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DRIVER AND VEHICLE SERVICES  
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## Triple Check Frequently Asked Questions

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### What is a sanction?

A sanction is the suspension, revocation, cancellation or withdrawal of driving privileges.

### Who is affected?

Any driver (commercial or non-commercial) who has an outstanding driver sanction or a history of serious driving violations in another state.

### When did Minnesota implement these new licensing requirements?

The requirements in Minnesota were effective October 11, 2011.

### What is the Problem Driver Pointer System?

The Problem Driver Pointer System (PDPS) maintains a record of all individuals whose driving privilege is sanctioned in another state(s). Minnesota uses PDPS to determine if drivers who are looking to obtain a driver's license have any outstanding driver sanctions in other states.

### Why does Minnesota check my driver's license record with other states when I am only licensed to drive in Minnesota?

As required by the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (MCSIA), all states must check driving records in other states as part of this federal mandate to improve highway safety by preventing the licensing of ineligible drivers and to prevent drivers from hiding driver sanctions by moving from state to state.

### If I had driving privileges suspended in another state 20 years ago, will that show up when my driving record is checked?

There is no time limit. Any sanction in another state needs to be resolved before any state can issue you a driving credential, including a learner's permit.

### What do I need to do if my driver's license is sanctioned in another state?

You will need to contact the state in question to resolve the sanction. Once your driving record has been cleared and Minnesota can verify this, you will be able to obtain a Minnesota driving credential.

### How long will it take to clear a sanction?

How long it takes to resolve a sanction in another state depends on the type of sanction and the other state's procedures and requirements.

### How much will this cost?

Other than the normal driver's license fees, there is no additional fee in Minnesota. However, if another state requires fees to restore your driving privilege, you will need to comply with that state's requirements.

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**How am I supposed to drive now that my Minnesota license is expired and I cannot renew because of an issue in another state? Can I get a “work license” or something while I work to clear the sanction?**

Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) will not issue a work license or extend driving privileges. You must resolve the issue in the other state before you can apply for, renew, change, upgrade, or add an endorsement to your Minnesota license or instruction permit.

**If I am not allowed to renew my Minnesota license, can I apply for a Minnesota ID card?**

Yes, but you will have to surrender your driver’s license. In some circumstances, you may have to retest to regain a Minnesota driver’s license. We do not encourage you to do this and instead urge you to resolve the issue in the other state.

**My Minnesota license is not expired, but I do have a sanction in another state, am I still able to drive in Minnesota?**

If your Minnesota driving privileges are valid, you are able to drive. However, we strongly recommend that you resolve the issue in the other state as soon as possible. You will not be allowed to renew, change, upgrade, or add an endorsement to your Minnesota license until the matter is resolved.

**What if I can never get the sanction cleared in the other state?**

Minnesota is prohibited by federal regulations from issuing a driving credential to you while your driving privileges are sanctioned in another state.

**Is there a way for me to check to see if I have any sanctions in another state?**

The Problem Driver Pointer System used by Minnesota checks the National Driver Register (NDR). You are entitled, under the provisions of the Privacy Act, to request a file search to see if you have a record on the NDR database.

You must send a notarized letter, referred to as a “privacy act request” to:

National Driver Register  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Be sure to indicate that you would like an NDR file check. Include in your request, your full legal name, date of birth, state and driver’s license number, sex, height, weight, and eye color (your social security number is optional). There is no charge for this service.

For more information about the NDR, visit [www.nhtsa.gov/Data/National+Driver+Register+\(NDR\)](http://www.nhtsa.gov/Data/National+Driver+Register+(NDR)).