

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · MISSOURI

How to Get a Driver's License in Missouri: 2026 Guide

The tests are free and need no appointment, but the written test is not offered in Turkish. Two agencies, two visits, documents, fees and the state line trap.

SHORT ANSWER

Missouri splits the job between **two agencies** and you have to visit both: the **Missouri State Highway Patrol** gives the tests, the **Department of Revenue** sells the card. The testing side is the easiest regime in this series: **the tests are free, need no appointment, and are given in all 114 counties**, the written test can be retaken twice in one day, and **no proof of address and no Social Security number is asked at the test**. Those are only asked when you buy the license at a license office. The bad news: **the written test is not offered in Turkish**, and several third-party sites say otherwise.

Two agencies, two visits, one card

- 1 **Go to a Highway Patrol driver examination station.** The written test, the vision test, the road sign test and the driving test are all given there. When you pass you are handed **Form 100, the Driver Examination Record**.
- 2 **Then go to a Department of Revenue license office.** The department sells the card, but not at its own branches: Missouri license work runs through a network of **contract license offices**. **Without Form 100 that office will not process you.**
- 3 **If you are upgrading, take your documents to both places.** The department tells upgrade applicants to bring identity, status, number and residency documents **to the examination station as well**, not only to the license office.
- 4 **Wait for the card in the mail.** It is mailed to the address you give, and **a post office box address is not accepted**.

What is not asked at the test, and what is asked at the counter

WHERE	WHAT IS REQUIRED
Highway Patrol examination station	In the Patrol's own words on its frequently asked questions page, no proof of residence and no Social Security card is needed to take a test . Noncitizens holding a valid permanent resident card or a valid employment authorization card are asked for nothing further; other noncitizens with valid status usually test with an unexpired passport plus an unexpired visa and the I-94

WHERE	WHAT IS REQUIRED
Department of Revenue license office	Four document classes: proof of identity , Date of Lawful Status , proof of Social Security number and proof of Missouri residential address . Applicants who want a REAL ID compliant card bring two residency documents, those who want a non-REAL ID card bring one
Accepted documents at the license office	For residency, two current utility bills (phone, electric, gas, water, sewer, cable), a property tax receipt, a voter identification card, or an official letter on agency letterhead from a state, local or federal agency dated within the last 90 days . For identity, what works for a noncitizen: an employment authorization document , or a foreign passport bearing a US visa together with the I-94 . Knowing this order lets you pass the test in week one and finish the paperwork later

The written test is not offered in Turkish, and some sites say otherwise

This is the most important correction in this guide. Several third-party driver testing sites list Turkish among the languages Missouri offers. **The one-page list the Highway Patrol publishes itself does not include Turkish.** The list is headed as the language options offered for the Class F written test as of November 12, 2024, and it reads: **American Sign Language** (video, computer only), Arabic, Bosnian, Chinese, Dari, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Kinyarwanda, Korean, Marshallese, Pashto, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Ukrainian and Vietnamese. Twenty options counting sign language, and **Turkish is not among them.** The list is on [the Patrol driver examination FAQ page](#).

TWO LIMITS AND TWO REAL MITIGATIONS ON LANGUAGE

- **The list covers only the Class F written test.** The research found no equivalent published list for the Class E or motorcycle test.
- **The only readable copy of the list is an archived capture dated June 2025.** The Patrol site could not be reached, so we cannot confirm the list is the same today.
- **The test can be read aloud to you** by the examiner, or given orally by computer. That is not a translation, it is an accommodation inside English, but it genuinely exists.
- **The test is free and can be retaken twice in one day**, so failing the first attempt costs you time and nothing else.
- **The research could not confirm whether you may bring your own interpreter.** The interpreter ban circulating online is the **federal commercial license rule**, and the Patrol page says nothing about interpreters for Class F. Ask the station before you go.

The test is free, needs no appointment, and can be retaken the same day

- The Patrol's own sentence: **no fee is charged for noncommercial written and skills tests.** Commercial licenses are the exception: still no fee at the station, but **\$25** is added on top of the license fee at the license office.
- **No appointment is required** for the written test or the noncommercial skills test. Some stations offer optional appointments for the skills test and the department recommends using them; **the commercial**

skills test does require one. Testing is available in **all 114 counties**.

- **The written test is 25 multiple-choice questions with a passing score of 80 percent**, so five wrong answers at most, and **it can be retaken twice in one day**. It is not open book, and every question comes from the **Missouri Driver Guide**, which is the only source: dor.mo.gov/forms/Driver_Guide.pdf.
- **Formats:** touchscreen computer or tablet, printed paper, an oral test by computer, or the examiner reading the questions aloud.
- **The driving test has a passing score of 70 percent, once per day**, and no more than three in 12 months without special permission. You bring the vehicle; it does not have to be yours, but it must be **registered and insured**, with current plates and a **valid inspection sticker**.
- The test includes **parallel parking in a 25-foot by 7-foot space** (within 18 inches of the curb, in under two minutes) and parking on a hill, plus backing, two right and two left turns, and intersections. The department adds a reassuring note: **failing to complete the parallel park is not an automatic failure**, only a few points.
- **Vision standard:** at least **20/40** acuity in one or both eyes, and at least 55 degrees of peripheral vision in each eye or 85 degrees in one eye.
- **Passing the test is not a license:** in the department's words your score document is not legal for any driving until you buy a license or permit. If your license is suspended or revoked, getting it back means retaking **all four tests**.

Missouri publishes no document for someone without lawful status

- **Proof of lawful status is required at every transaction:** as a new resident, as a first-time applicant **and at renewal**, REAL ID or not. A non-REAL ID card is **not a status-free alternative** in Missouri; the only difference is how many residency documents you bring. The research **found no Missouri equivalent** of the drive-only document Connecticut issues or the banded card Colorado issues. That is not a reading of a statute: the state code site could not be reached, so it is a conclusion drawn from every Department of Revenue and Highway Patrol page that was read.
- **Online renewal is closed to immigrants.** Eligibility requires a **US citizenship verification flag** on the record, and the department's own sentence is that people with USCIS-issued immigration documents must apply in person and present their documents for SAVE verification at the time of application. The same restriction is repeated for online duplicates. So for a Turkish reader **every license transaction is an in-person transaction**.
- **Applicants without a Social Security number** may not be eligible for a REAL ID compliant document depending on verification of their lawful status documents, and must present a letter from the Social Security Administration about the status of the number. Applications without a number can go to **central office approval before printing**, so build slack into your calendar.
- **There is a written exemption for students:** in the department's words, a foreign student without authorization to work in the United States does not need to bring a status letter from the Social Security Administration, but the immigration document must show class **F or J**.
- **One-document rule:** Missouri keeps only one valid document on a record. You surrender the driver identification card when you get a license and the reverse applies; a license or identification card previously issued by another state is **invalidated** with the application and that state is notified to cancel it.

A Turkish license is not exchanged for a Missouri one

- **The waiver is written only for US documents.** The department's sentence is that a person surrendering a valid license issued by a US jurisdiction or certain US territories, or one expired by **less than 184 days**, may be eligible to transfer without an additional written or skills test. A Turkish license is not a US jurisdiction license, so you take **the full four-part examination**: written, vision, road signs and driving.
- **No reciprocity list was found.** Michigan publishes a reciprocal-country list that names Türkiye; **the research found no Missouri page naming any foreign country**, for exchange or for recognition. Read that as the absence of a finding, not as a prohibition.
- **No official Missouri page states how many days you may drive on a foreign license.** The research found no such rule. We do not say there is none; we say **none was found**. The only firm published deadlines Missouri has are **30 days for vehicle registration and title**.
- **The international driving permit never appears in the state's 100-page driver manual.** The full text was searched for it and nothing came back; Missouri neither gives that document a role nor rejects it.
- **Your passport works, your license does not.** The Turkish license itself appears in no category on any of the manual's document lists; what counts as identity is a foreign passport bearing a US visa together with the I-94.
- **There is an exemption, but we are not recommending it.** The manual exempts a full-time student who carries a valid license from their own state from the requirement to hold a Missouri license. The research could not confirm whether the department and the Patrol read "their own state" to include a foreign country, so we do not present it as a route. If this is your situation, ask the license office and the station separately.

Fees

TRANSACTION	FEE
Standard license (Class F)	Up to 3 years \$16.50 , up to 6 years \$33.00
Nondriver identification card (Class ND)	\$24.00, expires on your birthday in the sixth year
Instruction permit (Class F)	\$10.00
Intermediate license (age 16)	\$14.00
Written and driving test	Free , for noncommercial classes, at a Highway Patrol station
License office processing fee	\$9.00 , or \$18.00 for a document longer than three years
Duplicate license (Class F)	\$16.50 for a 3-year card, \$25.50 for a 6-year card
Commercial license add-on	\$25.00 on top of the license fee

Processing fees were set at \$9, \$18, \$27 and \$45 by a law effective August 28, 2025. The footnote to the fee table says written and road test fees are not included in it; the tests belong to the Highway Patrol, and the Patrol says noncommercial tests are free. The research could not find whether a license office charges anything separately for recording a test, so we print no figure. **Two official documents conflict on how long an instruction permit is valid**: the column heading on the fee table says "up to two years" while the manual says "0 to 12 months". We print no duration; ask the license office.

The state line trap: which office are you going to?

Kansas City, Missouri sits on the state line, and there is another city with the same name in the neighboring state: Kansas City, Kansas. The license office there issues Kansas licenses and cannot issue a Missouri one; the reverse is equally true. Going to the wrong state's office costs a day. Missouri licenses are issued **only at Missouri license offices**, and Missouri tests are given **only at Missouri Highway Patrol stations**. One more detail: Kansas City, Missouri spans **Jackson, Clay, Platte and Cass** counties, which is why this guide never says "go to the city office" and always says **find your county first**. **This guide prints no examination station address or hours:** the Patrol's station locator and station table could not be read by any route during the research, and rather than invent them we leave them out. The locators: [examination station locator](#) and [license office locator](#). The Patrol unit covering the Kansas City, Missouri area is **Troop A, Lee's Summit, (816) 622-0800**; the Department of Revenue general information line is **(573) 526-3669**. Finally, on deadlines: **no number of days is published for a new resident's license**. The manual says a new resident who wants to drive must get a Missouri license, but it gives no deadline.

FOUR THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

- **The test and buying the license are two separate doors.** No Social Security number and no proof of address at the test; both at the license office.
- **Missouri publishes no document route for someone without lawful status**, and proof of lawful status is required at renewal too.
- **Online renewal is closed to you.** Anyone with a USCIS document applies in person and goes through SAVE verification, so plan an office visit every time.
- **The written test is not in Turkish.** The right way to prepare is to study the manual in English, and to know you can ask for the test to be read aloud to you.
- **Do not go to the wrong state's counter.** No office on the Kansas City, Kansas side can issue a Missouri license.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN MISSOURI

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