

Doors. Both the driver door and the passenger door must open from the inside and the outside.

Bumpers. Passenger cars must have bumpers which are within a range of 14 to 22 inches from the ground; 4x4 recreational vehicles must have bumpers with a range of 14 to 31 inches.

Speedometer. Every vehicle must have a working speedometer in order to gauge vehicle speed.

3. The Driving Test

The examiner will give you directions and evaluate whether or not you can drive safely. You will not be asked to do anything illegal. The only people allowed in the vehicle are you and the examiner (or other authorized personnel). No animal may be in the vehicle.

During the test, the examiner will be observing the following:

- 1. How you prepare to drive.** Have you checked your mirrors, fastened your safety belt, turned on any necessary lights or wipers?
- 2. How you start your vehicle.** Do you look for other cars? Do you signal and wait until it is safe before entering traffic?
- 3. How you control your vehicle.** Do you accelerate smoothly? Do you use your gas pedal, brake, steering wheel, and other controls correctly? Handle curves properly?
- 4. How you handle intersections and make left and right turns.** Are you in the proper lane? Do you look both left and right for approaching vehicles? Do you make sure your path is clear before proceeding? Do you simply rely on the traffic signals? Do you signal and change lanes carefully?
- 5. How you obey the traffic signals and posted signs.**
- 6. How you drive in traffic.** Do you pay full attention to driving? Do you scan carefully for signs, signals, pedestrians and other vehicles? Do you yield and take the right-of-way correctly?
- 7. How you stop.** Do you stop smoothly and at the right spot? Can you stop quickly and safely in an emergency?

- 8. How you back up.** Do you look over your shoulder? Can you back in a straight line? Can you turn safely while backing? Can you back into/out of a parking space?
- 9. How you judge distance.** Do you maintain a safe distance from other cars?
- 10. How you communicate to other drivers.** Do you make sudden changes, or signal too late or too early? Do you slow down as early as it is safe to do so, or do you catch other drivers by surprise?
- 11. How you share the road with others.** Are you courteous and watchful?
- 12. How you change your speed to suit the situation.** Do you take into account the speed limit, other cars, light, weather and road conditions?

4. Causes for Immediate Failure

The applicant will be failed immediately for any of the following:

- Violation of any traffic law
- Lack of cooperation or refusal to follow directions
- Any dangerous action
- Contributing to an accident

5. When You Don't Pass the Road Test

Upon completion of the driving test, the examiner will advise you of your errors, how to correct them, and what maneuvers you should practice to improve your driving skill. You should review the related material and/or practice the driving skills before returning. Applicants who do not successfully pass the skills test on the first attempt or subsequent attempts are not permitted to take the examination again on the same day.

Applicants may be allowed to re-test after mandatory practice times as determined by their total score (number of errors) under the guidelines in Table 4.2. These guidelines are designed to encourage the applicant to thoroughly practice their driving skills and cut down on repeat visits by applicants who are not yet prepared for the examination.

Guidelines for Retesting Table: 4.2

Number of errors committed during the skills test:	Allow retest after the following mandatory practice time period:
1 to 6 errors / points	PASS no re-test needed
7 to 9 errors / points	Next (1) Day
10 to 12 errors / points	Seven (7) Days
13 to 15 errors / points	Fourteen (14) Days
16 or more errors / points -OR- Automatic Failure	Thirty (30) Days

NOTE: The guidelines established above will also be applied to wait times between additional re-testing opportunities if applicant does not pass the examination on the second or subsequent attempts.

Tips To Help Your Testing Go More Smoothly

☑ **Study and Practice Driving Ahead of Time**

Both the knowledge test and the road test will go more smoothly if you spend time reviewing this manual, and spend time on the road with an experienced driver before you come to apply.

☑ **Bring A Proper Vehicle**

All safety equipment must work (horns, lights, safety belts, brakes, signals and windshield wipers). The vehicle registration must also be current. Bring a vehicle that you are familiar with driving.

☑ **Arrive at least 15 minutes before your scheduled Road Test appointment.** This will allow time for application paperwork before your appointment time.

☑ **Don't Be Late - for Road Test Appointments.** Road tests average 20-25 minutes. To insure we can provide timely service to you and your fellow applicants, if you are five (5) or more minutes late for the start of your road test appointment, it will have to be rescheduled.

PARENTS Be sure to review Section C-4 starting at page 116 of this manual. It provides helpful information to assist you and your teen in learning to drive as well as a useful driving experience log that has been recommended by many parents and safety advocate groups.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND KNOWLEDGE TEST APPLICANTS AGE 15-17

Teenagers between the ages of 15 to 17 seeking to obtain their driver's license who are required to take a written test, can now take that test on-line under a proctor's supervision (parent/legal guardian) via Tennessee Proctor Identification (PID) App.

Please Note you must comply with the testing rules and follow the instructions listed on the web test portal.

What is the Tennessee Proctor Identification (PID) App?

The Tennessee Proctor Identification (PID) App allows eligible Tennesseans to securely proctor online knowledge tests by obtaining a highly secure personal identification via the Proctor Identification (PID) App. Personal identification information must be registered by verifying the proctor against their Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security (TDOSHS) record.

For more information please visit our webpage at:

<https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/driver-license-knowledge-test-online.html>



SECTION B

INTRODUCTION

This section is designed for all new drivers. Reading and studying Sections B and C of this manual will help prepare for the driver license and learner permit tests. The section explains Tennessee's licensing requirements, driving responsibilities and basic "rules of the road." All drivers need to know the information in this section to pass the driver license test and become safe, courteous drivers. Alone, the guide will not teach you how to drive. Mastering driving skills is done with a good instructor and plenty of practice.

In order to help users study, there are a few sample questions at the end of each chapter. These are actual questions from the driver license test. There are many possible questions that can be included on the driver license test. These questions are included to help you review the material and get a sense of what the test may cover. Study the chapters and test your understanding of the information by using these questions.

Website Resources: Additional study questions and practice tests are available as part of the online services at: www.tn.gov/safety/ There are different practice tests that focus on specific areas of study. Practice test topics and the related chapters in this publication include:

Alcohol, Other Drugs and Driving (Chapter B-7)
Guidelines for Driving (Chapters B-1 and B-2)
Rules of the Road (Chapters B-4, B-5, B-6 & B-8)
Traffic Signs and Signals (Chapter B-3)

Section B-1 GETTING FAMILIAR WITH YOUR VEHICLE

Be Prepared for the Driving Task

To help you safely prepare for the actual operation of the vehicle, follow the tips below. There is much more to driving than just “grabbing the keys and getting in the car.” Give your complete attention to knowing the proper operation of the vehicle’s equipment.

GETTING READY TO DRIVE

Vehicle Condition

1. Check around the outside of the vehicle. Look for small children, pets and any other sort of obstruction.
2. Check the condition of the vehicle (windows, lights, body damage, condition of the tires and potential fluid leaks).
3. Enter the vehicle, place the key in the ignition and lock the doors.
4. Identify the location and purpose of all switches, gauges and pedals.
5. Know the location of the following controls even if there is no need to use them at the moment:
 - Horn
 - Turn Signals
 - Emergency/Four-Way Flashers
 - Headlights (on/off and dimmer switch)
 - Windshield Wipers and Washer Controls
 - Parking Brake and Release Lever
 - Air Conditioner/Heater/Defroster Controls
 - Gearshift Location (and clutch if manual transmission)

Seat Adjustments

Adjust the seat and, if equipped, the steering column, for the “Proper Driving Posture”

Align your body to your seat.

- Adjust the seat to a comfortable upright position.
- **DO NOT DRIVE WITH THE SEAT IN A RECLINED OR SEMI-RECLINED POSITION.** This is dangerous and reduces both your vision and your ability to react to emergency situations.

Be sure you are the proper distance from the steering wheel and foot pedals.

- The pedals must be easily reached.
- Have good clear vision through the windshield, each side window and all mirrors.
- Your foot should move smoothly from the accelerator to the brake while the heel is kept on the floor.
- Your body should be about 10 to 12 inches back from the steering wheel with or without an air bag. At this distance, an air bag would hit the driver in the chest if there were a collision. Sitting closer could result in serious head or neck injuries from an air bag hitting the chin or face.
- Do not move the seat so far forward or extend the steering column to a point where you cannot easily steer.

- The top of the steering wheel should be no higher than the top of the shoulders.

Properly adjust seat head restraints to a level even with the back of the head. Head restraints are designed to prevent whiplash if hit from behind.

Mirror Adjustments

1. Adjust mirrors properly. Remember that all three of the rear view mirrors must be adjusted so that the widest possible view is given. Also, keep blind spots to a minimum.
 - Adjust mirrors after the seat is adjusted correctly. (Always adjust before driving.)
2. Outside mirrors should be adjusted to reduce blind spots and provide maximum visibility.
 - **INSIDE Rearview Mirror:** Adjust the inside rearview mirror to frame the rear window. To get the smallest blind spot at the right side of the car, turn the inside mirror so that only the edge of the right rear window post is seen.
 - **LEFT Side Mirror:** To adjust the driver’s side-view mirror, seated in an upright position place your head against the left side window and adjust the left side mirror. Set the mirror so you can just barely see the side of your car in the right side of the mirror which is the part that is closest to the window.
 - **RIGHT Side Mirror:** Seated in an upright position, to adjust the passenger’s side-view mirror, position your head so that it is just above the center console. Set the mirror so you can just barely see the side of your car in the left side of the mirror which is the part of the mirror that is closest to the window. If the vehicle is not equipped with remote mirror-adjustment controls, you may need assistance when properly positioning this mirror.
3. After mirror adjustments, if you lean slightly backward and see more than a glimpse of the rear corners of the vehicle in your outside mirrors, adjust them outward.
4. To make sure mirrors are in the correct position, let a car pass you on the left. As it passes out of view in the inside mirror you should see its front bumper in the outside left (driver side) mirror.
5. Before driving with these updated mirror settings, see how they work while your vehicle is parked. For example, you can parallel park along a street, then see how passing vehicles move through your mirrors and peripheral vision. This can help you become oriented to the new settings before heading out into traffic.
6. Remember, even properly positioned mirrors cannot eliminate all blind spots. To reduce risk, make a final check to the sides before attempting any lateral moves. Even with properly adjusted mirrors, always turn your head and check blind spots when you want to turn or change lanes.

Safety Belts Fastened

1. Fasten and adjust safety belts (both lap and shoulder if separate belts). Lap belts should be positioned firmly across the hips while the shoulder belt is firmly across the shoulder.
2. Make sure all passengers are using safety belts or child restraints before driving.
 - If you or your passengers are not wearing a safety belt or are not secured in a car seat or booster seat, you may have to pay a fine.
 - Full details on safety belts and child restraints are found in the *Protecting Passengers/Drivers* chapter.

STARTING THE VEHICLE ENGINE

Check the vehicle owner's manual to determine the proper way to start the specific vehicle. The following are basic tips that apply to most vehicles:

1. Place foot on brake pedal and ensure gearshift selector is in the PARK position for automatic transmissions or in NEUTRAL for manual/standard transmissions.
 - Make sure the parking brake is "on" before starting any manual transmission vehicle. In vehicles with manual transmissions, the clutch must be depressed before the vehicle will start.
2. Place the car key into the ignition switch and turn the key forward to "on." Check dash lights and instruments (antilock brake systems [ABS], air bags, fuel level, etc.) for any warnings or alerts.
3. Turn on low-beam headlights, particularly at night or in bad weather. NOTE: In normal daylight, vehicles are visible at twice the distance when headlights are on.
4. Using an automatic transmission: With automatic transmissions, the driver usually does not need to change gears. The vehicle is put in "R" for reverse when to back-up and in "D" for drive to drive forward. (Some newer cars have an "O" gear selection for overdrive, which is for use when driving on interstates or other expressways where there is very little stop and go traffic.)
 - Most automatic transmissions also have lower gears that will be indicated by an "L", "2", or "1" on the gearshift indicator. These gears are generally not used except for special or emergency situations, such as:
 - Driving down steep mountain grades.
 - Slow speed driving on icy or other slippery roads.
 - Emergency deceleration if there is a brake failure.
5. Using a standard transmission: With a standard or manual transmission, the driver can control the gear-speed ratio and use gears, rather than brakes, to help slow down the vehicle. The following techniques for smooth shifting will help you handle driving vehicles with standard transmissions.
 - Hold the clutch pedal all the way down when starting, shifting gears and when speed drops below 10 MPH as you are coming to a stop.
 - Don't "ride the clutch", meaning don't drive with your foot

resting on the clutch pedal if it is not needed to change gears.

- Practice to get smooth coordination in using the clutch and accelerator pedals.
- Don't coast with the gears in neutral (it's illegal) or with the clutch pedal pushed down except when shifting gears.
- When going down steep hills, place the vehicle in a lower gear.

SPECIAL WARNING: FOR DRIVERS WITH STEERING WHEEL INTERLOCK SYSTEM

The basic rule a driver must follow when operating a vehicle with a steering wheel interlock system is: ***never turn the ignition to the lock position when the vehicle is in motion*** The steering wheel will lock when trying to turn and the control of the vehicle will be lost.

STEERING THE VEHICLE

To begin driving the vehicle, use a relaxed grip on the steering wheel and always drive with BOTH hands on the wheel. A firm (but not tight) grip allows you to "feel" the road (vibrations, etc.) better. Don't develop the habit of driving with your elbow or arm propped on the door or out the window. You won't have full control of the steering wheel and a sideswipe could take off your arm.

You not only steer with your hands, but also with your eyes! Always look where you want to go. This tells your brain what to do with your hands. Your peripheral vision (i.e., your vision to each side) helps you to keep your road position.

The following information outlines the steering methods for safe vehicle operation:

1. Looking at the steering wheel as a clock face, drivers should place the left hand at the 9 o'clock position and the right hand at 3 o'clock position on the steering wheel. This position helps avoid injury from air bag deployment during an accident.

When using the turn signal indicators, headlight dimmer and windshield wiper controls, hand placement will change. You should have a slight bend in the elbow when the palm of your hand reaches the top of the steering wheel. Never sit in a position where your elbows are locked in a "stiff arm" type position.
2. Do not let the steering wheel slip through your fingers when turning/steering. Reverse the hand and arm movements made during the turn when coming out of a turn. This "counter-steering" makes for smooth turns and will also help in skids and when driving on snow and ice.
3. Do not cross your arms when steering or turning. It is OK to cross wrists while turning. But crossing arms may cause clothing and jewelry to interfere with safe turning. Also, you would suffer more serious injuries should the air bag deploy.
4. There are two generally accepted steering methods: **Push-Pull and Hand-over-Hand.**

- The Push-Pull method is recommended because it slows down turning movements making for a smoother, safer turn. It also keeps both hands on the steering wheel through the entire maneuver. Both hands move in an up and down motion on the sides of the steering wheel—the right hand on the right-hand side and the other on the left-hand side.
- **Left Turn:** Start with your hands at the proper placement of 9 and 3 o'clock positions. Pull down with your left hand to approximately 7 o'clock, and then push up with your right hand until it reaches approximately 1 o'clock. As your left hand pulls the wheel down, during the same movement you will move the right hand down to the three o'clock position so it is ready to take over. The right hand then pushes the wheel up as you reposition the left hand up to repeat this pattern until you complete your turn. Counter-steer to straighten out the vehicle.
- **Right Turn:** Start with hands at the proper placement of the 9 and 3 o'clock positions. Pull down with your right immediately 5 o'clock. Then, push up with your left hand until it reaches approximately 11 o'clock. Repeat this pattern until the turn is completed. Counter steer to straighten out the vehicle.
- The **Hand-over-Hand:** When turning the vehicle with this method, be careful to keep speed down. Steering this way crosses the hands at the top of the wheel. This method allows for quicker wheel movement, but there will be times when only one hand is on the wheel. Also, loose clothing or jewelry can get in the way, and the body can become unbalanced. For these reasons, the Push-Pull method is recommended for normal everyday driving.
- For a right turn, start with hands at the proper 9 and 3 o'clock positions. Lean forward and grasp the outside of the rim at the 1 o'clock position with the right hand palm down. Lean back and pull with the right hand to the 5 o'clock position. Lean forward and grasp the outside of the rim with the left hand, palm down at the 1 o'clock position. Lean back and pull to the 5 o'clock position with the left hand. Repeat the process until the front wheels of the vehicle are at the desired angle. Before you straighten out, return hands to the original 9 and 3 o'clock positions. Counter-steer to straighten out the vehicle.
- For a left turn, simply follow the steps above, reversing the hand references and steering wheel references to the opposite of what is indicated above in each step

BACKING, MOVING FORWARD AND STOPPING

The following instructions are for vehicles with automatic transmissions:

1. **Backing** - Common mistakes committed by new drivers when backing are (a) moving too fast, (b) providing too much steering input and (c) turning the steering wheel in the wrong direction.

- With foot on the brake, move gear selector lever to "R" for reverse.
- Grasp steering wheel at 12 o'clock position with left hand.
- Turn to the right and place right arm over the back of the seat.
- Look over your shoulder through the rear window for a safe, clear path.
- Use idle speed or accelerate gently and smoothly, keeping a slow speed.
- Turn the wheel to the right to back to the right; turn to the left to back to the left.
- Continue looking to the rear until coming to a complete stop.

2. **Moving Forward** - Learning to avoid sudden or quick jolts forward will take some practice as follows:

- With foot on brake, move gear selector lever to "D" for drive.
- Check forward for safe, clear path.
- Check for traffic to the sides and behind.
- Signal if pulling away from a curb.
- If safe, pivot foot to accelerator and press down gently.
- Look at least one block ahead and steer toward a reference point.

3. **Stopping** - Planning ahead for smooth stops will help you avoid brake wear and potential rear-end collisions. Like most states, Tennessee reports that rear-end collisions are the most common type of accident recorded annually.

- Check mirrors to the side and rear for traffic.
- If moving to the curb or other lane, check over the right (or left) shoulder and signal intention.
- Release accelerator and pivot foot to brake pedal slowly.
- Press down on the brake pedal with a steady pressure for a smooth stop. Do not "stomp" on the brake pedal.
- If stopping at stop sign or traffic signal light, stop before the crosswalk, a marked stop line, and if there is no stop line, at the point of the nearest intersecting roadway, where you can view the approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway, before entering the intersection.
- If stopping at a curb, move to within 18 inches of the curb for proper parking.

As you may have noticed, driving is a complex and detailed activity that requires your complete attention. The "safest" thing you can do is to make sure you don't let your attention to driving safely decline after you have become competent.

SPECIAL WARNING: CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

Avoid Carbon Monoxide Poisoning: Carbon monoxide gas from a car engine can kill (it has no taste, no smell or visibility). It generally leaks when the car heater is running, when the exhaust system is not working properly or in heavy traffic when breathing fumes from other vehicles.

How to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Have the exhaust system checked regularly.
- Be alert for unusual roars from under the car.
- Never let the engine run in a closed garage
- Do not use a heater/air conditioner in a parked car with the windows closed.
- Close the fresh-air vent in congested traffic

The information in this chapter covered how to become “prepared for the driving task.” It will take some practice for new drivers to translate these written details into common habits for safe driving. Therefore, review this information frequently. Once you are comfortable with the operation of the vehicle, you will be ready to drive in various traffic situations, such as interstate driving.

TEXTING WHILE DRIVING

Effective July 1, 2009 drivers are prohibited from using a hand-held telephone or hand-held personal digital assistant to transmit or read a written message while the driver’s motor vehicle is in motion. Violations can result in a fine not to exceed Fifty Dollars, and court costs not to exceed Ten Dollars. Law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical persons and emergency management agency officers when in the actual discharge of their official duties, are exempt from the provisions of the law.

OPERATING A HAND-HELD PHONE IN A SCHOOL ZONE

Effective January 1, 2018, it is an offense for persons 18 years or older to use a hand-held mobile phone while a motor vehicle is in motion in any marked school zone in this state, when a warning flasher or flashers are in operation. There is an exception if the phone is being used in hands free mode. This exception also does not apply to persons under eighteen (18) years of age and creates a delinquent act for these individuals.



VIDEO DEVICES IN VEHICLES

Careful planning and consideration should be given for the placement of video devices in vehicles. State law prohibits the installation of a video monitor or video screen capable of displaying a television broadcast or video signal that is intended to display an image visible to the driver of a vehicle while in motion. A navigation or global positioning device, a vehicle information system display, visual displays for the driver’s view forward, behind and the sides of the vehicle are not prohibited. Careful consideration should be given to the placement of this equipment to insure no visual obstructions.

HANDS FREE TENNESSEE

Public Chapter No. 412, was implemented in 2019. It is now illegal for a driver to:

- (a) hold a cellphone or mobile device with any part of their body,
 - (b) write, send, or read any text-based communication,
 - (c) reach for a cellphone or mobile device in a manner that requires the driver to no longer be in a seated driving position or properly restrained by a seat belt,
 - (d) watch a video or movie on a cellphone or mobile device, and
 - (e) record or broadcast video on a cellphone or mobile device.
- for more information, please visit www.handsfreetn.com.**

Chapter 1– Chapter Sample Test Questions

Here are some sample test questions. Because these are just study questions to help you review, you may receive a test with completely different questions, in whole or in part. The page number is shown for where the correct answer can be located for each question. Also, answers to all study questions can be found in the back of the book.

1. Properly adjusted seat head restraints:
 - A. Are designed to prevent whiplash if hit from behind.
 - B. Both A and C
 - C. Should always be at a level even with the back of head. Page 27
2. The driver should drive with both hands on the steering wheel approximately in the:
 - A. 9 o’clock and 3 o’clock positions
 - B. 11 o’clock and 6 o’clock positions
 - C. 7 o’clock and 5 o’clock positionsPage 28
3. When adjusting the driver’s seat for best driving posture, set the seat in an upright position where your body is about how far from the steering wheel?
 - A. 6 to 8 inches
 - B. 10 to 12 inches
 - C. 18 to 24 inchesPage 27

Section B-2 TENNESSEE SAFETY BELT LAWS

“It’s the Law”

The use of safety belts, child restraint safety seats and child booster seats are required by Tennessee law.

These can help save you and your passengers’ lives in the event of a traffic crash. Tennessee law enforcement officers can stop drivers and issue citations for failure to observe the safety belt or child restraint laws. Officers can stop and ticket drivers solely for disobeying Safety belt and Child Restraint Device (CRD) laws.



- A. Safety belts are required for ALL drivers and all passengers in the FRONT seat, any time the vehicle is in motion.
- B. Safety belts are also required for BACKSEAT passengers in the following situations:
 - If the passengers are under 17 years old.
 - This provision no longer applies when back seat passengers are 18 years or older.
 - If the driver has either a learner permit or an intermediate license, and when the passengers are between four and 17 years old.
 - If the passenger is four through eight years old and is shorter than four feet, nine inches in height. These passengers must be in a child booster seat at all times. Children in booster seats must be in the back seat of a vehicle, if the vehicle has a back seat. (This booster seat must meet federal motor vehicle safety standards as indicated on its label.)

Child Safety Restraint Rules

Tennessee was the first state in the country to pass a Child Passenger Protection Law requiring children to be restrained in child safety seats (car seats and booster seats).

- A. A child under one year old, or any child weighing less than 20 pounds, must be in a child passenger restraint system (car seat) that is facing the rear of the car.
- B. Children who are one through three years old, and who weigh more than 20 pounds, must be in a child passenger restraint system that is facing forward.
- C. Children who are four through eight years old and whose height is under four feet, nine inches, must be in a belt positioning booster seat system (child booster car seat) and wearing a seatbelt.

NOTE: These “Child Safety Restraining” seats should be in the rear seat of the car, if possible.

All child passenger restraint systems (car seats and booster seats) referenced above must meet federal motor vehicle safety standards and be used consistently with the manufacturer’s and the vehicle’s instructions.

- D. Children are further protected by the law, which makes the driver responsible for their protection up to the age of sixteen

(16). If children under age 16 are not properly restrained, the driver may be charged and fined \$50.00 for violation of the law.

If the child’s parent or legal guardian is present in the car but not driving, then the parent or legal guardian is responsible for making sure that the child is properly transported and may be fined for non-compliance.

If the violation is one relating to not using a car seat or booster seat for children under nine years old or whose height is less than four feet, nine inches, the punishment is greater. The driver can be charged with a Class C misdemeanor, required to attend a class on safely transporting children and required to pay possible fees and fines.

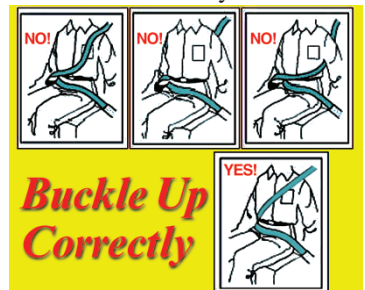
- E. Provisions are made for the transportation of children in medically prescribed modified child restraints. A copy of a doctor’s prescription should be carried in the vehicle utilizing the modified child restraint device (CRD) at all times.

SAFETY BELTS SAVE LIVES

SAFETY BELT FACTS

Safety belts and child safety seats help prevent injury five different ways, by:

1. **Preventing ejection:** Ejection greatly increases the chance of death or serious injury. The chance of being killed in a crash by being ejected from a vehicle is one in eight. Safety belts virtually eliminate ejection. The belted driver stays inside the car and is better protected from injury.
2. **Shifting crash forces to the strongest parts of the body’s structure. To get the most benefit from a seat belt, be aware of the following points:**
 - The lap belt should be worn low over the pelvis with the bottom edge touching the tops of the thighs snugly.
 - The shoulder belt should be worn over the shoulder and across the chest, not under the arm and over the abdomen. Make certain that the shoulder belt is not worn so loosely that it slides off the shoulder.
 - Pregnant women should wear the lap belt below the abdomen and the shoulder belt above the belly.
3. **Spreading crash forces over a wide area of the body.** Safety belts reduce the possibility of injury from “hostile” surfaces inside the car (steering wheel, dashboard, windshield, controls, etc.). Even if the belted driver



collides with some of these surfaces, it happens with much less force and often results in less serious injury.

4. **Keeping the body more closely in the “proper driving posture.”** The belt keeps the driver “in the driver’s seat.” The belted driver is better able to deal with emergencies and often avoids more serious trouble.
5. **Protecting the head and spinal cord.** The belted driver is less likely to be stunned or made unconscious by the crash and is better able to cope with the situation. Research has found that proper use of lap/shoulder belts reduces the risk of fatal injury to front seat passenger car occupants by 45 percent and the risk of moderate-to-critical injury by 50 percent (for occupants of light trucks, 60 percent and 65 percent respectively).

VITAL STATS

- In 2019, almost 2,400 teens in the United States aged 13–19 were killed and about 258,000 were treated in emergency rooms for injuries suffered in motor vehicle crashes.
- Vehicle occupants were 32 times more likely to die in a crash if they were unbelted. They were 3 times more likely to sustain serious injuries if they were unbelted
- Failure to use a safety belt contributes to more fatalities than any other single traffic safety-related behavior.
- According to the CDC in 2020, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of fatal injuries for children ages 3 to 14. In 2020 an average of 6 children are killed and 423 were injured EVERY DAY in the United States.

COMMON FEARS AND MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT SAFETY BELTS:

Many people still have “bad information” about using safety belts. For example:

“Safety belts can trap you inside a car.” It takes less than a second to undo a safety belt. Crashes seldom happen where a vehicle catches fire or sinks in deep water and you are “trapped.” Only one-half of one percent of all crashes ends in fire or submersion. Even if they do, a safety belt may keep you from being “knocked out.” Your chance to escape will be better if you are conscious.

“Some people are thrown clear in a crash and walk away with hardly a scratch.” Most crash fatalities result from the force of impact or from being thrown from the vehicle. Your chances of not being killed in an accident are much better if you stay inside the vehicle. Safety belts can keep you from being thrown out of a vehicle and into the path of another one. Ejected occupants are four times more likely to be killed as those who remain inside the vehicle.

“If I get hit from the side, I am better off being thrown across the car, away from the crash point.” When a vehicle is struck from the side, it will move sideways. Everything in the vehicle that is not fastened down, including the passengers, will slide toward the point of the crash, not away from it.



BUCKLE UP **IT'S WORTH THE EFFORT**

In 2016, traffic crashes on Tennessee’s roadways killed 1039 people. Sadly, many of these deaths could have been prevented if the victims had taken the time to buckle up.

TENNESSEE’S CHILD PASSENGER PROTECTION LAWS

By promoting child passenger safety, Tennessee attempts to protect children from needless death or injury. Many of these needless injuries result in permanent disabilities, such as paralysis, brain damage, epilepsy, etc.

Why needless? Consider the following:

- Motor vehicle injuries are a leading cause of death among children in the United States. But many of these deaths can be prevented.
- Infants (under one year old) who are properly secured in safety seats survive almost 75 percent of the crashes that would otherwise be fatal. Toddlers (one-to-four years old) who are properly secured in safety seats survive more than half of the crashes that would otherwise be fatal.
- The proper use of child restraint devices could prevent 9 out of 10 deaths and 8 out of 10 serious injuries to child passengers under the age of four. If child safety restraint seats were used properly 100 percent of the time, the percentage of children who survive crashes would go up by 23 percent.



Set a Good Example – Always Buckle Up

Think about what your child sees you do in the car. Do you wear your safety belt? Children follow their parents’ examples. Studies show that children’s behavior in the car improves when they learn how to ride in a child restraint device. Make it a habit for you and your child.

Tips For Using Safety Belts With Children

When your child “graduates” from the child restraint system to safety belts, it is very important for the belts to lie across the correct area of the child’s body.

Basically, a child is big enough to use the vehicle lap and shoulder belt when (1) they can sit with their back against the vehicle seat back and (2) their knees bend over the edge of the vehicle seat. The lap belt should lie securely on the child's upper thigh, low and snug around the hips. The shoulder belt should fit snugly across the chest and rest between the neck and shoulder. NEVER put the shoulder belt behind the child's back or under their arms.

“Belts to Bones”

The pelvic bone and the collarbone should bear the pressure of the safety belts. If the safety belt system rides too high on the child's stomach, or if the shoulder harness lies across the face or neck area of the child, go back to using a booster seat or a high back booster model that uses the vehicle's existing safety belt system.

AIR BAG SAFETY

Air bags can HELP save your life. Air bags combined with safety belts are the best protection currently available in a car, SUV, or truck. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that between 1987 and 2012, air bags have been credited with saving more than 39,976 lives from information provided by the NHTSA.

Remember: Most tragedies involving air bags can be prevented if air bags are used in combination with safety belts.

Air bags were developed to prevent occupants from striking the steering wheel or dashboard. The air bag deploys and immediately deflates—faster than the blink of an eye.

If you drive, own or ride in a vehicle equipped with either a driver-side and/or passenger side air bag, you should follow the following safety points:

Air Bags and Children

CHILDREN ages 12 and under are safer in the back seat of a vehicle.

- “The Back Is Where It’s At” for children 12 and under. While air bags have a good overall record of providing supplemental protection for adults in the event of a crash, they pose a severe risk for children ages 12 and under. Research shows that children and air bags simply do not mix.
- Children are safer when they are properly restrained in a child restraint device or safety belt in the rear seat of a vehicle, regardless of whether the vehicle is equipped with a passenger side air bag.
- It is not advisable to place a child safety seat in the front seat of a vehicle, when a passenger side air bag is present. Instead, the child safety seat should be placed in a rear seat, if available.
- Infants in rear-facing seats should be placed in the rear seat,

if available, of a vehicle with a passenger-side air bag. If a child must ride in the front seat of a vehicle such as a pickup truck, with a passenger side air bag, the seat should be moved back as far as possible, and the child should be properly buckled up.

Air Bags and Adults:

- Always wear the lap AND shoulder safety belts.
- If you have an adjustable steering wheel, always try to keep it tilted down in a level or parallel position.
- Sit as far as possible from the steering wheel (or dashboard on passenger side) to give the air bag room to deploy and spread its energy. Ten (10) to twelve (12) inches between the chest and the air bag module is recommended by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Other Child Passenger Protection Laws

It is illegal in Tennessee to allow any child under the age of 6 to ride in the bed of a pickup truck. It is also against the law to allow any child between the ages of 6 and 12 to ride in the bed of a pickup truck on any state or interstate highway. Cities and counties may prohibit by ordinance, children between the ages of 6 and 12 from riding in the bed of a pickup truck on any city or county roads or highways.

There are two exceptions. One exception to this law is when a child is being transported in the bed of the vehicle when it is part of an organized parade, procession or other ceremonial event and the vehicle must not exceed the speed of twenty (20) miles per hour. The other exception is when the child being transported in the bed of the vehicle is involved in agricultural activities.

DO NOT LEAVE CHILDREN UNATTENDED IN A MOTOR VEHICLE

TCA Code 55-10-803 is a provision in the law for the offense of leaving child unattended in motor vehicle.

It is an offense for a person responsible for a child younger than 7 years of age to knowingly leave that child in a motor vehicle located on public property or while on the premises of any shopping center, trailer park, or any apartment house complex, or any other premises that is generally frequented by the public at large without being supervised in the motor vehicle by a person who is at least 13 years of age, if:

- (1) The conditions present a risk to the child's health or safety;
- (2) The engine of the motor vehicle is running; or
- (3) The keys to the motor vehicle are located anywhere inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle.
 - (b) A violation of this section is a Class B misdemeanor punishable only by a fine of two hundred dollars (\$200) for the first offense.
 - (c) A second or subsequent violation of this section is a Class B misdemeanor punishable only by a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500).

SPECIAL WARNING: DURING HOT WEATHER, DO NOT LEAVE CHILDREN OR PETS UNATTENDED IN A VEHICLE

On a typical sunny, summer day, the temperature inside a car can reach potentially deadly levels within minutes. Experts say the damage can happen in as little as ten minutes. Even on a mild day at 73 degrees outside, an SUV can heat up to 100 degrees in 10 minutes and to 120 degrees in just 30 minutes. At 90 degrees outside, the interior of a vehicle can heat up to 160 degrees within several minutes.

Heat exhaustion can occur at temperatures above 90 degrees and heat stroke can occur when temperatures rise above 105 degrees. If not treated immediately, heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke. With respiratory systems that are still developing, children are particularly vulnerable to heat exhaustion.

Depending on the seriousness of the offense, a person can be charged with penalties ranging from a Class A Misdemeanor to a Class A Felony for leaving a child unattended in a vehicle. TCA Code 39-15-401 provides that “any person who knowingly, other than by accidental means, treats a child under eighteen years of age in such a manner as to inflict injury commits a Class A misdemeanor. If the abused child is six years of age or less, the penalty is a Class D felony. TCA Code 39-15-402 carries a possible Class B or Class A felony for aggravated child abuse and aggravated child neglect or endangerment. Class A Misdemeanors carry a penalty of not greater than 11 months, 29 days or a fine up to \$2,500, or both. Class A Felonies can carry a penalty of not less than 15 and no more than 60 years. In addition, the jury may assess a fine not to exceed \$50,000.

Remember :

- Children should never be left alone in a vehicle, not even to run a quick errand.
- Be sure that all occupants leave the vehicle when unloading. Don't overlook sleeping babies.
- Children can set a vehicle in motion. Always lock your car and ensure children do not have access to keys or remote entry devices.
- If a child gets locked inside, call 911 and get him/her out as soon as possible.
- If you see a child or animal unattended in a car, be proactive and call 911.

Chapter 2 – Chapter Sample Test Questions

Here are some sample test questions. Because these are just study questions to help you review, you may receive a test with completely different questions, in whole or in part. The page number is shown for where the correct answer can be located for each question. Also, answers to all the study questions can be found in the back of the book.

4. A child in a child passenger restraint system (car seat) should:
- A. be facing the rear of the car if weighing less than 20 pounds and under 1 year old.
 - B. be facing forward if the child is one through three years old, and weighs more than 20 pounds,
 - C. A & B

Page 31

5. The lap belt should be worn:
- A. at the abdomen for extra comfort .
 - B. above the pelvis so it doesn't touch the top of the thighs.
 - C. by pregnant women below the abdomen and the shoulder belt above the belly.

Page 31

6. The safest place for children 12 and under to ride in a vehicle equipped with air bags is:
- A. The front seat
 - B. The back seat
 - C. The bed of a pick-up truck

Page 33

Section B-3 GETTING FAMILIAR WITH YOUR VEHICLE

TRAFFIC SIGNS

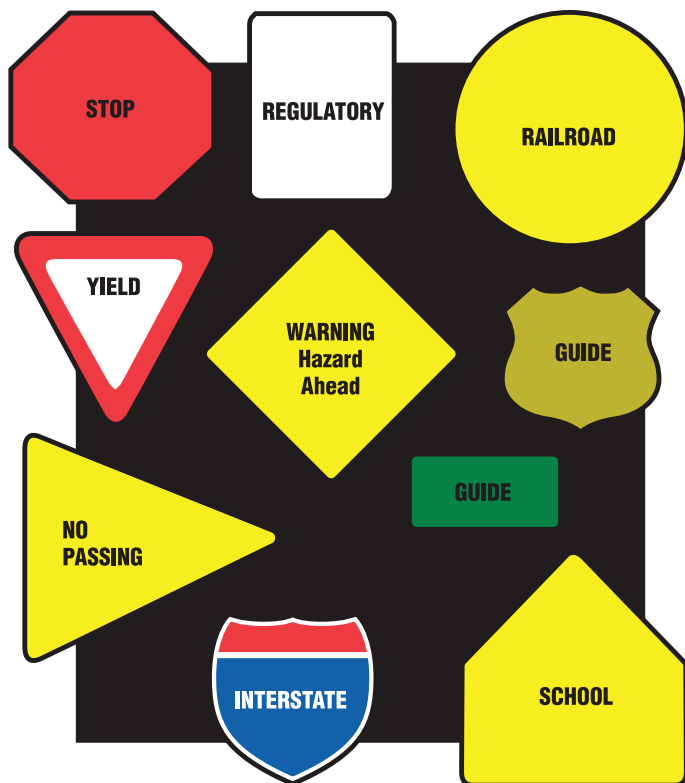
Traffic control devices include traffic signals, signs and pavement markings. Traffic control can also be provided by law enforcement, highway construction personnel or school crossing guards. Drivers must obey directions from these individuals, even if the directions are different than what the traffic lights and signs indicate.

Traffic signs give you information about the road, the highway system, traffic flow and the local regulations and laws. They warn you about hazards, identify your route and direct the speed and movement of traffic. These signs also provide directions and let you know about places of interest, from the huge overhead green interstate signs to the little blue rectangles that direct you to a library or hospital.

Every traffic sign has a definite shape and colors that announce its purpose and specific meanings. You should be able to recognize them immediately. Even if a stop sign is damaged or blocked by dirt, limbs or snow, you should know by the octagonal shape and red color that you must stop.

Sign Colors and Shapes

Learn the standard colors and shapes (shown below) so you know what a sign means, even at a distance. For example, a regulatory sign is always a rectangle, telling you about laws and regulations or giving you instructions such as speed limits or lane uses.



Color Codes on Highway Traffic Signs

The meanings of the nine basic background colors of signs should be memorized. The colors used on standard signs are as follows:



RED: Stop, yield, do not enter or wrong way.



YELLOW: General warning.



ORANGE: Construction and maintenance warning.



BLACK: Regulatory. Route markers.



BROWN: Public recreation areas



GREEN: Guidance



WHITE: Regulatory and Route Markers



BLUE: Motorist services and information



FLUORESCENT YELLOW-GREEN: School zones

RED is used only as a background color for STOP signs, multiple supplemental plates (FOUR-WAY or ALL WAY), DO-NOT-ENTER messages, WRONG WAY signs and on Interstate route markers. Red is also used as a legend color for YIELD signs, parking prohibition signs, the circular outline and diagonal bar prohibitory symbol.

BLACK-WHITE is used for **regulatory signs**. Regulatory signs are used to inform road users of selected traffic laws or regulations. Black is used for a message on white, yellow and orange signs. Whenever white is specified as a sign color, it includes silver-colored reflecting coating or elements that reflect white light.

WHITE is used as the background for route makers, guide signs, regulatory signs, except STOP signs and for the legend on brown, green, blue, black and red signs. Whenever white is specified as a sign color, this is referencing the silver-colored reflective coating and other materials that reflect white light.

ORANGE is used as a background color for construction and maintenance signs and shall not be used for any other purpose.

YELLOW is used as a background color for warning signs, except where orange is specified, and for school signs.

BROWN is used as a background color for guide information signs related to points of recreational cultural interest.

GREEN is used as a background color for guide signs (other than those using brown or white), mileposts and as a legend color with a white background for permissive parking regulations.

BLUE is used as a background color for information signs related to motorist services (including police services and rest areas) and the Emergency Route Marker.

FLUORESCENT YELLOW-GREEN IS THE COLOR FOR SCHOOL ZONES!

FLUORESCENT YELLOW-GREEN is now in use for signage in school zones and other pedestrian traffic areas such as crosswalks. These signs are much easier to see in low light and foggy/rainy weather. Where these signs are posted, motorists are encouraged to carefully watch for all forms of school traffic, including pedestrians, school children, bicyclists, as well as motor vehicles.



FLUORESCENT PINK (sometimes called “coral”) is used for incident management traffic control signage when needed for incidents such as traffic accidents, wildland fires, floods, and hazardous material spills, that take place on or adjacent to a road, interrupting the normal flow of traffic.

Temporary Traffic Control Zones

Temporary traffic control zones allow traffic to flow safely through incidents while reasonably protecting motorists, incident responders, vehicles, and equipment. Zones also are established when necessary to restrict use of road systems to incident management personnel. Availability of message signs, warning lights, flags, barricades, and cones may be used to enhance the visibility of traffic control zones.

IMPORTANT: Whenever white is specified as a sign color, it includes silver-colored reflecting coating or elements that reflect white light.

Traffic signs are placed to help you and to instruct you in the best and safest use of the highway. All signs must be obeyed at all times, unless a policeman or other traffic officer directs you to do otherwise. Study and learn the following signs and notice the shape of each sign has a general or specific meaning.

Octagon Shape — Stop

This sign is the only eight-sided sign on the roadway. It always means that there is danger. It will always be red with white lettering. It tells you that you are



approaching an important street or highway and that you must bring your car to a complete stop, not going beyond the crosswalk. IF you cannot see, then proceed cautiously to a point where you can see, and then go only if you can do so safely.

ALL WAY: Red Rectangle –Added below a stop sign. It means all traffic approaching this intersection must stop.



Triangular Shape — Yield

This three-sided sign means that you are approaching an intersection and must stop and wait when other vehicles are approaching from the right or left on the other roadway. If you are sure no other

cars are coming you need not come to a complete stop but you must slow down and enter the intersection with caution. Always stop when traffic is heavy.

Round Shape — Railroad Ahead

This circular sign always means that you are approaching a railroad grade crossing. You must slow down and be ready to stop. This sign tells you that it is up to you to stop if you see a train coming. NEVER TRY TO “BEAT” THE TRAIN. YOU WILL USUALLY MISJUDGE ITS SPEED. More than 200 traffic crashes occur each year at railroad crossings. Do not play with your life trying to “beat the train.”



Broad “X” Shape — Railroad Here

This is known as a crossbuck sign. It is placed at all railroad grade crossings and shows exactly where the tracks are located. Notice the smaller signs placed on the post directly below the crossbuck. They show the number of tracks at a particular crossing. This is very important because, when there are two or more tracks, one train passing might hide the approach of a train from the other direction.

Some crossbucks are equipped with two lights underneath the “X.” Flashing lights on a crossbuck mean that a train is coming. Always stop when the lights are flashing. Remain stopped until the train has passed. If there is more than one track, be sure all tracks are clear before crossing.



Some crossbucks are equipped with both flashing lights and a gate. Stop when the lights begin flashing and before the gate comes down. Remain stopped until the gates are raised and the lights stop flashing.

Diamond Shape — Hazardous Or Unexpected Condition Ahead

These signs call for caution and usually for a slower speed. Some carry written information. Others are miniature symbolic road maps that warn of highway conditions ahead. This sign tells you that you are approaching an intersection. The black lines show just what kind of intersection this is. This sign tells you it is a crossroad.



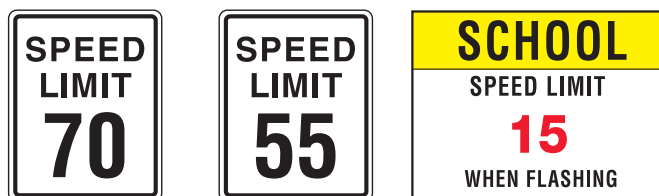
Rectangular Shape - Special Laws, Regulations or Important Information, Some Guide Signs

The signs below are examples of lane control signs. Some indicate that certain vehicles (trucks) must use specific lanes. While others indicate that traffic in the respective lanes must either move straight through or turn left. These signs are

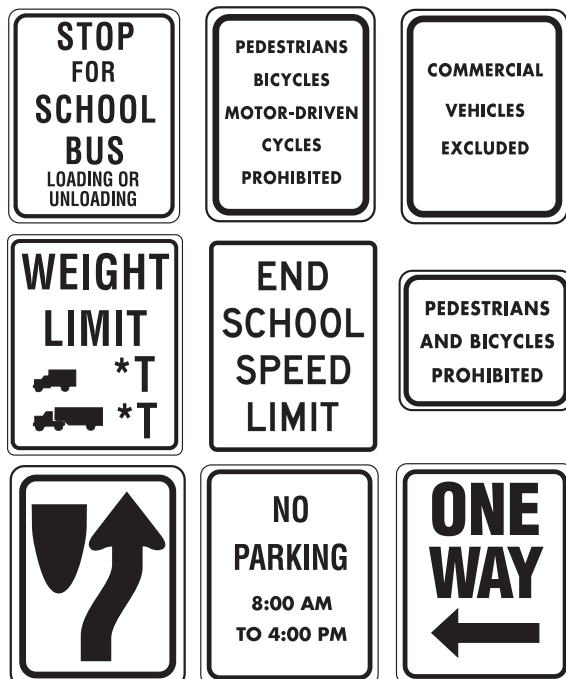


sometimes mounted overhead. This sign (High Occupancy Vehicle) indicates lanes reserved for buses and vehicles with the minimum number of occupants specified on the sign.

Speed Control: These signs show the maximum speed allowed, the minimum speed required or a change in speed limit. The sign on the far right is used whenever children are within walking distance of school. It tells you that children may be crossing the street on their way to and from school. This type of sign is controlled by a time clock and flashes yellow lights while illuminating the speed limit. Failure to obey the posted school zone limit could result in serious injury or loss of life.



Regulatory Signs



This sign is used on a highway that has more than one lane going each direction. It means that you must drive in the extreme right lane unless you want to pass a slower moving car or make a left turn. Never straddle lanes or drive in the center lane when moving more slowly than other traffic around you.

No Passing Signs: These signs tell you where passing is not permitted. Passing areas are based on how far you can see ahead. They consider unseen hazards such as hills and curves, intersections, driveways and other places a vehicle may enter the roadway.



A triangular No Passing Zone sign can also be used. These signs are yellow or orange and placed on the left side of the roadway.

Signs having a white background and a red circle and a line diagonally through them mean "NO" according to what is shown behind the red symbol. For example:



This sign tells you that, in the area where this sign is placed, parking is forbidden.

This sign tells you that you are approaching a one-way street and that you must not enter from the direction you are traveling.



In Tennessee, it is illegal to stand on a roadway to solicit a ride. Hitchhiking is not only dangerous for the pedestrian, but also to the driver of the vehicle who stops to pick up a stranger.

Warning Signs - Diamond Shape (Yellow)

Warning signs alert road users to conditions that might call for a reduction of speed or an action in the interest of safety and efficient traffic operations. Become familiar with these signs so that each message can be quickly understood and followed.



This sign tells you to be prepared for a rather sharp turn to the left. The turn sign is used to mark turns with a recommended speed of 30 m.p.h. or less.

Curve Sign: This sign tells you that you must be prepared for a curve to the right. The curve sign is used to mark curves with recommended speeds in the range between 30 and 55 m.p.h.



Reverse Turn Sign: This sign tells you that you must turn right, then left. The reverse turn sign is used to mark two turns in opposite directions that are less than 600 feet apart.



Advisory Speed Plate: The smaller sign on the post beneath this sign is used to supplement warning signs. It gives you the recommended maximum safe speed.

You will see this sign in some hilly areas. This sign warns of rocks that may be in the road, not of rocks which may strike you from overhead. Watch the roadway, not the hill.



This sign indicates that there is a STOP sign just ahead that you cannot yet see. At this point, start to slow down. A similar sign using a symbol shaped like a traffic light and the black arrow indicates there is a "traffic signal ahead."

This sign indicates that there is a YIELD sign just ahead that you cannot yet see. At this point, start to slow down.



This sign indicates that children are likely to be in the area with a school bus loading and unloading during the school season.



This sign is warning of the lane ending and that drivers should merge left. Be sure to signal your intentions.

This sign alerts you to the possibility of traffic blending into the main stream of travel. After checking to your rear, you should move into the other lane, if possible, to allow the merging motorist a clear path.



This sign tells you that the bridge is narrow and may require passing cars to reduce speeds.

You will see the following sign near school grounds or buildings. It warns you to slow down, drive with caution and watch for children. This sign is placed as you approach a school.



SLIPPERY WHEN WET



TWO-WAY TRAFFIC



CATTLE CROSSING



LEFT LANE ENDS



BIKE CROSSING



WINDING ROAD



LOW CLEARANCE
Shows the distance from road surface to the bottom of a bridge or overpass



T-INTERSECTION AHEAD

These Chevron signs displayed below are used to provide additional emphasis and guidance for a change in horizontal alignment.



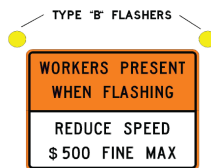
T-INTERSECTION
You must turn right or left.
Be prepared to yield.



CHEVRON
A sharp change in direction ahead

Work Area Signs

These construction, maintenance or emergency operations signs are generally diamond or rectangular shaped, orange with black letters or symbols and warn you that people are working on or near the roadway. These warnings include reduced speed, detours, slow moving construction equipment and lane closures. In work areas, a person with a sign or flag may control traffic. You must obey the directions of these persons.



Construction Signs

Construction signs are generally **diamond** or **rectangular** shaped and **orange with black letters symbols**. Their purpose is to warn drivers to be prepared to stop and that workers are present near the roadway. The warnings include reduced speed, detours, slow moving construction equipment and lane closures.

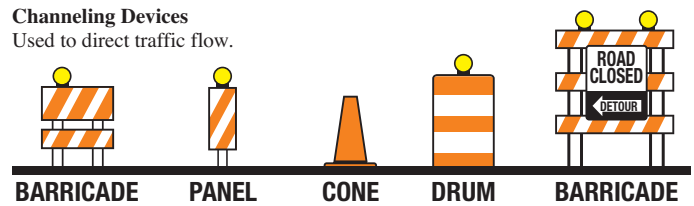


Channeling Devices

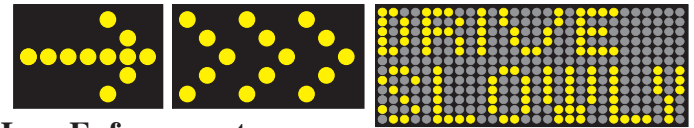
Barricades, vertical panels, concrete barriers, drums and cones are the most common devices used to guide drivers safely through work zones. When driving near these devices, keep your vehicle in the middle of the lane and obey the posted speed limit. As you leave the work zone, stay in your lane and maintain your speed. Don't change lanes until you are completely clear of the work zone.

Channeling Devices

Used to direct traffic flow.



Electronic Message or Arrow Signs: These are mobile devices that are often used on some roads to give advance warning of construction zones, special traffic directions, road closures or in some cases weather hazards. Flashing arrow panels alert approaching drivers of lane closures. You must begin to merge into the remaining open lane(s) well in advance of this sign.



Law Enforcement

You will see Law Enforcement Officers in the Fluorescent Yellow-Green Vests and rain coats during traffic related emergencies to make sure they can be seen under normal conditions and under low light and poor weather conditions.

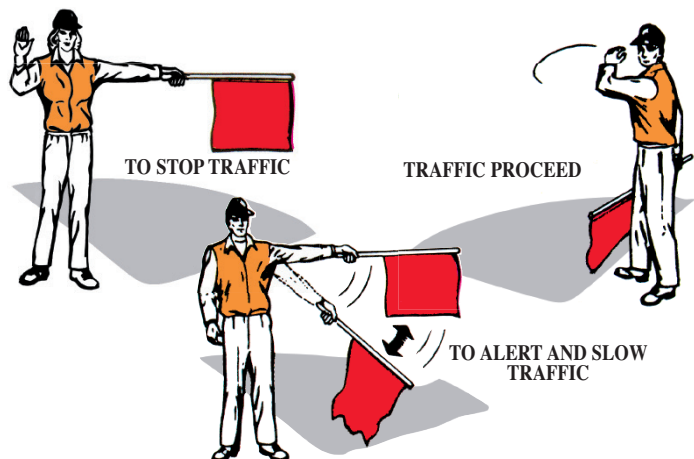


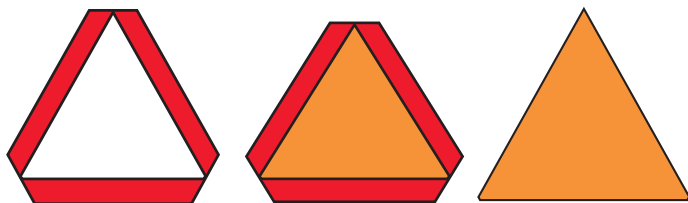
Highway Flaggers

Flaggers, at most worksites, will be using paddles with the word stop on one side and slow on the other. However red flags are used in emergency situations as shown below.

The basic hand movements for stop and proceed remain the same, whether a flag or paddle is used. Please learn these three simple signals displayed below, since they are the most commonly used by construction flaggers.

Flaggers along with utility workers, construction worker and other emergency personnel directing traffic, can also be seen wearing FLUORESCENT YELLOW-GREEN clothing, vests and hard helmets in these construction work zones. This is in addition to fluorescent orange to make sure they can be seen by drivers under normal conditions and improve being seen under low light and poor weather conditions.





RED REFLECTIVE
BORDERS

SLOW-MOVING
VEHICLE EMBLEM
KIT

ORANGE
FLUORESCENT
CENTER

Slow-Moving Vehicle (SMV) Emblem

Recognize this sign. Some day (or night) it may save your life. Look at it!

During daylight, the bright fluorescent orange solid triangle in the center of the SMV emblem is highly visible. At night, the SMV emblem glows brilliantly in the path of approaching headlights.

You may see this emblem on slow-moving vehicles, such as farm tractors, machinery, construction equipment or horse-drawn vehicles.

Object Marker

These markers warn you of objects, not actually in the roadway, but so close to the edge of the road that need marking.

Typical applications include bridge ends, underpass abutments and other obstructions closely adjacent to the edges of roadways.

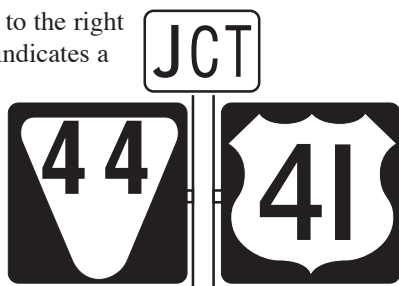


Hazard
to left

Hazard
to right

Guide Signs for Highways

A sign, such as the one to the right, (shown as State 44 and US 41) will indicate two highways are coming together or separating. The sign (marked as 44) is a state secondary route. The sign to the right (marked as Highway 41) indicates a U.S. highway route that will reach into another state. **U.S. Route signs consists of black numerals on a white shield surrounded by a black background without a border.**



PRIMARY ROUTE
(Primarily Connects
Cities)

The sign in lower left is a state primary route. Drivers should become thoroughly familiar with route numbers and signs they must follow when beginning a trip from one area to another.

Interstate Route Marker

Blue and red signs, like the one on the right, indicate that the route is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways. These highways join centers of population and defense establishments. They also join with the major international highways at the Mexican and Canadian borders. They are part of a nationwide network of the most important highways.



Guide Signs On Highways



These are signs to help you while driving on Tennessee's Interstate Highways. The signs are above or to the right of the highway with the arrows pointing to the lane you should be in if you intend to enter or leave the road.

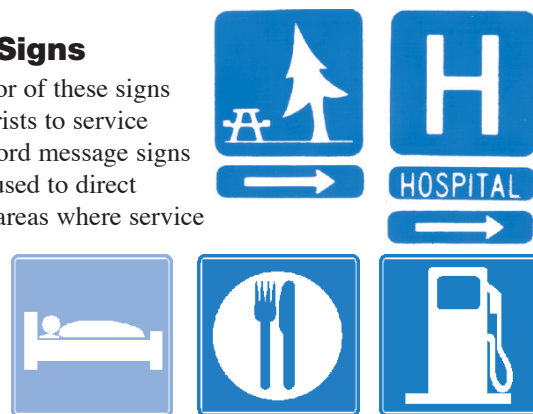
This sign is seen on Interstates and Expressways. The background is green with white letters and/or numbers visible at some distance. Such signs give information vital to selection of lane, proper exits, etc.



If an interstate guide sign is marked with the above sign, all traffic in the lane(s) directly below the arrows **MUST** exit.

Service Signs

The blue color of these signs directs motorists to service facilities. Word message signs will also be used to direct motorists to areas where service stations, restaurants and motels are available.



Handicap Symbol

Parking spaces displaying this blue sign are reserved for vehicles bearing disabled veteran or handicapped license plates, or a special handicapped decal. The convenience and availability of these spaces is important for disabled citizens. The use of reserved handicapped spaces by others is prohibited by law.



Directional Signs

The green background signs indicate that the message is providing directional information. Directional signs point to bike and hiking trails.



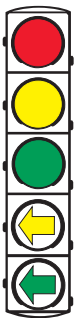
Emergency Reference Markers

In order to help motorists better identify their location on urban interstates, the state has installed interstate reference markers every 1,000 feet along heavily traveled sections. These have been installed in Nashville, Knoxville, Memphis, Jackson and Chattanooga. The signs display information about the route number, direction of travel and the “log mile” in tenths of a mile. Most are mounted on median dividers. Motorists with mobile phones who notify emergency operators about incidents can give an accurate description of the exact location where assistance is needed. This will help emergency personnel respond more rapidly, and possibly make the difference between life and death. It will also help clear the highways more quickly. In the sample (at right), this sign indicates the location as: West Bound on Interstate 40 at mile marker 205 and 2 tenths. So the driver would be between mile markers 204 and 206.



MAIN LINE SIGN

TRAFFIC SIGNALS



Traffic Signals are used to control vehicle drivers and pedestrians at some intersections and crosswalks. Signals promote better movement of traffic on busy roads by assigning right of way.

Traffic Signals are usually placed at heavily traveled intersections. These lights tell you when or where to stop and go. A green light means you can go if it is safe. A yellow light means caution—prepare to stop for the red light. The red light always means stop. Standard traffic lights are red, yellow and green, from top to bottom respectively.

RED: Stop behind crosswalk or stop line. Unless otherwise posted, you may turn right on red after coming to a complete stop and when no pedestrians or cross traffic are present.

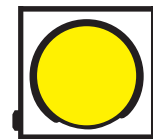
YELLOW: Caution—prepare to stop. The red stop signal will be exhibited immediately after the yellow light appears. Adjust speed immediately to come to a smooth stop. You must stop if it is safe to do so. Do not speed up to beat the light. If you are already IN the intersection when the yellow light

comes on, do not stop, but continue cautiously through the intersection. Tennessee law only requires the yellow light to be exhibited for a minimum of **three seconds before the red light**.

Collisions often happen at intersections on yellow lights. Not only is it dangerous to ignore the yellow light, you may hold up oncoming traffic that receives the green light. Please be aware that some drivers often “jump the green” and start through an intersection, because they have seen the yellow light come on from the crossing directions. *If you try to “beat the yellow” and another driver decides to “jump the green” the results could be deadly!*

GREEN: Go **IF** the intersection is clear. You must yield to pedestrians and vehicles still in the intersection at light change. The green signal gives permission to proceed, **BUT** you must still observe the laws of the right-of-way. Yield to oncoming vehicles if you are turning left. Never attempt to “jump the gun” by starting through the intersection early or by making a quick left turn in front of oncoming traffic. This is extremely dangerous!

PROTECTED ARROWS: At many intersections, you may see what is called a “protected turn arrow.” When the arrow is green, you have the right-of-way and may drive the vehicle only in the direction of the arrow, after yielding to vehicles and pedestrians already in the intersection. When the arrow changes to yellow, prepare to yield to oncoming traffic. When the arrow is red or your lane has the red light, all turns are prohibited. This is true even if other lanes of traffic have a green signal and your path through the intersection appears to be clear.



FLASHING YELLOW

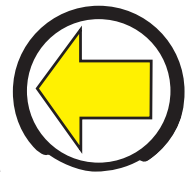
Slow down and proceed with caution at the intersection.



FLASHING RED

Complete stop. Same as stop sign. Look both ways, yield to traffic and pedestrians and proceed when it is safe to do so.

PERMISSIVE ARROWS: If you see a flashing yellow arrow, you are allowed to turn left after yielding to all oncoming traffic and to any bicyclists and pedestrians in the crosswalk. You must wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic before turning in the direction of the arrow.



Busy intersections can sometime leave vehicles stranded inside the intersection. Don't let this happen to you, do not pull into an intersection to make a turn until your path is clear.

Malfunctioning Traffic Light:

What to do when the light is out!

Tennessee state law requires that if a signal is not working, the intersection is to be treated as if it were a T-way stop intersection. Stop as you would if there were stop signs in all

directions (This is covered in the Rules of the Road chapter). Do not proceed until it is safe.

The right-of-way law says that if there are two or more vehicles at the intersection stopping at the same time, the driver on the left would yield to the driver on the right. The driver on the right who arrives first gets to go first. However, stay cautious and be sure it is safe to proceed even when you are in the first car to reach the intersection.

Pedestrian Signals: Allow pedestrians to know when it is legally permitted and safe to cross a street or intersection. Tennessee law defines a pedestrian as any person afoot or using a motorized or non-motorized wheelchair. Pedestrians can protect themselves by observing the following rules:

- A. “Walk” Sign:** Many streets with significant pedestrian traffic will have a pedestrian signal. The displays the word “WALK” or a symbol of a person walking when it is safe to cross the street or intersection. Pedestrians, who have started to cross the street or intersection when the “WALK” signal or walking person sign appears, should continue as quickly possible to the other side of the street before the signal shifts to “DON’T WALK.”



NOTE: At some intersections, there is a button near the base of the pedestrian signal or stop light that must be pushed by the pedestrian to activate the pedestrian signal to show the “WALK” sign.

- B. “Don’t Walk” Sign:** Pedestrian signals indicate when it is not permissible or safe to cross a street or intersection. When the pedestrian signal shows the words “DON’T WALK,” or a symbol of a raised hand appears, it is not safe to begin crossing a street or intersection. As a driver, pay attention to the traffic signals and pedestrian signals in order to anticipate when a pedestrian may begin to cross the street.



2. Lane Control Signals: The signals below may appear as single or multiple units over each lane of the road. They are most often used when the direction of the flow of traffic changes during different hours of the day. Also, these signals indicate whether toll plaza lanes are open or closed.



Driving in this lane is permitted



If flashing lane is for turning only; if solid direction of lane is changing



Driving is NOT permitted in this lane

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF PAVEMENT LANE MARKINGS

Uniform Highway Markings

The information in this chapter is based on the United States Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, which all states’ highway agencies must use in marking and signing roadways. Because states continue to update signage to conform with the federal requirements, drivers may encounter both old and new markings and signs. BE ALERT and follow directions.

(See the section on *Traffic Lanes and Lane Usage* starting at page 59 in the *Rules of the Road* chapter).

Lines and symbols on the roadway (1) divide the road into lanes, (2) tell you when you may pass other vehicles or change lanes, (3) indicate which lanes to use for turns, (4) define pedestrian walkways and (5) show where you must stop for signs or traffic signals. Line colors tell you if you are on a one-way or two-way roadway.

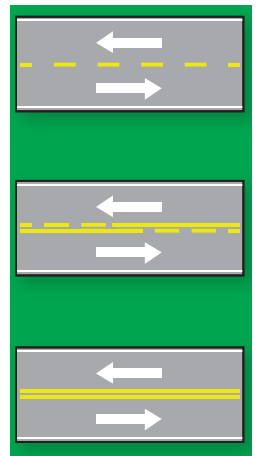
I. Edge and Lane Lines: Lines along the side of the road show you where the edge of the road is located. A solid white line indicates the right edge of the traffic lane on a road. A solid or broken yellow line indicates the left edge of traffic lanes going in your direction.

- If you ever find yourself with yellow to your right and white to your left, you are going the wrong way.
- Remember, on a divided highway, the side of the roadway to the left of the driver and nearest the median always has a yellow line.
- The right side of the roadway will always have a white line.

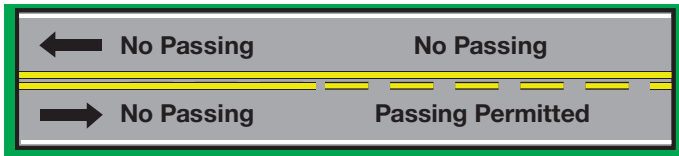
It is a good way to confirm you are traveling the right direction when entering an unfamiliar roadway.

A. Yellow Lane Markings: Lines separating traffic moving in opposite directions are yellow. Yellow lines are also used to mark a boundary or barrier of the travel path at the location of a particular hazard, such as bridge supports, etc.

- Broken yellow lines mean that you MAY cross the line to pass if there is no oncoming traffic and it is safe to do so.
- Two solid yellow lines between lanes of traffic mean you MAY NOT cross the lines from either direction, even if no oncoming traffic is in view. You may cross a solid yellow line to turn into a driveway or side road if it is safe to do so.
- One solid yellow line and one broken yellow: Where

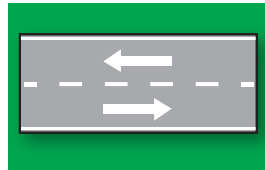


there is both a solid and a broken yellow line between opposing lanes of traffic, you may not pass if the solid yellow line is on your side. If the broken yellow line is on your side, you are in the “passing zone” and may pass if it is safe to do so. You must safely return to your side of the roadway before the passing zone ends.



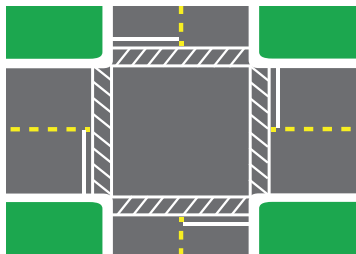
B. White Lane Markings - Multiple lanes of traffic that flow in the same direction are separated by white lane markings. You will find white lane markings on freeways, limited access highways, bypasses and one-way streets.

- Broken white lines between lanes of traffic mean you may cross the lines to pass or change lanes if it is safe to do so.

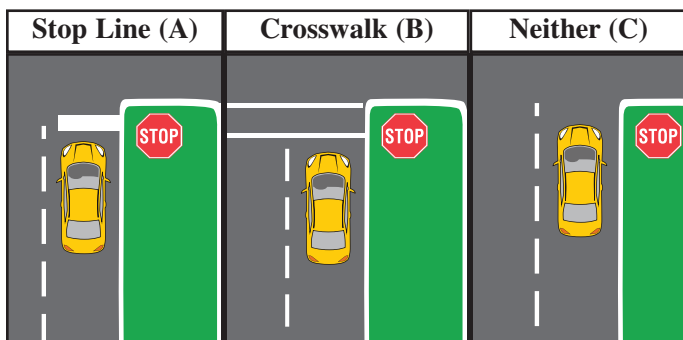
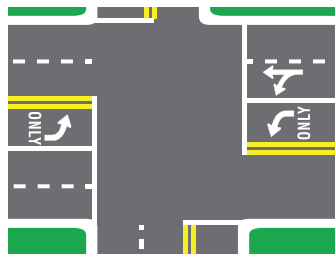


One solid white line between lanes of traffic means that you should stay in your lane and should not cross the line to pass (unless an emergency situation requires you to change lanes). Also, you should not cross a double solid white line.

2. Crosswalks - White crosswalk lines are painted across a road to indicate pedestrian crossing areas. Crosswalks define the area where pedestrians may cross the roadway and may be located at intersections or in the middle of a block. However, not all crosswalks are marked. You must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians who are in or are about to enter the crosswalk or street.



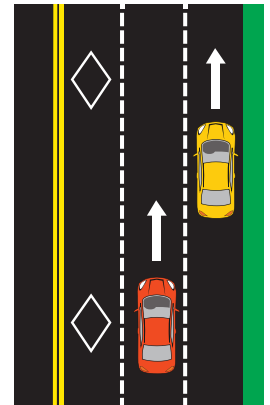
3. Stop Lines - White stop lines are painted on the pavement across traffic lanes, usually at intersections, to indicate the vehicle stopping position, before traffic signs or signals. (A) If the motorist is required to stop at the



intersection, the vehicle must be stopped behind this stop line. If no stop line is painted on the pavement, all vehicles required to stop must: (B) Stop the vehicle before crossing the first line of the crosswalk (if the crosswalk is marked), and (C) Stop the vehicle before the front bumper crosses the white edge line of the cross street, in order to keep the vehicle from protruding out into the cross street traffic.

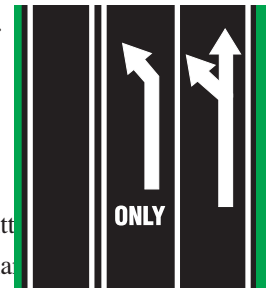
4. High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)

Lanes are designated on highways by a diamond-shaped marking in the center of the lane. HOV lanes may also be special lanes separated by a barrier. During heavy traffic periods, HOV lanes are reserved for buses, vanpools, motorcycles, carpools and other high occupancy vehicles. Road signs indicate the minimum number of passengers a vehicle must carry to use the HOV lanes and the times that HOV restrictions are in effect.



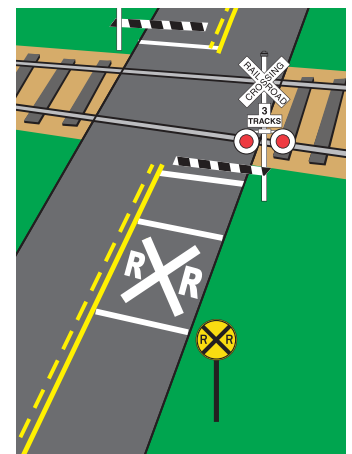
5. Turn Lane Arrow: If you are traveling in a lane marked with a curved arrow and the word ONLY, you must turn in the direction of the arrow. If your lane is marked with both a curved and a straight arrow, you may turn in the direction of the arrow or you may go straight.

- Double or triple arrows indicate more than one movement is permitted.
- Single arrows indicate only one movement is allowed.



6. White Crossbuck with RR:

A white crossbuck and the letters RR are painted on the pavement as a warning marker for many railroad/highway grade crossings.



Chapter 3 – Chapter Sample Test Questions

The page number shown with each question tells where correct answers can be located. Remember, these are just samples of possible questions that may be included in your actual test. You may receive a test with completely different questions in whole or in part. Here are some sample test questions. Also, answers to all the study questions can be found in the back of the book.

7. The sign at the right means:

- A. Slow down and yield to traffic on main road when merging.
- B. Always come to a complete stop.
- C. Give your turn signal and proceed into traffic at regular speed.



Page 36

8. What does a traffic signal with a yellow left arrow indicate to the driver?

- A. Prepare to yield to oncoming traffic.
- B. Protected left turn is about to end.
- C. Both of the above.

Page 41

9. The center of the roadway is marked with one solid yellow line and one broken yellow line. If the broken yellow line is on the right of the solid yellow line (your side) it means:

- A. You are not allowed to pass in this area.
- B. You are in a “passing zone” and it is safe to pass other vehicles if no oncoming traffic is present.
- C. You are only allowed to make right turns in this area.

Page 43

Section B-4 RULES OF THE ROAD

This chapter highlights key traffic laws and safe driving principles related to those laws. A more complete discussion of driving techniques is found in Section C of this manual, Safety Tips for Safe Driving and Sharing the Road.

Even on a short trip, you may be faced with many dangerous driving conditions. Statistics show that half of all vehicle crashes occur within 25 miles of home. The rules of the road are those laws, regulations and practices that provide safe vehicle movement on the roadways: **signaling, turning, passing and stopping.**

- Learn the traffic rules and follow them.
- Be willing to yield to other drivers to avoid a crash.
- Always watch carefully for advance warning and information signs.
- Be a courteous driver.
- Always obey instructions of traffic officers.

SOME BASIC RULES ARE:



Driving on the Right Side of the Road

In the United States, Canada and most other countries, right hand traffic is the rule. This means we drive on the right side of the road, and turn right when going around traffic circles, roundabouts or town squares.

Obeying Officers

You must obey traffic officers at all times. There will be times when an officer will instruct you to do something that ordinarily would be a violation of traffic regulations. The officer will do this only in case of an emergency when it is the only way to keep traffic flowing smoothly and safely. A common example: A police officer holding up traffic at a green light and permitting a funeral procession to continue through a red light.

Coasting Prohibited

While traveling on a downgrade, NEVER coast with the transmission of the vehicle in neutral. Also, drivers of manual transmission vehicles must not coast with the clutch depressed. Driving in neutral and/or with the clutch depressed reduces the driver's control of the car.

Use of Headlights

- **Required Night Use:** Your car headlights must be turned on 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise.
- **Required Daylight / Inclement Weather Use:** Also, your car headlights must be turned on:
 1. At any time when daylight is not good enough for

you to see persons or vehicles clearly at a distance of 200 feet ahead; and

2. When rain, mist, snow, or other precipitation requires constant use of windshield wipers.

Headlights turned on during daylight hours will make your vehicle easier to see to oncoming vehicles and pedestrians. Use headlights when driving at dusk. Even if you can see clearly, headlights help other drivers see you as much as they help you see them. Get into the habit of turning headlights on when using windshield wipers. **Remember, using headlights when wipers are in use is not just a good safety precaution — it's Tennessee law!**

- **Dimming of Headlights Required:** When your vehicle's high beam headlights are on, you must dim or lower the beam when an oncoming vehicle is within **500** feet (approximately the distance of one city block) or when you are following another vehicle within **500** feet.

Dimming headlights when following other vehicles is an important safety step. The glare from your headlights in a rear view mirror can blind another driver including a motorcyclist.

- **Limited Use of Parking Lights or Auxiliary Fog Lights:** The following procedures should be followed when using these types of lights:
 1. The law requires a vehicle stopped or parked on a road or shoulder to have parking lights on when limited visibility conditions exist.
 2. Do not drive a vehicle with only the parking lights on when driving at night or in inclement weather. The small size of parking lights may cause other drivers to think your vehicle is farther away than it actually is. When there is limited visibility, the use of parking lights alone is not only unsafe, it is against the law.
 3. It is also illegal to have auxiliary lights or fog lights on by themselves or on at times when you are required to dim high beam headlights. These very bright lights make it difficult for oncoming drivers to see, and the glare may reflect blindingly in the rear view mirror of vehicles you are following.
- **Daytime Running Lights:** Some newer vehicles have headlights that are on anytime the vehicle is running. These lights make it easier for others to see the vehicle, even in daylight. This reduces the likelihood of collisions.

Effective January 1, 2018, no vehicle operated in Tennessee shall be equipped with any steady-burning lights that display to the front of the vehicle in any color other than white or amber or in any combination of colors other than white and amber. There are exceptions for certain vehicles.

Also effective January 1, 2018, no vehicle operated in Tennessee shall be equipped with any flashing lights in any color or combination of colors that display to the front of the vehicle, other than factory installed emergency flashers. There are exceptions for certain vehicles.

Littering

Litter is an unsightly problem across the State of Tennessee creating an eyesore for our scenic roads and highways.



Throwing cigarette butts, food sacks, tobacco products, papers, cans, bottles or disposing of other material from vehicles are all forms of littering. Littering not only harms the environment we enjoy here in Tennessee but also poses a potential traffic hazard and risk to you and your family.

Tennessee law requires any motor vehicle transporting litter or any material, likely to fall or be blown off onto the highway, to be in an enclosed space or fully covered by a tarpaulin.

Prevention of littering is a major savings of your tax dollar. Costly cleanup of litter is required before our roadways can receive certain maintenance services such as roadside grass mowing.

Littering is against state law. Fines start at \$50 and can be up to \$3,000 based upon the amount of litter. A person convicted of littering is required to spend up to 40 hours of public service removing litter and at the discretion of the court, spend up to 8 additional hours of working in a waste recycling center. Littering can be very costly. Let's keep Tennessee clean – don't litter!

Slow-Moving Vehicles

It is against the law to drive slower than the posted minimum speed under normal driving conditions. You may drive more slowly than the minimum speed if you are driving in bad weather, heavy traffic or on a bad road. If there is no posted minimum speed, it is still against the law to drive so slowly that you block traffic.

NOTE: You are considered to be driving a slow-moving vehicle if you are traveling at a rate of speed that is 10 miles per hour or more below the lawful maximum speed. If five or more vehicles are lined up behind you, turn or pull off the roadway as soon as you can do so safely. Slow drivers, who block other traffic, cause many accidents.

Remember, slower is not always safer.

Funeral Procession

In Tennessee, it is a common and accepted practice for oncoming traffic to pull to the side of the roadway as a sign of respect when meeting a funeral procession. **Tennessee law instructs the following:**

- Vehicles following a funeral procession on a two-lane roadway may not attempt to pass such procession; and
- No operator of a vehicle shall drive between vehicles in a properly identified funeral procession except when directed to do so by a traffic officer.

The Basic Speed Rule

The speed at which you drive determines how much time you have to act or react and how long it takes to stop. The higher the speed, the less time drivers have to spot hazards. Judge the speed of other traffic, and react to avoid the mistakes of other drivers.

The Basic Speed Rule (BSR) is not a Tennessee law, but it is a general safety principle. The BSR does not set an exact speed limit; instead, it teaches that the speed you may drive is limited by current conditions. For example, if the posted speed limit is 65 m.p.h., and you are driving at night on a two-lane state highway and it's raining or foggy, 65 m.p.h. is too fast for those conditions.

To obey the BSR, think about your speed in relation to other traffic (including pedestrians, bicycles and motorcycles), the surface and width of the road, hazards at intersections, weather, visibility and any other conditions that could affect safety.

Principles of the Basic Speed Rule:

1. Your speed must be careful and prudent. Use skill and good judgment.
2. Your speed must be reasonable and proper, not too fast and not too slow, for any conditions including:
 - Amount of Traffic - How many cars on the road
 - Speed of Traffic - How fast or slow it's moving
 - Whether Pedestrians are Present - Especially children in school zones or neighborhoods
 - Surface of the Road - Rough or smooth, paved, gravel, etc.
 - Width of the Road - One-lane, two-lane, four-lane
 - Structure of the Road - Straight, curving, bridges, narrow shoulders, etc.
 - Visibility - How far ahead you can see clearly
 - Weather Conditions - Rain, snow, ice, fog, etc.
 - Your Own Driving Ability
3. Do not drive so slowly that you block, hinder, or interfere with other vehicles moving at normal speeds.
4. Your speed must be adjusted to conditions so you can stop within a clear distance ahead.

If you drive at a speed that is unsafe for existing conditions in any area, you are violating the basic rule. This applies even if you are driving slower than the posted speed or maximum limit.

Example: You are driving in a line of downtown traffic and the car ahead of you stops suddenly. If you cannot stop in time to avoid hitting that car from behind, you are either breaking the BSR - even if you were driving within the posted speed limit - or you are following too closely.

TENNESSEE SPEED LAWS

Speed is a major contributing factor that causes fatal accidents in Tennessee. Unless otherwise posted, the speed limit on primary and secondary state and federal highways is 55 m.p.h.

When driving, adjust your speed to flow along with the speed at which other traffic is moving - provided the other traffic is traveling within the posted speed limit. Slow drivers are as likely to become involved in accidents as speeders. If most vehicles are traveling between 50 and 55 m.p.h., you are least likely to have an accident if you stay within that speed range.

Interstate Speed Limits

The maximum speed set by Tennessee law for interstate highways is 70 m.p.h. This speed does not apply to ALL sections of the interstate highway system as they have variable speed limits. It may be set as low as 55 m.p.h. in some larger urban areas where there is more traffic congestion. The maximum limit should be driven only in ideal driving conditions. You must adjust your speed to the conditions.

Example: Reduce speed for (1) curves, (2) when the roadway is slippery (during rain, snow, icy conditions), or (3) when it is foggy and difficult to see clearly.



Rural Interstate Limits

70 m.p.h. is the speed posted on most of the rural sections of Tennessee interstate highways.

Urban Interstate Limits

In the more congested urban or metropolitan areas of Tennessee interstates, the limit is typically 55 m.p.h.

NOTE: It is unlawful for any person to drive a vehicle less than 55 m.p.h. in the left most lane of any Interstate highway, unless traffic congestion and flow prevent safe driving at such speed. On the interstates, the minimum speed limit in the right lane(s) is 45 m.p.h., and under normal driving conditions, all vehicles must travel at least this fast so they are not a hazard to other drivers. If the minimum posted speed limit is too fast for you, use another road.

Watch for speed limit changes! The state, counties and municipalities each have the authority to set speed limits for the roadways/highways under their control. You could see some sections of interstate vary in speed set by TDOT. On the secondary streets and highways, these limits will change according to certain zones. Some



residential roads or city streets may have limits as low as 25 or 35 m.p.h. at all times. Watch carefully and obey speed limit signs in business, residential and school zones.

Speeding in School Zones: Speed limits in all school zones are regulated when children are going to or from the school or during a school recess hour. **Exceeding the school zone speed limit is by law considered to be reckless driving.** The penalty includes an automatic six points added to your driving record, which automatically results in an advisory letter being sent to you.

Speeding in Highway Work Zones: Highway work zones are those portions of a street or highway where construction, maintenance or utility work is being done to the road, its shoulders or any other items related to the roadway. This includes work, such as underground and overhead utility work, tree trimming and survey activities. Highway work zones are easily recognized by the presence of orange (or yellow-green) signs and other orange traffic control devices, flashing lights on equipment and workers dressed in highly visible clothing (orange or yellow-green).

Highway workers are trained on how to set up safe zones with directional traffic signs and devices. Motorists and pedestrians are responsible for knowing how to read and react to these directions. Paying attention and driving cautiously and courteously are the most important steps to preventing crashes while driving through highway work zones.

TENNESSEE LAW MANDATES A MINIMUM FINE OF \$250 DOLLARS AND UP TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$500 DOLLARS FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE SPEED LIMIT POSTED IN ACTIVE WORK ZONES.

Work zone crashes are preventable. Drivers must obey the reduced speed limit, as well as pay close attention to the ever changing traffic lanes and detours in the construction work zone. Law enforcement provides increased patrols in work zone areas. State figures for 2021 show 26 persons died, 1,105 were injured and there were 3,010 cases of property damage in work zones crashes in Tennessee.



BRAKING, FOLLOWING AND STOPPING DISTANCES



Drivers must know and understand the safe and proper braking procedures for vehicles. This includes the principles of allowing adequate following distances or "safety cushion" around your vehicle and the laws of required stops (signs, signals, railroad crossings, school buses, etc.). It is important to

read the owner's manual of your vehicle to learn the safe and proper operation of your brake system.

By law, all automobiles must have two separate methods of applying brakes. Commonly, these are the vehicle's regular brakes (foot brake) and a parking or emergency brake (sometimes referred to as a "hand brake"). In this section, we will focus on use of the regular vehicle brakes. For information on use of the parking brake, see the section on backing and parking that begins on page 64.

1. Braking: You will encounter numerous driving situations, such as speed zone changes and merging traffic, that will require proper braking techniques. (1) You should apply your brakes slowly and evenly by applying gradual pressure. (2) Start braking early as a signal to the cars behind you. (3) If you brake too strong or quickly, you could skid and lose control of your vehicle. (4) A sudden stop makes it harder for drivers behind you to stop without hitting your vehicle.

IMPORTANT: As a general rule for vehicles without anti-lock brakes, if the car starts to skid, take your foot off the brake and turn the steering wheel in the direction of the skid; This is recommended, if you can do so without running off the road, hitting something, or steering into oncoming traffic.

- With a standard transmission, you can use the gearshift to slow down when approaching a stop sign or signal. First, flash the brake lights to signal any cars behind you. Then, shift down to a lower gear.
- Many of today's cars are equipped with 4 wheel anti-lock braking systems (ABS). Read the instructions in your vehicle's owner manual to learn the safe and proper operation of ABS.

A general overview of ABS braking procedures includes:

- When slowing or stopping, apply firm, steady pressure to the brake pedal. Never pump the pedal with ABS.
- **Always brake and steer when using anti-lock brakes --** With ABS, you "brake and steer." Push the brake pedal while steering around hazards and keep your foot firmly on the brake pedal until the car comes to a stop. Do not take your foot off the pedal or pump the brakes because that will disengage the anti-lock system.
- If you are braking to avoid an emergency or crash, gradually steer the car around any obstacles. ABS was designed to prevent vehicles from locking wheels and to allow drivers to steer when skidding.
- **Expect noise and vibration in the brake pedal when your ABS is in use --** These sensations tell you ABS is working.

Additional information on ABS begins on Page 96 of this manual.

Regardless of the type of brake system you have, always be prepared to brake unexpectedly. There are some instances when drivers should be especially alert, including:

- When driving next to parked cars

- When approaching any type of intersection
- When approaching traffic signals and crosswalks
- When driving in a school zone or residential area
- When seeing brake lights of other cars
- When driving in heavy, slow moving traffic.

Drivers should know the difference between "covering the brake" and "riding the brake." In situations listed above, "covering the brake" means the driver's foot needs to hover over the brake or between the brake and gas pedals for quicker response time. "Riding the brake" is keeping your foot resting or slightly pressed down on the brake. This adds much wear and tear on the vehicle's brake system, and also gives other drivers the false impression that a stop is imminent. **Covering the brake** is often smart and a safe driving practice; **Riding the brake** is **NOT** a safe practice.

2. Following Distances: Obey speed limit laws and know the proper braking procedures that must be used for maintaining safe following distance between your car and other vehicles.

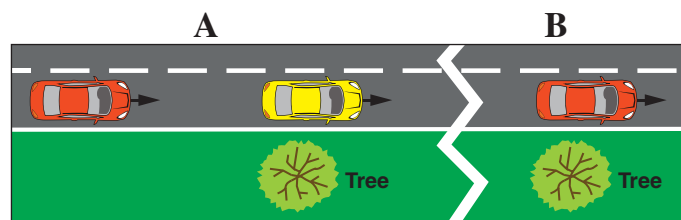
Tennessee law states: "The driver of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway."

When another driver makes a mistake, you need time to react. Give yourself this time by keeping a "space cushion" around your vehicle. This space cushion will give you room to brake and avoid hazards when needed. Good drivers keep this safe following distance or space cushion to have a better view of the road. The more space you allow between your car and the car ahead, the more time you will have to see and react to traffic hazards or crashes down the road.

Many drivers don't see as well as they should because they follow too closely (tailgating). The vehicle ahead of them blocks their view of traffic and road conditions. Rear-end crashes are very common and most of these crashes are caused by drivers who are "tailgating."

The Two-Second Rule

To share the road safely, stay a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you. Nationally, safety agencies and driver education programs have tried to define a safe following distance for drivers to maintain. This has ranged from a two to four second following distance. Use the following tips to determine if you are following too closely:



- A. As the car ahead of you passes a stationary point on the road (a sign post, driveway, utility pole, etc.), count the seconds it takes you to reach the same spot. (In the illustration below, you are driving the red vehicle.)

B. Count to yourself “one-thousand and one, one-thousand and two,” etc. You should NOT reach the same point on the road before you finish counting to at least “one-thousand-two.” If you do, you are following too closely.

C. Slow down slightly to increase the space between you and the other vehicle. Find another spot to check your new following distance. Repeat this exercise until you are following no closer than two seconds.

This principle will hold true at any speed on state and U.S. highways with moderate speed limits. However, during inclement weather, interstate highway driving at higher speeds and night driving, the two-second rule should be increased to allow for improved visibility. A minimum of four seconds should allow for better reaction time and a safer space cushion under these conditions including following a motorcycle.

3. Stopping Distances: Be alert and know when you will have to stop well ahead of time. Stopping suddenly is dangerous and usually indicates that a driver was not paying attention, was speeding or was not allowing a safe following distance. Try to avoid panic stops by seeing events well in advance. By slowing down or changing lanes, you may not have to stop at all, and if you do, it can be a more gradual and safer stop. As a rule, it is best to never stop on the road, unless necessary for safety or to obey a law (stop sign, etc.).

There are three steps in stopping a vehicle:

- **Perception time:** The length of time it takes a driver to see and recognize a dangerous situation.
- **Reaction time:** The time from perception of danger to the start of braking. The average is 2/3 of a second, as noted in blue section of charts on the next page.
- **Braking time:** This depends on the type and condition of vehicle brakes, as well as vehicle speed.

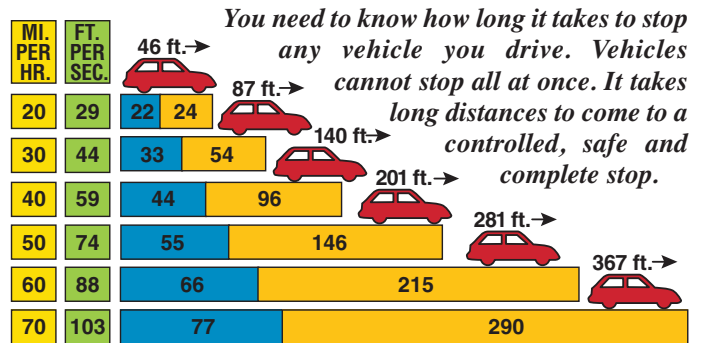
PERCEPTION, REACTION AND BRAKING TIME		
Step	Time	Explanation
Perception	About .50 second	See/hear danger
Reaction	About .66 second	Brain tells foot to brake
Braking/ Stopping	Varies by speed	Foot presses brake pedal until car stops

Stopping distance can vary widely due to many factors:

- Type and condition of the road/pavement;
- Type and condition of vehicle tires and brakes;
- Vehicle design and condition of the shock absorbers;
- Vehicle weight when loaded or towing.

It takes longer to stop than most people realize. Suppose you’re driving on the interstate at night at the maximum limit of 70 m.p.h. A deer suddenly appears in your headlights. Will you be able to stop in time?

It will take 1.16 seconds for you to see the deer and move your foot to the brake. Before you even start to brake, you will have traveled 128 feet. If you’re on a good road in good weather, the braking distance at 70 m.p.h. will be 290 feet.



Your total stopping distance has now reached 418 feet, nearly 150 yards, the length of one-and-a-half football fields!

The chart (top right) shows “average” stopping distances (based on tests made by the Federal Highway Administration) for vehicles under ideal conditions. **Note:** This chart does not include the distance you will travel in the 1/2 second of time required for perception of the hazard. According to the National Safety Council, a lightweight passenger car traveling at 50 m.p.h. can stop in about 200 feet. The distance required to stop your vehicle is important in helping you choose a safe driving speed. These charts can be used as a rough guide, but your actual stopping distance will depend upon many factors specific to the situation you encounter.

STOPS REQUIRED BY LAW

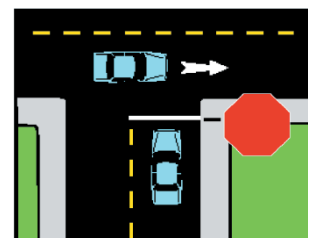
Tennessee law states: Every driver approaching a stop sign shall stop before entering the nearest side of a crosswalk, or stop at a clearly marked stop line. If neither is present, then (1) stop at a point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway, and (2) stop before entering the actual intersection.

Tennessee Code defines “stop” as “complete cessation of movement.”

You are responsible for knowing the proper stopping procedures required by this law. At stop signs and right-turn-on-red intersections, come to a **COMPLETE** stop (not a rolling stop) and go only when traffic is clear. Approaching traffic should not have to slow down or change lanes for your vehicle.

You should:

- Come to a full and complete stop at the stop sign or traffic signal. Often, a wide white stop line will be painted on the pavement in line with the sign. You must stop your vehicle behind this line.
- If no pavement markings are present, stop when the front of your vehicle is even with the stop sign’s placement on the roadside.



- If you cannot see whether the intersection is clear of crossing traffic, edge up slowly until traffic is clearly visible from both directions.
- If the intersection where the stop sign/traffic signal is placed has a crosswalk for pedestrians marked on the pavement, you must stop before the front of your vehicle reaches the nearest white line marking the border of the crosswalk.
- If there are pedestrians in the crosswalk or about to enter the crosswalk, you must wait for them to cross before proceeding.
- Once the crosswalk is clear, you may slowly edge forward to check traffic before crossing the intersection or entering the roadway.
- When stopping behind another vehicle already stopped at the intersection, make sure you allow adequate “gap” space between the vehicles so you are not “tailgating.”

A basic rule of thumb is that you should be able to see the license plate and/or the other vehicle’s back tire where it meets the pavement. This “gap” provides a safety zone in the event that the other vehicle rolls back slightly or stalls. If the vehicle stalls, you would still be able to maneuver around it safely. The gap provides a way out in the event of an emergency, such as another vehicle approaching from behind so fast that you may need to move to avoid a rear-end collision.

- Once the vehicle in front of you has moved on through the intersection, you may move forward to the stop line. Remember, you still must bring your vehicle to a **FULL STOP** at the stop line.
- A complete stop is required at a flashing red traffic light, just as with a stop sign.
- After you have stopped, if there is no traffic from the right or left, you may proceed. When there is traffic on the crossroad (right to left) and/or oncoming traffic (heading toward you) from the other side of the intersection, you must follow the right-of-way procedures. (Right-of-Way rules are discussed in depth later in this chapter.)
- You must stop completely when directed to stop by a flag person at a road construction site or by a police officer directing you to stop in any situation.

Rolling Stops:

Rolling stops are dangerous and illegal. A rolling stop occurs when the driver only slows down for a stop sign or traffic signal and proceeds through the intersection or turn without bringing the vehicle to a full and complete stop. **A complete stop is required by law.** Most law enforcement officers and driver education instructors agree that a vehicle has not come to a complete stop until the driver feels the car lurch forward after all motion has ceased. **Rolling stops are grounds for receiving a traffic ticket AND for failing the driver examination road test.**

The following are reasons to avoid rolling stops:

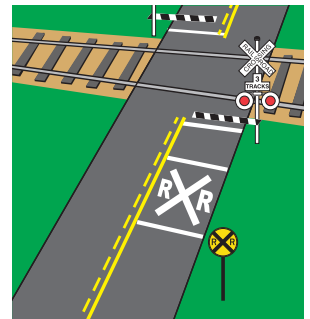
- A driver may not see a child or other pedestrian who may think the car will follow the law and come to a complete stop.
- There is a better chance of seeing possible hazards, because the driver who comes to a full stop has a longer observation period at the intersection.
- If two drivers are traveling at right angles to one another, and both fail to stop, a collision is almost a certainty.
- Police and insurance companies will hold the driver who fails to stop completely liable in the event of a crash, possibly resulting in fines, loss of license, increased insurance rates or loss of insurance coverage.

Stopping for Railroad Crossings

Railroad crossings have pavement markings that include a large crossbuck (“X”), the letters “RR”, a no-passing zone stripe and a stop line. Railroad crossing collisions should not happen. When they do, it usually means drivers are not paying attention to signs, pavement markings and other warnings that tell when a train is coming.

Stop—Look—Listen—Look Again!

Every motor vehicle should be driven at a rate of speed that will permit the vehicle to be stopped before reaching the nearest rail of a railroad crossing. The vehicle should not be driven over the crossing until all railroad tracks are completely clear of train traffic. Violations of railroad signals or signs carry the same penalties as violations of other traffic control devices.



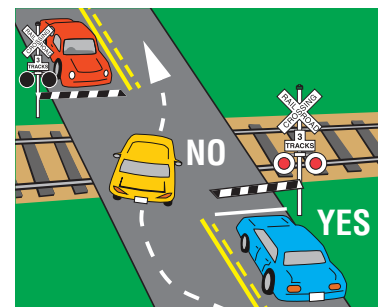
When you approach a railroad crossing and a train is coming, you must stop between 15 and 50 feet from the railroad tracks. Never stop on the railroad crossing tracks. Wait until the train has passed and it is safe to cross before proceeding across the tracks. The following are indications that a train is approaching an intersection:

- The crossing has a crossbuck sign with flashing lights to warn drivers when a train is approaching.

- The crossing has a crossing gate that is lowered, blocking access to the railroad tracks when a train is approaching.

- A human flagger signals drivers that a train is approaching.

- Trains are required to signal a horn when they are approximately 1,500 feet from passing through a railroad crossing.



- An approaching train is visible to the driver.

Never drive across a railroad crossing when any of the above indications of an approaching train are present.

Trains move very quickly. Trying to “beat” a train is extremely dangerous for the vehicle driver, as well as people on the train.

Tennessee law requires certain vehicles to stop at all railroad grade/highway crossings, whether or not any signs or signals are activated when the vehicle approaches the crossing. As a driver, you must be aware of this requirement so you will be prepared to meet or follow these vehicles when they have stopped at the crossing.

The vehicles listed below are required by law to stop before crossing ANY railroad grade crossing:

- Church or school buses, regardless of whether such buses are carrying any passengers at the time of crossing;
- Common carriers, such as taxis or other vehicles transporting passengers for hire;
- Vehicles transporting flammables, explosives or other dangerous articles as cargo or part of a cargo.

Buses at a railroad crossing will pull to the right. The side movement of the vehicle, along with its stoplights, is a very clear signal, day or night, that the vehicle is preparing to stop. You must be alert to this type of movement by buses. Tanker trucks and other vehicles, required to stop at all railroad tracks, will usually signal such a stop by displaying emergency flashers of the vehicle to alert other drivers to the impending stop.

The School Bus Stop Law

Meeting A School Bus:

Any driver meeting a school bus or church bus on which the red stop warning signal lights are flashing should reduce his speed and bring the vehicle to a complete stop while the bus stop signal arm is extended.

The vehicle must remain stopped until the stop arm is pulled back and the bus resumes motion.



Overtaking A School Bus:

Any driver approaching a school bus or church bus from the rear shall not pass the bus when red stop warning signal lights are flashing. The vehicle must come to a complete stop when the bus is stopped. The vehicle must remain stopped until the stop arm is pulled back and the bus resumes motion.



School Bus Warning Lights:

It is illegal to pass a school bus that has stopped to load or unload students. Never pass on the right side of the bus, as

this is where the children enter or exit.

This is illegal and can have tragic results. You must stop and remain stopped until:

- The bus has started moving, OR
- The driver motions for you to proceed, OR
- The visual signals are no longer activated such as the red flashing lights go off and/or the stop arm is pulled back.



YELLOW FLASHING:

When the yellow lights on the front and back of the bus are flashing the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.

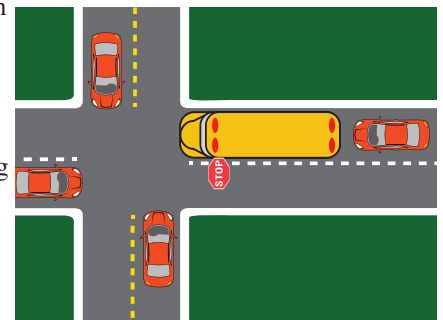


A RED FLASHING:

When the red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended this indicates that the bus HAS stopped and that children are now getting on or off the bus. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red flashing lights are turned off, the stop arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they start driving again.



When a school bus is stopped at an intersection to load and unload children, drivers from ALL directions are required to stop until the bus resumes motion (as shown by the red vehicles in the diagram at right). It is a Class A misdemeanor and the driver can be fined between \$250 and \$1,000 for not stopping for a stopped school bus.



When driving on a highway with separate roadways for traffic in opposite directions, divided by median space or a barrier not suitable for vehicular traffic, the driver need not stop, but should proceed with caution. A turn lane in the middle of a four-lane highway is NOT considered a barrier, but a fifth lane that is suitable for vehicular traffic. Drivers meeting a stopped school bus on this type of road would be required to stop in both directions.

Stopping For Police Vehicles

Police vehicles attempting to stop drivers will do so by means of a visual, flashing blue or flashing blue and red lights, and/or an audible signal. Remember, a police officer never knows what to expect when stopping a driver. Do not let your emotions or sudden unexplained movements (or those of your passengers) raise tensions or anxiety in the situation.

A police officer may be more likely to listen to what you have to say and less likely to feel threatened by you (or your passengers) if you follow these guidelines:

- Drive as closely as is safely practical to the right-hand edge or curb of the road, clear of any intersection, stop and park.
- Limit the movements of the driver and/or passengers while stopping your vehicle.
- Drivers should keep their hands on the steering wheel and passengers should keep their hands in plain view. **Drivers should advise officers if they have a handgun permit and if they are armed.**
- Provide your driver license and/or vehicle registration when requested.
- Keep all vehicle doors closed and remain in the vehicle unless asked to get out.
- If the stop is made after dark, turn on the vehicle's interior light before the officer approaches.
- If enforcement action is taken against you that you disagree with, do not argue with the officer at the scene. Traffic violations and traffic crimes charged against you are decided in court.
- If you find yourself being directed to pull over and stop by someone in an UNMARKED police car, you may drive slowly a short distance to the nearest area where there are other people, such as the next business parking lot or the next exit, if on the interstate. This may be important if traveling at night and/or alone.

INTERSECTIONS

Now that you have studied the effects of speed, following distances, stopping distances and legally required stops, it is time to look at the complex issue of intersections. This includes rules for the right-of-way, pedestrians, right turns, left turns and turn signals. Intersections are places where traffic merges or crosses. They include:

- Cross streets,
- Side streets,
- Driveways,
- Shopping center or parking lot entrances.

More crashes happen at intersections than at any other place. Intersections constitute a very small part of the rural and urban street/highway systems, yet they are implicated in 33 percent

of all motor vehicle crashes and 21 percent of all fatal crashes. There were 308 fatalities in Tennessee in 2021 for intersection related crashes. Be careful when approaching any intersection or driveway. Never assume the other driver will yield the right-of-way to you. **Always be prepared to stop.**

Approaching Intersections Safely

“Traffic checks” is the process of looking frequently and carefully for vehicle traffic approaching from each direction. “Traffic checks” is especially important when merging or changing lanes **AND** when approaching and crossing intersections. Below are five things to remember to navigate an intersection safely:

Look: Look both ways as you near an intersection. Before you enter an intersection, continue checking traffic from both the left and right for approaching vehicles and/or crossing pedestrians. Bicycles and motorcycles are smaller and more difficult to see.

- 1. The Left-Right-Left Rule:** Look first to the left to make sure cross traffic is yielding the right-of-way. Then look for traffic from the right. If stopped, look both left and right just before you start moving. Look across the intersection before you start to move to make sure the path is clear through the intersection.

- A. As you enter an intersection, check again for unusual or unexpected actions to the left and right.



- B. It is also important to watch for vehicle traffic from the front (oncoming traffic) and rear (approaching/overtaking traffic) of your vehicle at intersections. Be especially aware of vehicles behind you. If the light changes and/or you encounter a vehicle violating the right-of-way that causes you to stop suddenly, will the vehicle behind be able to stop? It is not uncommon for drivers to run red lights or stop signs resulting in a head-on or rear-end collision.

- C. Look twice for motorcycles, bicycles and pedestrians.

- 2. Control Speed:** Be prepared to brake or stop unexpectedly at intersections if the above traffic checks alert you to a possible hazard. You should slow down **before** reaching the intersection, drive at your slowest speed just before entering the intersection and gradually increase your speed as you cross the intersection.

- 3. Use Proper Lane:** You should be in the proper lane for the direction you intend to travel before you reach the intersection. Do **NOT** make last minute lane changes as you start through an intersection. Do **NOT** pass a vehicle in an intersection.

4. Know and obey:

- The proper right-of-way procedures for vehicles and pedestrians at intersections;
- The purpose and meaning of pavement markings;

- The purpose and meaning of traffic signals, including stop or yield signs posted at intersections;
- The proper lane usage and speed at intersections;
- The proper use of your vehicle's turn signals.

5. Do Not Block: Do not move into an intersection and block it after the traffic lights have changed. This is not only common sense, but it's also illegal to block an intersection after the light has changed. Some intersections have signs posted nearby (often hanging next to the traffic light) advising "Do Not Block Intersection." It is always illegal to block an intersection, whether it is marked or not.

Right-of-Way Procedures

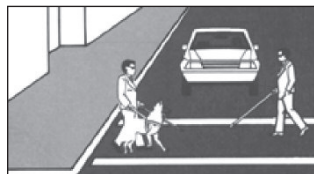
Vehicles or pedestrians are likely to meet one another where there are no signs or lights to control traffic. There are rules on who must yield the right-of-way. These rules tell who goes first and who must wait in different traffic situations.

However, if another driver does not follow these rules, give him the right-of-way. In all driving situations, think of the right-of-way as something to be given, not taken. All drivers should know and understand the rules which determine the right-of-way.

You Must Not Insist On the Right-of-Way: The law does not really give anyone the right-of-way. It only says who must yield the right-of-way. A driver must do everything possible to avoid a traffic crash. Rules for the most common situations drivers encounter include:

1. Yield to pedestrians crossing the road or your path of travel:

- **Pedestrian means any person afoot or using a motorized or non-motorized wheelchair.**
- When pedestrians are in a crosswalk (marked or unmarked) or when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which your vehicle is traveling or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger;
- When in a marked school zone when a warning flasher or flashers are in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall stop to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a marked or unmarked crosswalk. The driver shall remain stopped until the pedestrian has crossed the roadway on which the vehicle is stopped.
- When your car is turning a corner and pedestrians are crossing with the light;
- When your vehicle crosses a sidewalk while entering or exiting a driveway, alley or parking lot. It is illegal to drive on a sidewalk except to cross it;
- When a blind or visually impaired pedestrian using a guide dog or carrying a cane, which is white in

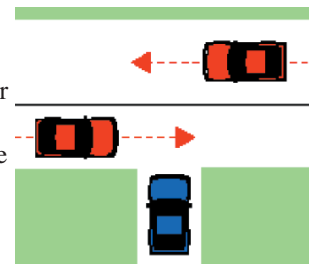


color or white with red tip, or a hearing impaired person with a dog on a blaze orange leash, is crossing any portion of the roadway, even if not at an intersection or crosswalk. Take special precautions as may be necessary to avoid accident or injury to the pedestrian. Stop at least 10 feet away until the person is off the roadway. Do not use your horn, as it could startle the blind pedestrian;

- You must yield to children playing in the streets. In crowded downtown areas and in suburban residential neighborhoods, children play in the streets because there may not be parks or playgrounds nearby. Even though they have been told not to run into the street, children won't always put safety ahead of a runaway puppy or a bouncing ball. Children on bicycles can easily forget to slow down before entering an intersection or to signal and look behind before they turn. You are responsible for driving with extreme caution when children are present. Slow down near schools, playgrounds, and residential areas.

2. Yield to Oncoming Traffic: When meeting other traffic at intersections, or when entering the roadway, make sure the other driver sees you. Make eye contact whenever possible. Drive cautiously and defensively. Be a friendly driver. Remember, the right-of-way is something to be given, not taken.

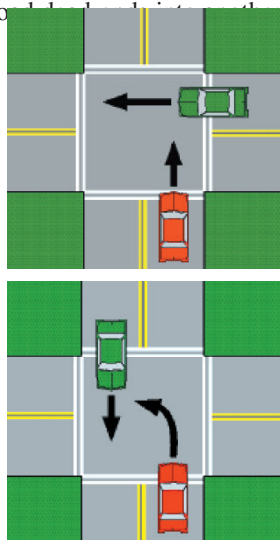
- When starting from a parked position, wait for all moving traffic to pass.
- When turning left, you must wait for oncoming traffic going straight ahead or turning right.
- When entering a main road from a driveway, alley, parking lot or roadside, you must yield to all vehicles already on the main road. *(The blue car in the graphic below must yield the right-of-way.)*
- When entering a roundabout, traffic circle or rotary (also known as "town squares"), you must yield to traffic already in the roundabout.
- When approaching a MERGE onto a busy highway or interstate, you must increase or decrease speed as needed to avoid an accident and yield the right-of-way, if necessary, to the oncoming traffic.
- When approaching a fire station, you should yield to any emergency vehicle that is about to back into, or is already in the process of backing into, the driveway entrance to the station.



3. Yielding at Intersections: The right-of-way should be determined by each driver before entering an intersection. If you have the right-of-way and another driver yields it to you, proceed immediately. However, YOU must yield the right-of-way:

- When oncoming vehicles (including bicycles) are proceeding straight or making a right turn;

- At intersections where YIELD signs are posted, the driver must slow down or stop to avoid a crash with oncoming traffic;
- To any vehicles already in the intersection, even if you have the green traffic light; (The red vehicle in the diagram at right must yield to the green vehicle.)
- At “T” intersections where one road crosses a main crossing roadway, the vehicles on the road ending must yield to oncoming traffic from both directions on the main road;
- When turning left at intersections, you must yield to any oncoming vehicle proceeding straight or turning right, unless you have a traffic light where your left turn is on a protected green arrow; (The red vehicle in the diagram to the right must yield.)
- At intersections marked as ALL-WAY stops, the vehicle reaching the intersection first gets to go first (of course, ALL vehicles must stop). If more than one vehicle arrives at the same time, yield the right of way to the vehicle on the right;
- Where roads cross and there are no stop signs or signals, yield to any vehicle coming at the same time on your right;
- Do not enter an intersection unless you can get through it without having to stop. You should wait until traffic in front of you clears so that you are not blocking the intersection. If your vehicle is left blocking an intersection (with or without a traffic signal), it prevents other traffic from proceeding and you could be ticketed.



4. Yield to Emergency Vehicles and Transit Buses

- You must yield the right-of-way to a police vehicle, fire engine, ambulance or other emergency vehicle using a siren, air horn or a red or blue flashing light.
- It is against the law for an unauthorized private vehicle to have a blue flashing emergency light or combination of blue and red flashing emergency lights installed, maintained or visibly shown on the vehicle in any manner.

Following Fire or Other Emergency Vehicles:

It is against the law to follow a fire truck or other emergency vehicle responding to a fire alarm or other emergency.

It is also illegal to take your vehicle within the block of where the emergency vehicle has stopped to take care of the emergency. If your car passes an emergency site, do not drive over any unprotected fire department hose unless the fire department official in command says it is okay.



Tennessee law requires that when an emergency vehicle is approaching, all traffic meeting or being overtaken must yield the right-of-way and immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to the right hand edge or curb of the roadway stop. You must remain in that stopped position until the emergency vehicle has passed or until you are directed to move by a police officer. You must still proceed with caution; there may be other emergency vehicles coming.

There are a few other important details about sharing the road with emergency vehicles:

- If you are in an intersection, drive on through the intersection before pulling over, or you may block the emergency vehicle's path through the intersection.
- Do not pull over to the right if it will block a side road or driveway. The emergency vehicle may need to turn into that road or driveway to get to the incident scene.
- If the traffic light is red, stay where you are. If the light turns green before the emergency vehicle has passed, do NOT proceed on green. Wait until the emergency vehicle has passed or turned onto a different street.
- When yielding to emergency vehicles, get in the habit of turning down the volume on the radio (if on) so you can hear any instructions or directions given out over the emergency vehicle's loudspeaker. Your immediate reaction to such directions may be critically needed.

You must yield the right-of-way to any transit vehicle (metro bus) that has signaled and is pulling back onto the roadway from a bus stop. Generally, this occurs on urban roadways in areas marked by “bus stop” signs or benches. Occasionally, you may encounter cross-country commercial buses signaling to re-enter traffic after allowing passengers to disembark on rural roadways in smaller communities and towns.

- A. You are not required to stop for, nor forbidden to pass, transit buses when they are stopped for passenger pick-up