



Driver's License Information

If you are 18 or older, you may apply for a Driver's License in the state of North Carolina. The following sites are available for viewing complete information:

- North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles Website: (<http://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/driver/>)
- Driver's Handbook: (<https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/license-id/driver-licenses/new-drivers/Documents/driver-handbook.pdf>)

What to Do:

1. Download and study the Driver's Handbook (listed above).

You will need to take a written test and a driving test even if you already have an international license. If you have never taken Driver's Education classes, nor had a license in your home country, you should consider attending a Driving School. You may find information about local schools on the internet.

2. Make an appointment with the DMV to take the written and driving tests.

It is highly advised to book an appointment online or by phone well in advance with the DMV. If appointment wait times are too long, you may visit during walk-in hours. It is not uncommon to wait several hours before being called, so plan to go on a day when you do not have classes or other obligations. Tips for walk-ins:

- Testing centers outside Raleigh tend to be less busy.
- Be prepared to be there for the day. Bring: snacks, drinks, and a chair (if outside).

3. Take the written test.

The written test will cover road signs, other contents of the Driver's Handbook, and a vision component. If you pass these portions, you will be granted a learner's permit.

- Note: If you pass, you may be able to take the driving test on the same day. In this case, be sure to have liability insurance with you (see below).

4. Obtain Non-Owner's Insurance from the insurance carrier of your choice.

You must have this insurance coverage prior to taking the driving portion of the test. Usually there is a deposit of around \$150, with monthly payments ranging from \$135 and up, depending on driving experience, age, and driving record (if you have one).

5. Take the driving test.

The driving test evaluates your skill in starting, stopping, turning, following road signs, parallel parking, etc. You must provide a vehicle to drive for the driving test. As such, be sure to bring a licensed friend (who has a car) to the DMV.

6. On the morning of the tests, bring the following:

- Form I-20, EAD card (if on post-completion OPT)
- Form I-94
- Proof of identity (ex. passport or birth certificate)
- SSN card (recommended, but not required)
- 2 Proof of address documents (ex. utility bill, lease agreement, letter from DSO)
- Proof of insurance, License fee (\$6.50/year)

DMV Locations: 2431 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27615 (919) 855-6877 1080 Eastern Blvd, Henderson, NC 27536 (252) 438-8930
2851 Wendell Blvd, Wendell, NC 27591 (919) 365-9516 701 W Grantham St, Goldsboro, NC 27530 (919) 731-7963