



An application for a Minnesota instruction permit or driver's license includes questions about medical conditions.

If you have a medical condition, you may be asked to provide a statement from a physician that indicates whether or not the condition interferes with your ability to drive safely. Providing false information on your application could result in the loss of driving privileges.

The medical information supplied by you or your doctor is used only by authorized personnel to determine driving privileges.

If you receive a request for a medical statement, you should mail the completed form to Driver and Vehicle Services, Driver Evaluation Unit, Suite 170, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-5170.

Diabetes

A driver who is insulin dependent is required to submit a doctor's statement regarding his or her ability to drive safely. If your diabetes is controlled by oral medication this is not required.

Report the condition:

- Within 30 days after diagnosis
- Within 30 days of a driving-related episode where you experienced loss of consciousness or voluntary control while operating a motor vehicle.

Loss of Consciousness or Voluntary Control

This is the loss of the ability to assume and retain an upright posture without support or the inability to respond rationally to external stimuli.

- You must report an episode in writing within 30 days of experiencing loss of consciousness or voluntary control.

Vision

A vision screening is required at the time you apply for or renew an instruction permit or driver's license. Your normal or corrected vision must be at least 20/40, and your peripheral vision must be at least 105 degrees.

If you do not meet the minimum standards, you will be asked to see an eye doctor and return a vision report.

Other Factors

Other health problems that would affect driving ability are:

- Inability to tightly grip a steering wheel, reduced physical strength, inability to easily move foot from gas to brake pedal, inability to look over shoulder
- Loss of limb
- Reduced ability to react quickly and decisively to traffic conditions and confusion
- Lessened ability to focus on object and shift focus quickly, lessened ability to focus on fine details, reduced peripheral vision, poor night vision, sensitivity to glare, weakened depth perception
- Medication side effects/drug interaction (including over the counter) that cause drowsiness, blurred vision, dizziness, muscle relaxation

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DVS!

Email: driverslicense@state.mn.us

Driver Evaluation..... (651) 296-2025

Driver's License Info (651) 297-3298

Office Locations (651) 297-2005

Customer Assistance for

Hearing Impaired (651) 282-6555

At-Risk Drivers

An **at-risk** driver is one who no longer has the ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Age alone does not make an individual an at-risk driver. Some health problems that may affect driving ability are:

- Seizure or loss of consciousness
- Stroke/arthritis - inability to tightly grip a steering wheel, reduced physical strength, inability to easily move foot from gas to brake pedal, inability to look over shoulder.
- Various forms of dementia - reduced ability to react quickly and decisively to traffic conditions and confusion
- Severe eye ailments - lessened ability to focus on object and shift focus quickly, lessened ability to focus on fine details, reduced peripheral vision, poor night vision, sensitivity to glare, weakened depth perception.
- Medication side effects/drug interaction (including over the counter) - drowsiness, blurred vision, dizziness, muscle relaxation.
- Hearing loss - inability to hear high-pitched sounds, hearing loss that leads to inattentive driving, poorly maintained or incorrectly worn hearing aids.
- Catastrophic or chronic disease, such as Parkinson's

Reporting At-Risk Drivers

If you are concerned that a family member, friend, or acquaintance can no longer safely operate a motor vehicle you may request that Driver and Vehicle Services evaluate the at-risk driver. If you are related to the driver, your statement is confidential and the evaluator will not reveal your identity unless ordered to do so by a court of law.

Your request may be submitted writing and include the following information:

- Full name and date of birth of the at-risk driver. Please include the individual's driver's license number if it is available.
- Description of the condition. Explain why you believe the person to be an at-risk driver.
- Your name, address and phone number.

Send your request to: Driver and Vehicle Services, Attn: Medical Unit, 445 Minnesota Street Suite 170, St. Paul, MN 55101 or you can submit the information using our online self-services by visiting drive.mn.gov under the 'online services' tab choose 'upload miscellaneous forms' and 'request for driver examination.'

What Happens Next

- Driver and Vehicles Services may schedule an appointment for the at-risk driver with a driver evaluator. The at-risk driver will receive a letter with the date and time of the appointment, if applicable.
- If the at-risk driver fails to respond to the letter or keep the appointment, his or her driving privileges may be canceled.
- The evaluator may also take action on the documents alone after reviewing them, without the need to interview the at-risk driver in person.

Driver Evaluation

- After the interview is concluded or determination is made after review of documents submitted, the evaluator may require the at-risk driver to submit any or all of the following: a written physician's, vision statement and pass a driver's license test (knowledge and skills).
- If it is determined that the at-risk driver is no longer qualified to driver either due to medical issues and driving abilities the driving privilege would be cancelled. The at-risk driver does have the option to retain the driver license card for ID purposes or may apply for a Minnesota photo identification card.

Minnesota statutes and rules related to testing and assessing at-risk drivers.

Minnesota Statutes, sections [171.04](#); [171.13](#); [171.14](#)

Minnesota Rules, chapters [7409.2800](#); [7410.2100](#); [7410.2700](#); [7410.2800](#); [7410.3000](#); [7410.4200](#); [7410.4400](#)