

Getting an Ontario Driver's License

An Ontario driver's license is your proof of your privilege to drive. You must carry it with you whenever you drive. Ontario has a one-piece plastic driver's license. The license has a digitized photograph and signature of the driver and a magnetic information strip.

A driver's license includes your name, address, signature, date of birth, gender, height, date license issued and expiry dates, and codes showing what class of vehicles you may drive and under what conditions (for example, an "X" condition means you need to wear glasses/contacts for driving). If you have a red bar with four white dots under your photograph, it indicates that you qualify to be an accompanying driver under the graduated licensing program.

If you live in Ontario, you must be at least 16 years old and have a valid Ontario driver's license to drive in the province. A newcomer to Ontario is required to apply for an Ontario driver's license within 60 days of taking up residence in the province. (Source: www.mto.gov.on.ca)

Many new Canadians possess Driver's Licenses from their home countries. It is possible to exchange your Out-Of-Country Driver's License, but to confirm current Ministry rules please visit www.mto.gov.on.ca.

Preparing for the test can be very stressful. Many of us turn to professional Driving Schools for advice. Driving Schools offer comprehensive courses of different types of Driver's Licenses. By taking an MTO-approved Beginner Driver Education Course at a driving school, G1 license holders may qualify for a four-month reduction in the 12-month minimum G1-licensing period as well as a potential reduction in insurance premiums. Driving schools in Ontario are not regulated, and MTO does not approve or regulate individual schools. Choosing a school is a personal choice. (Source: <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/dandv/driver/gradu/approve.htm>)

You can also study on your own with The Official Driver's Handbook, which is the only official handbook for drivers published by the Government of Ontario. Copies of this handbook may be purchased online at <http://pubont.stores.gov.on.ca/pool/english/catalogue.asp>? or at a store near you for \$12.95 plus applicable taxes. You can also use the online version and try sample knowledge test by visiting <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/dandv/driver/handbook/>

When you feel you are ready visit your local Drive Test Centre to complete your test. Many Driver Test Centres offer you to complete the test in your own language. You must pay a fee when

you apply. This fee includes the cost of the knowledge test, your first road test and a five-year licensing fee.

Before taking a road test, although it is not mandatory in Ontario, but it is best to consult with professional Driving Instructor. Many Driving Schools offer to land you their vehicles for a small fee for the duration of your Road Test. If you are taking a few lessons, it is valuable to ask your Driving Instructor about safe winter driving.

Road test can be booked over the phone by calling automated line 416-325-8580 or 1-888-570-6110 or online at <https://www.rtbo.rus.mto.gov.on.ca/scripts/english/index.asp>

You can also contact the Ministry of Transportation's Driver and Vehicle Licensing Call Centre at (416) 235-2999 if you have questions.

Please Note that above information has been compiled to assist the users of this Directory and care has been taken to ensure that the information is accurate at the time it was sourced. However, the Publishers of this Directory cannot guarantee that it is either a complete listing of such services in the GTA or that it is totally error-free. Users are requested to cross-check above information with other sources for purposes of confirmation and authentication.