

The following text outlines Colorado's driving regulations, including requirements for obtaining a driver's license, notifying the DMV of changes, and details about written and driving tests. It also provides guidance on maneuvers and behaviours evaluated during the driving skills test, emphasizing adherence to safety and legal driving practices.

Anyone who operates a motor vehicle, motor-driven cycle or moped on Colorado's public streets and highways must be 16 or older and have a valid driver license. If you are a resident of Colorado (for example if you own or operate a business in Colorado or have resided within the state continuously for 90 days or have gainful employment within this state), you must get a Colorado driver license within 30 days of becoming a resident unless you are serving on active duty in the U.S. military, the dependent of an active duty military service member or residing in Colorado for the principal purpose of furthering your education. If you have a change to your address or name you must notify the Division of Motor Vehicles within 30 days. Identification requirements for U.S. citizens and permanent residents can be found at [DMV.Colorado.gov/documents](https://dmv.colorado.gov/documents). Driving Knowledge Tests (written tests): This test covers driving knowledge and safety. The test questions cover the contents of this handbook including road signs, driving under the influence, driving rules, safety rules and legal items. Practice quizzes are available online and through the myColorado app. Note: Written tests are not given within 30 minutes of an office's scheduled closing time. Please plan your visit with this in mind. Name & Address Changes You have 30 days to notify the DMV of a name or address change. Instruction permits: After passing a written test, you are eligible for an instruction permit. An instruction permit allows limited driving privileges for people learning to drive. When you are driving with an instruction permit, you must have a person who is 21 years or older who has a valid Colorado license in the front passenger seat. Driving Skills Test (drive test): This test covers practical driving skills and abilities. This is the most important part of the licensing process because it allows you to show that you can drive safely. You cannot schedule a drive test at a State driver license office at this time. However, this could change and you are encouraged to visit the DMV website to see if we are currently offering drive tests. Some county-operated offices offer drive tests, please refer to your county website for updated information on testing. Drive tests are primarily being given by Certified Commercial Driving Schools. A link to the current list of schools conducting drive tests can be found here (or at the website listed below). More information can also be found on the DMV website [DMV.Colorado.gov/drivereducation](https://dmv.colorado.gov/drivereducation). When you take the drive test at a state-approved, certified commercial driving school, the school may provide a vehicle for you to drive or it may require you to provide a vehicle that has current insurance and registration. Regardless of who provides the vehicle, the examiner will check the vehicle for safety including brake lights, turn signals, seat belts, the windshield and tires. Examiners will also check whether the vehicle's doors and windows open from inside the automobile. For safety reasons, only the driver and the examiner are allowed in the vehicle during the test. Interpreters/Translators, family, friends or pets are not allowed. Remove weapons from your vehicle before taking the drive test. Turn off any electronic devices in your vehicle, including the radio and your cell phone. Remove objects from the dashboard and the rearview mirror. If you fail the drive test, you must wait until the next business day before retaking the test. The drive test measures your skill and knowledge of legal and safe driving practices. You will not be asked to do anything illegal. You may ask the examiner questions before the test begins. After that, any unnecessary talking will only interfere with the test. You will be scored during the entire test. The drive test will be administered using guidelines from the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA). The skills measured will be an assessment of all three of the following categories: Perceptual: The ability to perceive

characteristics of the many highway traffic environments in a way that permits safe vehicle operation, e.g. judging gaps or identifying hazards. Motor: The ability to manipulate controls in order to maneuver the vehicle, e.g. ability to rotate the steering wheel in relation to the motion of the vehicle and intended path when turning a corner. Attentional: The ability to focus and shift attention, e.g. to monitor traffic ahead and the side in a merge. Your drive test score will be based upon how well you perform the following maneuvers: ● Left and right turns ● Stopping at intersections ● Through intersections ● Lane changes in traffic ● General driving behavior ● Merging into and leaving traffic Specific maneuvers have grading factors that are associated with the performance requirements. These are: Lane selection: Enter/exit traffic from the proper lane, approach intersections in the proper lane, end the maneuver in the proper lane. Lane management: Remain entirely within the turning lane, keep both hands on the wheel. Use approved method of steering control (hand-over-hand or push-pull/slide). Choose the correct portion of the lane for making your turn (when turning right, always turn from the right-most portion of your lane or when turning left, always turn Colorado Driver Handbook 2 from the left-most portion of your lane). After completing the turn, ensure the vehicle is centered in the appropriate lane. Start/finish the turn in the proper lane, do not drive over lane markings or over curbs. Turn Signals: Turn signal is turned on continuously 100 feet before turning or changing lanes in urban areas and 200 feet before turning or changing lanes on 4-lane highways. Turn signal is cancelled within 3 seconds of turning or changing lanes. Speed control: Smooth deceleration does not hold up traffic, adjust speed to react to traffic or conditions, maintain steady speed during lane change, approach intersection at a speed that allows the turn to be made without stopping or braking during the turn. Stopping: Come to a complete stop, no forward motion of the vehicle. Do not encroach over the stop line and, crosswalk; keep the vehicle's wheels pointed straight ahead while stopped, do not turn the wheels until beginning to make the turn and maintain an adequate distance between vehicles (If you can see the rear wheels touching the ground of the vehicle in front of you, you are at an adequate distance). Acceleration: Accelerates smoothly without jerking, doesn't lug the engine, coast, impede traffic, clash gears or stall the vehicle. Searching: Observes the traffic environment, looks over shoulder before changing lanes, uses mirrors, scans for traffic when approaching an intersection, looks left, right, left before entering intersections, looks behind after each turn. During the test, use of safety-critical technologies such as back-up cameras, and blind spot and lane departure warnings are allowed but do not take the place of physical searching skills. General driving behavior: Steering, braking, acceleration, searching, lane usage, and obeying all traffic laws, signs and signals.