

**Who is required to have an Instruction Permit?**

Anyone learning to drive an automobile, motorcycle or Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) must first obtain an Instruction Permit.

**What is required for a permit?**

An applicant must pass the appropriate knowledge exam and a highway signs test. To apply for an automobile instruction permit, a person must:

- be at least 15 years and 6 months old
- provide proof of name, date of birth and legal presence, such as a certified birth certificate, a passport or naturalization papers and acceptable proof of identity (usually a document with name and signature or photo) when applying for the first permit
- if under 18 years old, an applicant must be enrolled in a certified driver education program
- have the signature of a parent, step-parent, or other adult sponsor, or file financial responsibility under certain conditions if under 18

To apply for an instruction permit to learn to operate a CMV, a person must be 18 years of age or older and hold a valid Class “D” (automobile/small truck) driver license.

**Where are permits issued?**

DMV processes permits at DMV Customer Service Centers located throughout the state, which are then mailed to the customer.

**What is the cost?**

The fee for a Class D instruction permit is \$35, motor cycle permits are \$32 and CDL permits are \$30.

**How long is the permit valid?  
Can it be renewed?**

The class D permit is good for 1 year. CDL and motorcycle permits are good for 6 months. Each renewal costs \$35, \$30, and \$32 respectively. A minor must show proof of enrollment or completion of a certified driver education course to renew the permit.

**What restrictions apply to persons operating with a permit?**

Persons operating with a Class D permit must be accompanied by a person who has at least 2 years licensed driving experience, who presently holds a valid regular (non-probationary) license and who is one of the following: a qualified instructor age 19 or older or parent, guardian or spouse, age 19 or older, or a person age 21 or older.

Persons operating a CMV with an instruction permit must be accompanied by a licensed driver age 21 or older, with the appropriate class of license and endorsements.

**For more information contact:**

Bureau of Driver Services  
Driver Eligibility Unit  
(608) 264-7049

or any local DMV Customer Service Center