

LEARNER PERMIT



Please read the notes on pages 1 to 3 before completing the application form on page 4.

The notes are a summary of the main requirements on applying for a learner permit.

They do not represent a complete statement of the law.

NOTES

A. LEARNER PERMIT (FORMERLY KNOWN AS PROVISIONAL LICENCE)

A learner permit is a permit issued to enable a person to learn to drive and to apply for a driving test. Driving with a learner permit is subject to certain conditions in the interests of the safety of the driver and other road users. You must hold a permit for the category of vehicle you are driving (see warning on page 3) and comply with the conditions attached to the permit while you are driving.

B. PERIOD OF PERMIT AND FEE

A learner permit is generally issued for a period of two years and is subject to a fee of €15.

On or after 1st February, 2002 there shall be a nil fee in respect of an application for a learner permit and a driving licence where the applicant is 70 years of age or more on the commencement day of the licence/permit.

C. DRIVER THEORY TEST

All applications for a first learner permit must be accompanied by a theory test certificate for the category concerned. Further information is available from the Driver Theory Testing Service on 1890 606 106 or on website www.dttts.ie

D. WHO MAY APPLY

You may apply for your first learner permit for vehicles in:-

- category A1, A, B, M or W without any previous driving experience
- category C1, C, D1 or D after you have been granted a driving licence for category B
- category EB, EC1, EC, ED1 or ED after you have been granted a driving licence for the appropriate drawing vehicle e.g. you must hold a driving licence for category C in order to apply for a learner permit for category EC.

If you have previously held, or are currently the holder of, a learner permit in relation to a category of vehicles and if such learner permit was, or is, your first such learner permit, you may apply to have a second learner permit issued in relation to that vehicle category.

However, you **MAY NOT** apply for a third or subsequent learner permit in respect of a particular vehicle category unless you can submit either of the following with your application –

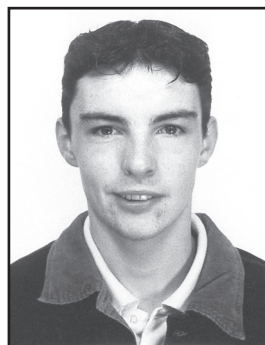
- (a) evidence of having undergone a driving test in the vehicle category in question in the two year period prior to application, or
- (b) evidence of a forthcoming driving test appointment in respect of the vehicle category in question.

If you submit (a) above with your application, you will be granted a two year learner permit. If you cannot submit (a) above with your application and instead can only submit (b) above, you will be granted a one year learner permit.

A person shall be regarded as an applicant for a first learner permit in respect of a particular vehicle category if s/he has not held such a permit in the preceding five years. In addition, you **MAY NOT** apply for a learner permit if you are disqualified by age, ill health or otherwise or if you do not have your normal residence in Ireland.

E. NORMAL RESIDENCE IN IRELAND

In this connection, you shall be regarded as having your normal residence in Ireland if, because of personal and occupational ties, you usually live here for at least 185 days in each calendar year. However, if you have personal ties in Ireland and occupational ties in another country which require absences from this country, you may still be regarded as being normally resident in Ireland provided that you return here regularly. Working abroad on a specific task for a definite duration, or attending a foreign university or school, shall not imply that you have transferred your normal residence to another country. Furthermore, you **MAY NOT** apply for a learner permit in respect of a particular vehicle category if you already hold a full driving licence in respect of that category which was issued by the competent authority in a Member State of the European Union or of the European Economic Area or from any of the “Recognised States” for Driving Licensing purposes.



Approximate size of photographs needed
3.5cm x 4.5cm

F. PHOTOGRAPHS

Your application must be accompanied by two identical passport-type photographs. The reverse side of both photographs should be signed by you.

G. BIRTH CERTIFICATE/PASSPORT/CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Your application must be accompanied by an original birth certificate or a valid passport or a certificate of registration unless

- you hold a current driving licence or learner permit, or
- you held a driving licence within the last ten years or a learner permit within the last five years, or
- you hold a current valid driving licence issued by another Member State of the European Union or another “recognised country”.

H. CURRENT/LAST LICENCE/PERMIT TO ACCOMPANY APPLICATION

Your application for the issue or renewal of a learner permit must be accompanied by:

- your current or most recently issued driving licence, if you hold a driving licence or held one within the previous ten years, and
- your current or most recently issued learner permit if you hold a current learner permit or held one within the previous five years (unless your most recent learner permit has been superseded by the issue of a driving licence).

I. EYESIGHT REPORT

A first time application for a learner permit must be accompanied by a satisfactory eyesight report. (ref. D.502)

If an eyesight report is required in your case, you should

- obtain a copy of an eyesight report form (ref. D.502) (available from your local Medical Practitioner, Ophthalmic Optician, Motor Tax Office, and at www.rsa.ie)
- have your eyesight tested by a registered Ophthalmic Optician or by a registered Medical Practitioner, i.e. person whose name is entered in the General Register of Medical Practitioners or in the Register of Ophthalmic Opticians, in Ireland.
- ask him/her to complete the eyesight report.

You must sign the Declaration on the eyesight report form in the presence of an optician or doctor.

J. MEDICAL REPORT

An application for a learner permit for category C1, C, D1, D, EC1, EC, ED1 or ED must be accompanied by a medical report (ref. D.501) unless you have previously provided a satisfactory medical report which is still applicable. Your application for a learner permit for **any** category must be accompanied by a medical report if -

- you will be 70 years of age or more on the first day of the period for which the permit is being granted
 - you suffer from any of the disabilities or diseases listed below
 - you have ever suffered from alcoholism or epilepsy
 - you are taking, on a regular basis, drugs or medicaments which would be likely to cause the driving of a vehicle by you to be a source of danger
 - you answered yes to any of the questions 20(b) and 21 to 27.
- If a medical report is required in your case you should
- obtain a copy of a medical report form (ref. D.501) (available from your local Medical Practitioner, Motor Tax Office, and at www.rsa.ie)
 - undergo a medical examination by a registered Medical Practitioner
 - ask him/her to complete the medical report.

You must sign the Declaration on the medical report form in the presence of the registered medical practitioner.

In addition, a person who suffers from serious arrhythmia which has at any stage resulted in loss of consciousness is particularly advised to consult his/her doctor before applying for a permit.

A person who is dependent on or regularly abuses psychotropic substances is disqualified from holding any learner permit or driving licence. If you have any doubts about your physical or mental fitness to drive you should consult a doctor.

K. EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY - IN ADDITION TO THAT REQUIRED AT SECTION G.

The licensing authority may, in its absolute discretion, request you to provide additional evidence of identity. Please note that only original, valid documents (not photocopies) will be accepted. Some documents which will be accepted for this purpose are a passport; a birth certificate; a marriage certificate; a certificate of registration; a cheque book; a cheque card; a credit card; a credit union membership card; a bank, building society or savings bank book; a Social Welfare payment book; signing-on card or free travel card; a medical card; an employee or student identity card or a travel document containing your name and photograph. You are advised to bring one of these documents with you if applying in person.

L. WHERE TO APPLY

You should apply to the licensing authority (Motor Taxation Office) in the County/City in which you reside for a learner permit.

M. L PLATES

All learner permit holders, with the exception of those who hold learner permit in category W, are required at all times to display L plates on the vehicle which they are driving. Holders of learner permits in category A1, A and M must display L plates front and rear on a yellow fluorescent tabard.

N. ACCOMPANIMENT REQUIREMENTS

All learner permit holders, with the exception of those who hold learner permit in category A1, A, M or W, are required to be accompanied by a qualified driver at all times while driving. A qualified driver is a person who holds a full licence in the vehicle category being driven by the learner permit holder for a minimum period of 2 years.

O. MOTORCYCLISTS

A person applying for a first time learner permit in category A shall be restricted to driving motorcycles with a power output not exceeding 25 KW or a power/weight ratio not exceeding 0.16KW/KG. On passing a category A test, such person shall remain restricted for the first two years after taking out a full driving licence in category A. Only thereafter shall such person be entitled to drive motorcycles with a power output exceeding 25 KW.

DISABILITIES AND DISEASES

A medical report is required if you suffer from any of the following disabilities or diseases -

- alcoholism
- any physical disablement which is likely to affect ability to drive safely
- any illness which requires the regular use of psychotropic substances
- any illness or disease which requires the regular use of medications likely to affect ability to drive safely
- cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, serious diseases of the blood
- diplopia, defective binocular vision or loss of visual field
- encephalitis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis or hereditary diseases of the nervous system associated with progressive muscular atrophy and congenital myotonic disorders
- epilepsy, diseases of the peripheral nervous system, trauma of the central or peripheral nervous system
- cerebrovascular diseases, lesion with damage to spinal cord and resultant paraplegia
- mental disturbance due to disease or trauma of, or operation upon, the central nervous system
- severe mental retardation, psychosis, psychoneurosis or personality disorders
- serious hearing deficiency
- any disease of the genito-urinary system (including renal disorder) which is likely to affect ability to drive safely.

THIS FORM MAY NOT BE USED TO APPLY FOR A LEARNER PERMIT

CATEGORIES OF VEHICLES/MINIMUM AGE OF DRIVER

Category	Minimum Age	Vehicle
A1	16	Motorcycles with an engine size of 51-125cc and/or a speed capability over 45 km/h, and with a power rating not exceeding 11 kW, with or without sidecar
A	18	Motorcycles with or without sidecar
B	17	Vehicles with passenger accommodation for not more than 8 persons, with a design g.v.w. not exceeding 3,500 kg and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is not greater than 750 kg
C1	18	Vehicles with passenger accommodation for not more than 8 persons, with a design g.v.w. over 3,500 kg but not over 7,500 kg and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is not greater than 750 kg
C	18	Vehicles with passenger accommodation for not more than 8 persons, with a design g.v.w. over 3,500 kg and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is not greater than 750 kg
D1	21	Vehicles with passenger accommodation for more than 8 persons but not more than 16 persons and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is not greater than 750 kg
D	21	Vehicles with passenger accommodation for more than 8 persons and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is not greater than 750 kg
EB	17	Vehicles in category B with a trailer attached and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is greater than 750 kg
EC1	18	Vehicles in category C1 with a trailer attached - the combination must not exceed 12,000 kg and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is greater than 750 kg
EC	18	Vehicles in category C with a trailer attached and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is greater than 750 kg
ED1	21	Vehicles in category D1 with a trailer attached - the combination must not exceed 12,000 kg and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is greater than 750 kg
ED	21	Vehicles in category D with a trailer attached and where the design g.v.w. of the trailer is greater than 750 kg
M	16	Two-wheeled vehicles with an engine size not exceeding 50 cc and/or a speed capability not more than 45km/h.
W	16	Work vehicles and land tractors, with or without a trailer attached.

“Passenger accommodation” means seating accommodation for passengers in addition to the driver. “Design g.v.w.” means design gross vehicle weight (i.e. design laden weight). Manufacturers generally refer to it as gross vehicle weight (g.v.w.) and it is usually displayed on a metal plate attached to the vehicle by the manufacturer.

CODED INFORMATION

Certain additional information or restrictions relating to the holding of a learner permit may be noted on a permit in coded format. Due to the limited size of the permit, and the consequential limited amount of details that can be noted on it, the codes enable the noting of specific additional information or restrictions relating to a driver on his/her permit that would otherwise not be possible. The codes that may be noted on learner permits are as follows:-

01	Must wear corrective lenses	101	Permit renewable subject to medical report
02	Must wear hearing aid	991	Holders of Learner Permit in categories A1, A, M, W, B and EB must wait for 6 months from date of issue before taking the driving test.
03	Limb prosthesis/orthesis	992	Second learner permit in category
71	Duplicate permit	993	Third or subsequent learner permit in category
100	Restricted to vehicles adapted to suit disability of licensee	999	Must be accompanied by qualified driver.

COMPUTER DATA

Computer data based on this document may be subject to disclosure under Section 60 of the Finance Act, 1993 (No. 13 of 1993) as amended by Section 86 of the Finance Act, 1994 (No. 13 of 1994) and regulations made there under. List of disclosees is registered with the Data Protection Commissioner.

WARNING

Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1961 - No. 24 of 1961 - provides that any person driving a mechanically propelled vehicle in a public place must hold a current learner permit or driving licence in respect of the vehicle category being driven. Any person contravening this requirement is liable to prosecution and penalties.

Section 115 of the Road Traffic Act, 1961 - No. 24 of 1961 - provides that any person applying for a learner permit or driving licence shall not furnish false or misleading information in connection with such application. Any person contravening this requirement is liable to prosecution and penalties.

CHECKLIST

Your application for a learner permit should include:

IN ALL CASES

- a completed application form (ensure that you have signed it)
- two photographs (signed on back)
- your current or most recent driving licence and/or learner permit
- the appropriate fee

AND IF REQUIRED IN YOUR CASE,

- an original birth certificate/a valid passport
- an original marriage certificate
- certificate of registration
- an eyesight report or medical report (available from your local Medical Practitioner, Ophthalmic Optician, Motor Tax Office, and at www.rsa.ie)
- evidence that you underwent a driving test.
- theory test certificate.

Remember you may also be asked to provide additional evidence of identity so bring some acceptable document with you (see note K) if you are calling personally.

APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OR RENEWAL OF
LEARNER PERMIT

- (i) Please complete this application in **BLOCK LETTERS** and tick appropriate boxes.
- (ii) Please ensure that you complete the label on this page.

Driver No.: _____
 Period of Permit: _____
 Serial Number: _____
 Remarks: _____

DETAILS OF APPLICANT

1. Title (Mr., Ms. etc.) _____
2. First name(s) _____
3. Surname _____
4. Address _____

 Town/City _____
 County _____
5. Daytime telephone no.: _____
6. Date of Birth: / /
Day Month Year
7. Personal Public Service Number (P.P.S.N.) (formerly R.S.I. No.):

(Available from Department of Social and Family Affairs).
8. Country of Birth _____
9. Gender: Male Female

Please sign your name on the upper part of this label
 This signature will be affixed to your permit

Signature →

Name and Address →

Please write your name and address **IN BLOCK LETTERS** on the lower part of this label.

LEARNER PERMIT SOUGHT

10. Categories of vehicles for which learner permit is sought. (Tick as appropriate)
- | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A1 | A | B | C1 | C | D1 | D | M | W |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | EB | EC1 | EC | ED1 | ED | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

DISQUALIFICATION/ENDORSEMENT
(These questions **MUST** be answered)

11. Is your driving licence or learner permit at present required by court order to carry an endorsement? Yes No
12. Are you at present disqualified by court order from holding a driving licence or a learner permit? Yes No

LEARNER PERMIT SOUGHT

13. Have you previously held a learner permit? Yes No
14. If you answered 'yes' to question 13 -
 - what was the validity period of your last permit?

 - which licensing authority issued it?

15. Do you hold a driving licence issued by any other country? Yes No
16. If you answered 'yes' to question 15, from what country do you hold a driving licence?

HEALTH AND FITNESS (All questions **MUST** be answered. Your application must be accompanied by a medical report if 'YES' is answered for any of the questions 20(b) and 21 to 27.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. Are you dependent on, or do you regularly abuse, psychotropic substances? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 18. Do you need to wear glasses/corrective lenses for the purpose of driving? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 19. Do you need to wear a hearing aid to assist in communicating when driving? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 20(a). Do you have a physical disability which requires that adaptations be made to a vehicle to enable you to drive? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 20(b). Has there been any deterioration in the disability since you last applied for a driving licence or a learner permit? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 21. Has there been any deterioration in your health since you last applied for a driving licence or a learner permit which materially affects your ability to drive? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. Do you suffer from any of the diseases or disabilities listed on page 2? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 23. Are you taking on a regular basis drugs or medicaments which would be likely to cause the driving of a vehicle by you to be a source of danger to the public? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 24. Have you ever been dependent on alcohol? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 25. Have you ever had an epileptic seizure? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 26. Do you suffer from serious arrhythmia which has at any stage resulted in loss of consciousness? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 27. Have you had a pacemaker, defibrillator or anti-ventricular tachycardia fitted? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--|

DECLARATION BY APPLICANT

28. I hereby apply to _____ City Council/County Council for a learner permit.
 I declare that the address indicated at question 4 above is my place of normal residence (see paragraph E on page 1), that the information given by me in this application is correct, that the accompanying photographs, certificates and other documents (if any) relate to me, and that I have a satisfactory knowledge of the Rules of the Road.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This declaration must be signed by the person to whom the permit is to be issued.