



Frequently Asked Questions on the Suspension of Driving Tests

Q1. Why have driving tests been suspended at this time?

We are acting on public health advice in suspending driving tests. A driving test involves close contact in an enclosed space and does not meet the social distancing guidelines in place to delay the spread of Covid-19.

Q2. When will driving tests recommence?

The suspension of the driver testing service is effective after completion of all driving tests on Friday 13 March and will continue until further notice. This will be kept under review and updates will be provided on our website www.rsa.ie

Q3. I just want to make an application for a driving test can I do this?

Yes, we will continue to receive and process applications, however you will not be able to select a test slot nor will we schedule you for a test until the driver testing service resumes. You can apply online at www.rsa.ie

Q4 My learner permit has expired and I need to apply for a driving test in order to renew it.

You can apply online for the driving test and you can use your acknowledgement notification or cancellation of driving test when renewing your permit. Driving licenses and Learner Permits due to expire between 1 March 2020 and 30 June 2020 inclusive have had their date of expiry extended by 4 months. See [here](#) for more details.

Q5. I am involved in the delivery of emergency or essential services and need a driving test

There will be a facility in exceptional circumstances to facilitate urgent driving tests. Please be aware that given the restrictions that are currently in place for Covid -19 **we can only prioritise driving tests for customers who work with the emergency services (in the bus and truck categories only) eg. Ambulance Service, Fire Service, Civil Defence, medical professionals and critical supply chain HGV drivers.** All other requests will be dealt with when testing resumes. At this point it is not known when testing will resume, but we will update our website in advance once we know when it will resume. If you are a member of one of the above professions and have such a critical need for a driving test, please contact us on urgentdrivingtest@rsa.ie to explain your circumstances and we will contact you about your request. Please ensure that you have applied for the test and received your acknowledgement notification. You should include your test application details so that we can assess your requirement and contact you about your request.

Following risk assessments, **we are unfortunately unable to undertake Category B (car/light van) driving tests** on an emergency basis and comply with public health guidance on measures to avoid the spread of Covid-19. This is because the driver tester would be required to be within a two metre distance continuously for a period in excess of 20 minutes.

Q6. where can I get updates on the suspension of the driving test?

Please see [here](#) for updates on the suspension of driving tests.

Q7. Is the National Driver Licence Service open?

The NDLS service is suspended until further notice but you can renew your driving licence or learner permit on ndls.ie see [here](#). New regulations introduced by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in April will extend the validity period of a learner permit/driving licence expiring from 1 March to 30 June 2020 by four months. e.g. if your learner permit or driving licence expired on 20 March 2020 it will be automatically extended until 20 July 2020.

Driver Theory Test (DDT)

Q8. Is the Driver Theory Test service operating as normal?

The Driver Theory Test Service is suspended until further notice due to COVID-19. The suspension takes effect as and from Wednesday 25 March and will be subject to ongoing review.

Q9. I have a theory test scheduled in the coming weeks what do I do?

Candidates who have a driver theory test scheduled in the coming weeks, will be contacted to notify them that their test will be rescheduled free of charge when the service resumes. Updates around the re-starting of tests will be published on www.theorytest.ie

Q10. My Theory test certificate will expire during the suspension of the service. What will happen?

The period of validity for the driver theory test certificate due to expire between 1 March 2020 and 30 June 2020 inclusive have had that date extended by 4 months. See [here](#) for more details.

Q11. Will emergency theory tests be carried out?

Driver theory test are arranging 'Emergency Testing Appointments' for candidates with exceptional circumstances that provide support to essential services during COVID-19 for further details see www.theorytest.ie