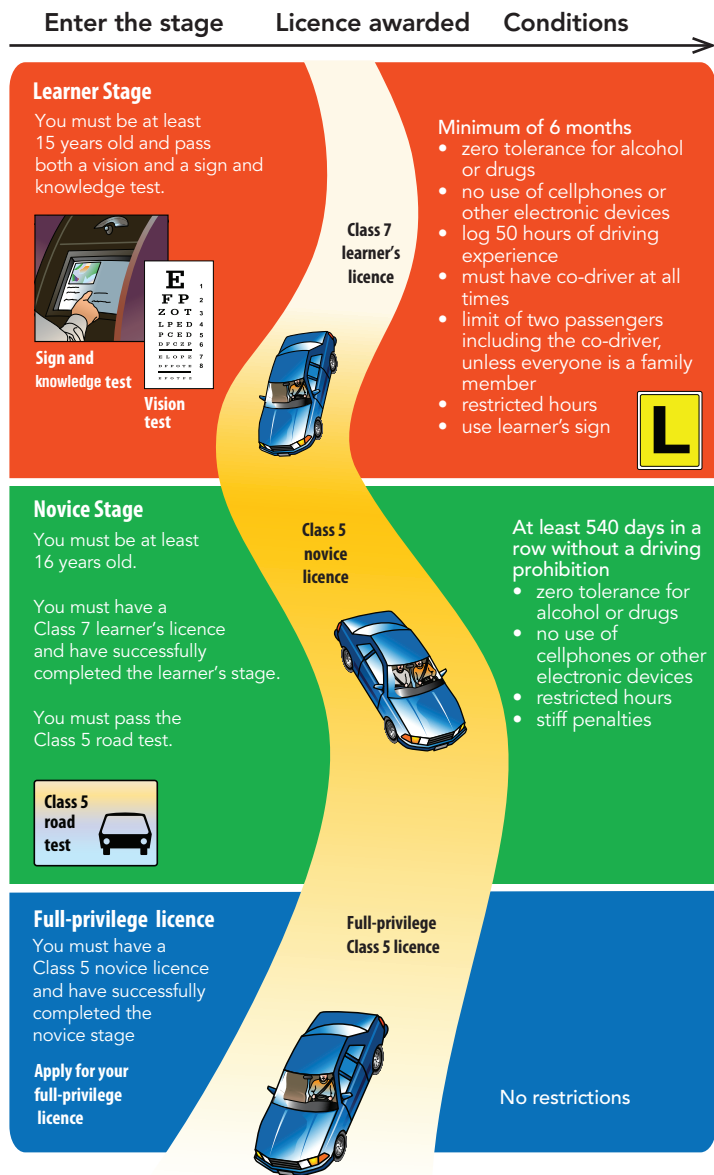


## in this chapter

- Learner's stage: Class 7
- What you need to take to the driver licencing office
- Testing for your learner's licence
- Learning to drive
- Learner's stage driving restrictions and conditions
- Novice stage
- Preparing for your road test
- The Class 5 road test
- Novice stage driving restrictions and conditions
- Full-privilege Class 5 licence

Yukon's Graduated Driver's Licence (GDL) program is designed to reduce the number of crashes involving new drivers of any age. Under GDL, new drivers gain experience gradually, under conditions that expose them to less risk. To get your full-privilege Class 5 licence, you'll go through several stages.



### fast fact

#### Motor vehicle offices

Carcross, 821-4281

Carmacks, 863-6411

Dawson City, 993-5348

Faro, 994-2724

Haines Junction,  
634-2201

Mayo, 996-2276

Old Crow, 966-3261

Ross River, 969-2347

Teslin, 390-2024

Watson Lake, 536-7311

Whitehorse, 667-5315  
or toll-free in Yukon  
at 1-800-661-0408,  
extension 5315

## Learner's stage: Class 7

The first licence new drivers receive is a learner's licence. You must be at least 15 years old to apply for your learner's licence. You'll also need to pass the sign and knowledge test and pass a vision screening. This licence is valid for five years.

To apply, go to your nearest Motor Vehicles office. There is a motor vehicles office in most Yukon communities to serve you.

If you pass the tests, you'll be issued a Class 7 learner's licence and a Graduated Driver's Licence (GDL) information package.

## What to bring to Motor Vehicles

### Proving your identity

The first time you get a driver's licence, you will need to provide several government-issued documents as proof of your identity showing your photo, signature, date of birth and full legal name:

**Your photo and signature** - Bring at least one of these: Canadian driver's licence, passport, Customs and Immigration Canada (CIC) documents or secure Indian Status Card. If you don't have any of these, you can bring a guarantor form completed by a Yukon resident over 18 who has known you at least two years.

**Your date of birth** - Bring at least one of these: birth certificate, CIC documents, or a secure Indian Status Card.

**Your full, current legal name** - Bring your birth certificate, valid passport or permanent resident card showing your full, current legal name. If these documents don't show your current legal name, please bring, marriage certificate(s) or legal name change document(s) showing how your birth name became your current legal name.

### Proving Yukon residency

A Yukon driver's licence may only be issued to residents of Yukon. To prove you live in Yukon you must bring:

- 1) one of the following documents that shows your current Yukon address, such as:
  - a legal rental agreement or mortgage papers
  - bank statement or credit card bill addressed to you
  - a letter from your Yukon employer written on company letterhead
  - a utility bill addressed to you, such as a bill from Northwestel for cable or a land line (not a cell phone), or an electric bill from Yukon Electric or Yukon Energy.

### note

New Yukon residents may apply for a driver's licence before they qualify for a Yukon Health Card by bringing two documents showing their new Yukon address.

**note**

A complete list of accepted documents can be found by visiting Motor Vehicles at [www.hpw.gov.yk.ca/mv](http://www.hpw.gov.yk.ca/mv). You can also find current fees and other licensing information on the website or by contacting your local Motor Vehicles office.

**Remember to bring**

- fees for the sign and knowledge test and Class 7 licence. (You can pay with cash, debit, Visa, Master Card or American Express.
- glasses or contact lenses if you need them to drive

**Applicants under 18 years old**

If you are under 18, your parent must come with you to sign the application. Applicant and parent must both provide proof of identity and Yukon residency. You may be able to bypass this requirement if you have proof that you are self-supporting and not living with a parent or legal guardian.

**Citizenship**

If you are a newcomer to Canada, please bring proof of citizenship, record of landing or your passport accompanied by your work permit,, study permit, visitor permit , or other related identification to prove your current status in Yukon.

You must also provide two pieces of documentation providing proof of Yukon residency, see above for examples.

**Testing for your learner's licence****The sign and knowledge test**

The sign and knowledge test is a two-part, multiple choice written exam that measures how well you know road signs, rules of the road and safe driving practices. The pass mark is 80 per cent.

These tests are available in English, French, Mandarin, Cantonese and Tagalog/Filipino. Oral testing may be arranged for applicants who do not have a good command of any of these languages.

**Vision screening**

When you apply for your licence, your vision will be checked to make sure you can see well enough to drive safely. You may need to have further vision testing by an optometrist or ophthalmologist if you don't pass the vision screening. If you need to wear glasses or contact lenses when you drive, this restriction will be shown on your licence.

**driving tip**

Check with your local Motor Vehicles office to find out when you can take written tests.

**note**

Make sure you arrive at the office at least one hour before closing to take your sign and knowledge test or you may be turned away.

### Medical requirements

Medical reports for classes 5, 6 and 7 are not required until you reach 70 years old. A medical report is required again at age 75, and again at age 80, and then every two years after that.

The law requires that you report any medical condition, change in health, or physical disability that may affect your driving. Medical practitioners and optometrists are also required by law to report to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles if they feel that the health or vision of a person holding or applying for a driver's licence may interfere with the safe operation of a motor vehicle.

### Learning to drive

Once you have your Class 7 learner's licence, you are in the learner's stage of the Graduated Driver's Licence program. It is in this stage that you put the knowledge learned from this handbook into practice and start to build your life-long safe driving habits.

You will be in the learner's stage for at least six months. During this time, you (with a co-driver) are required to log 50 hours of driving practice on the drive sheets you receive in your GDL package. During your practice sessions, you must drive in a variety of traffic and weather situations, such as highway and urban driving, night time and winter driving. Apart from being required, this is why it is important to use an experienced and trusted co-driver.

#### Choosing your co-driver

You need to choose a co-driver who will be serious about helping you become a skilled, safe driver. You are allowed to log your 50 hours with as many co-drivers as you wish.

Here are some things to consider when choosing your co-driver.

- Is this person ready to commit the **time** needed to practice?
- Is this person a **skilled, experienced driver**? Your co-driver must have held a full-privilege suspension-free licence for at least two years immediately prior to teaching you to drive.
- Will this person **provide a good example of safe driving**? Can he or she be relied on to drive free of alcohol or drugs? Do they drive within the speed limits, with attention to the road conditions, and avoid other risks on the road?
- Is this person able to **get information and ideas across clearly**?
- Does he or she have the **patience** to guide you effectively?

#### fast fact

You can complete the Graduated Driver's Licence program on a motorcycle if you choose. You can begin at the minimum age of 15 by completing the written tests and logging 30 hours of driving practice for at least six months in the Learner's stage.

At the minimum age of 16, you may complete a road test and remain in the Novice stage of the GDL program for 18 months before moving on to a full-privilege motorcycle licence.

**think about**

Getting a professional driving instructor to help you brush up your driving skills as you are preparing for the Class 5 road test.

**Choosing a driving school**

You can prepare for the Class 5 road test by taking lessons from a professional driving instructor. There are good reasons to take driving lessons. Learning to drive skillfully and safely is not easy. Qualified instructors are often more effective than family members or friends at training new drivers.

When choosing a driving school, you may want to ask:

- Is your school a government-approved training school? Do your instructors have government-certified driver education training certificates and are they properly licensed? Ask to see the licences and certificates.
- Can I see a written policy of your rates (including all charges), hours, number of people in a training vehicle and refunds? The school must provide this to you.
- Is your school recognized by insurance companies for a better rate on insurance coverage?
- Can I see a course outline?
- What are your methods of instruction (e.g., one-on-one, classroom groups, etc.)?
- How experienced are your instructors? How much recent training have they had?
- How do you involve parents/guardians or adult supervisors in new driver's education?
- How do you keep your practice cars safe and well maintained?
- Do you have a vehicle with standard transmission if I want to learn how to drive one?
- What do I need to know before starting your course (i.e., type of clothing, equipment, gear, etc.)?

Finally, ask other people: What has been your experience with the school?

**fast fact**

Zero tolerance means absolutely no amounts of alcohol or drugs in your body. For alcohol, this means not even a single drink. You must have a blood alcohol content of zero. The same applies for drugs that impair your ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

**Learner's stage driving restrictions and conditions**

While you are driving with a learner's licence, you must follow these restrictions and conditions:

- Zero tolerance for alcohol or drugs by the driver.
- Zero tolerance for alcohol or drugs by the co-driver.
- Driver may not use either hand-held or hands-free electronic devices, including cell phones, while driving.

### driving tip

Free replacement “L” signs are available at any Motor Vehicles office.

- Co-driver (two years suspension-free) must accompany the learner at all times.
- Limit of two passengers including the co-driver, unless each passenger over that limit is a parent, grandparent, spouse, brother, sister or child.
- Driver can only operate a passenger vehicle weighing up to 4,000 kg.
- Driver may only operate a motor vehicle between 5 a.m. and midnight.
- A student driver, or “L” sign, must be visible to operators of vehicles approaching from behind.
- Driver and co-driver must make a true statement of logged driving hours and an honest declaration of driving experience.
- You may not operate any motor vehicle for which you do not hold a licence.

You must restart the learner’s stage if any of these restrictions or conditions are broken.

## Novice stage

To get your novice licence, you must pass the Class 5 road test. This test assesses whether you are ready to drive on your own. By the time you take the Class 5 road test, you will be 16 years old and have had your learner’s licence for at least six months. You will have honestly logged 50 hours of driving practice with your co-driver in a variety of driving conditions and situations.

To develop the skills and experience needed to pass the road test and build the foundation for lifelong safe driving, spend some time driving at night, in the winter, on the highway and in a busy urban area.

## Preparing for your road test

You can prepare for the test by reviewing this guide and using the *Yukon Class 5 Road Test Guide* to help you practise.

Here are some things you can expect during your road test.

**Before you start** — The examiner checks that you know where the controls are, you use your seatbelt, and you adjust your seat, mirrors and head restraints for maximum safety.

## note

If English is not your first language, here are some words to help you practise hazard perception:

- car
- bus
- too close
- pedestrian
- bump
- can't see
- bicyclist
- children
- animal
- construction
- truck
- wet road
- curve
- warning sign
- dangerous driver
- rough pavement
- turning right
- hill
- pulling out
- ice
- blind spot
- motorcyclist
- snow
- turning left.

During your road test, if you see a hazard you don't know the English word for, you may point at it.

**Using your skills** — The Class 5 road test assesses your ability to perform the **see-think-do** skills: observation, hazard perception, speed control, space margins, steering and communication. For more information about these skills, see Chapter 5, **see-think-do**.

Your Class 5 road test may include:

- using intersections (driving through, turning right, turning left)
- backing up
- entering traffic
- pulling over and stopping on the side of the road
- changing lanes
- parking on a hill
- starting on a hill
- angle parking
- parallel parking
- stall parking (driving forward and backing up)
- two- and three-point turns
- merging on and off a highway
- general driving (such as driving straight, driving on hills and curves).

## The Class 5 road test

The driver examiner will conduct the Class 5 road test and mark your ability to drive in a safe, smooth and controlled manner. The road test takes about 30 minutes. You must provide a safe vehicle to use for your road test. Only the examiner or other authorized people are allowed in the vehicle during a road test. Pets and passengers are not allowed.

When you're ready to take your Class 5 road test, contact the Motor Vehicles office nearest you:

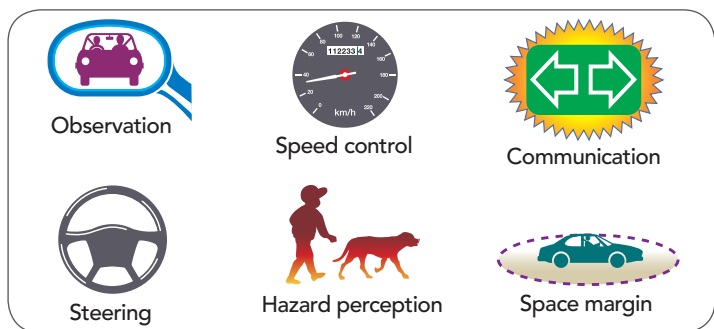
- Class 5 road tests can only be booked after your logbook has been dropped off for inspection.
- The soonest you can book a Class 5 road test is one week after you drop off your logbook for inspection.
- You must pay your road test fee at the time of booking.

### Examiners' tips for passing the Class 5 road test

Here are some tips on how to prepare to pass the road test:

- Keep to the posted speed limits. Don't try to keep up with speeding traffic.
- Watch for school and playground zones. Speeding through school and playground zones is a common reason for drivers to fail their test.
- Make full stops at stop signs, and make sure you stop in the correct position. When it's safe to move out, pull out slowly, scanning the intersection.
- When turning right, shoulder check to the right to ensure there are no cyclists, pedestrians or other road users heading straight through the intersection (and into your path).
- Mirror check, signal and shoulder check whenever you change lanes or direction.
- Keep a safe distance from other vehicles.
- Scan intersections before driving through, even if the light is green when you approach.
- When merging onto a highway, use the acceleration lane to get up to the speed of the highway traffic, while remaining within the speed limit. Do a lane change when safe to do so.
- If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask! We'll be happy to answer them before you start your road test.

Driver examiners will mark you on the **see-think-do** skills you read about in this guide.





**note****DON'T BE LATE**

If you show up late for your road test you will be sent away. If you can't keep your appointment, you need to notify Motor Vehicles. If you don't cancel with Motor Vehicles at least 24 hours in advance, you'll lose the road test fee you paid when you made the appointment.

**What to bring to your road test**

- your driver's licence
- glasses or contact lenses if you need them to drive
- valid vehicle registration and insurance
- a clean and safe vehicle.

**Strategies: Ensuring your vehicle is safe**

For your road test, make sure you have a safe, reliable vehicle that meets legal requirements. Also, make sure you are familiar with the vehicle. Here is a list of some of the items to check for. Your road test may be cancelled if any of these items are defective on the vehicle you bring for your road test:

- Seatbelts — make sure they work, and wear them properly
- Head restraints — adjust your head restraint to suit you
- Mirrors — adjust them to suit you
- Horn — check to see that it works
- Doors — make sure both driver-side and passenger-side doors open and close properly
- Windows, windshields — make sure they are clean, have no cracks, open and close, and are not illegally tinted
- Windshield wipers — make sure they work
- Heaters, defrosters — do you know how they work? You may need to use them to keep the windows clear during your road test
- Brakes — do both the foot brake and parking brake work properly?
- Tires — are they in good safe condition?
- Lights — do you know how to operate the headlights, tail lights, brake lights and turn signals? Do they all work properly?
- Exhaust system — is it in good condition?
- Bumpers — must not be missing
- Licence plate — Is it properly displayed along with a valid decal? Are the vehicle registration and insurance papers in the vehicle?

**warning!**

The vehicle you bring for your road test must be clean and smoke-free or you will be turned away.

### After your road test

At the end of the test, the examiner will discuss your results with you. Make sure you ask questions if you don't understand something.

Whether you have passed or failed, you can learn how to improve your driving. If you failed, the length of time you will have to keep practicing in the learner's stage will depend on the number of tests taken and the reasons for your road test failure. The additional practice time required can range from a week to months.

### Novice stage driving restrictions and conditions

You must hold a Class 5 (35) novice licence for at least 18 months in a row without any violations of the program restrictions. The Class 5 (35) novice licence allows you to drive without a co-driver. It differs from the full-privilege Class 5 licence in that it includes the following restrictions and conditions:

- Zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use by the driver.
- Zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use by the co-driver when accompanying the driver between midnight and 5 a.m.
- Driver may not use either hand-held or hands-free electronic devices, including cell phones, while driving.
- Novice must be accompanied by a co-driver (suspension free for at least two years) between midnight and 5 a.m.
- Co-driver restriction may not apply to a driver who has been approved for a midnight exemption by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.
- Limited to operating passenger vehicles (includes car, trucks and vans up to 4,000 kg) and not exceeding a nine-person capacity.
- No passengers are allowed in the box of a truck.

Novices may not operate any motor vehicle for which they do not hold a licence.

### fast fact

If you are prohibited from driving while in the GDL program, you will lose any time you have gained toward graduating from the Graduated Licensing Program. In other words, your clock is reset to zero.

### Graduated Driver's Licence (GDL) penalties

When you're a new driver, your record is closely monitored by the Deputy Registrar of Motor Vehicles. If you get a traffic violation ticket or other driving offence, you could receive a warning letter, probation or prohibition from driving. In addition to the regular driving penalties, there are extra penalties for GDL drivers.

- At seven demerit points, your licence will be suspended for one month: that could be just two traffic violations.
- More points or more serious offences could result in a suspension from driving for two months to a year, or more.
- If you violate the blood alcohol restriction, or operate a vehicle while under the influence of drugs, you may receive an immediate 24-hour roadside suspension. Police may also impound your vehicle. You'll have this charge recorded on your driver's record for all time and you may also face impaired driving criminal charges.
- While you are suspended you will not add any time toward your graduation from Yukon's GDL program.

### Full-privilege Class 5 licence

After you have held your novice licence for at least 18 months in a row while observing all of the program conditions, you may apply for a full-privilege licence at any Motor Vehicles office in Yukon.

Chapter 10 gives more information on Yukon's full-privilege driver's licence.

## What to bring to Motor Vehicles

Whether you are a new driver, a driver from another jurisdiction or a person re-taking a test, you can use this checklist and be sure you arrive at Motor Vehicles prepared.

Always bring I.D. and fees for the service or licence you want.

### To get your learner's or driver's licence you need to bring:

Government-issued documents to prove your identity showing your photo, signature, date of birth and current legal name.

- Photo and signature** - Bring at least one of these: Canadian driver's licence, passport, Customs and Immigration Canada (CIC) documents or secure Indian Status Card.
- Date of Birth** - Bring at least one of these: birth certificate, CIC documents, or a secure Indian Status Card.
- Current legal name** - Bring your birth certificate, valid passport or permanent resident card showing your full, current legal name. If these documents don't show your current legal name, please bring your marriage certificate(s) or legal name change document(s) to show how your birth name became your current legal name.

**TWO** documents to prove you live in Yukon

- Yukon health care card. New Yukon residents who don't qualify for a Yukon Health Card may bring two of the following documents showing their new Yukon address.
- PLUS** a bill or statement addressed to you showing your Yukon address, such as a utility or credit card bill, or a statement on company letterhead from your employer, or your property tax statement or most recent tax return.
- Your **parent or legal guardian** if you are under 18.
- Fees** for the sign and knowledge tests and for the licence you want.

For more information and a list of current fees, visit Motor Vehicles online at [www.hpw.gov.yk.ca/mv](http://www.hpw.gov.yk.ca/mv) or contact your local Motor Vehicles office.

### For road tests you need to bring:

- your current licence
- a safe vehicle, with registration and insurance papers
- glasses or contact lenses, if you need them to drive
- your co-driver if this is a Class 5 novice road test

### note

Make sure you arrive at the office at least one hour before closing to take your sign and knowledge test. No written testing within one hour of closing.

### note

All road tests are by appointment only. You must book ahead in person. If you can't keep your road test appointment, notify Motor Vehicles at least 24 hours in advance or your road test fee will not be refunded.

### note

When renewing your annual vehicle registration, be sure to bring your renewal form and proof of insurance, or renew online.

## Identification (ID)

Over time, a driver's licence has become more than a licence to operate a vehicle. A driver's licence is now a common form of government-issued identification to prove your age, place of residence and identity.

To ensure that all Yukon residents can have government-issued ID, Motor Vehicles also issues a general identification card, available to people of all ages, especially those who don't have a driver's licence. People eligible to have a driver's licence may have a general identification card as well. Having both ID cards can be helpful when a driver's licence is damaged, stolen or lost, or when your driver's licence is taken away for driving offences.

### note

You can avoid delays and additional trips to Motor Vehicles if you remember to bring all the required documents with you. See the checklist on the other side of this page.

Yukon's driver's licence and general identification card are widely accepted and trusted forms of identification.

The secure licence application process helps prevent someone from getting a driver's licence or general identification card in your name, which could lead to someone getting a credit card, bank card, or other documents in your name. If you are a victim of identity theft, you may suffer financial losses, a poor credit rating and a damaged reputation.

Yukon's driver's licence and general identification card are issued in your full legal name only. If your current full legal name is not shown on your birth certificate or valid passport you will need to bring in ALL name change documents to link back to your birth certificate, such as legal name change certificate(s) and/or marriage certificate(s).

A photocopy of a document is only accepted if it is certified as a true copy by the government agency that issued it.

If you are a newcomer to Canada and do not have the required identification documents, please contact Citizenship and Immigration Canada at 1-888-242-2100.

Always bring government-issued identification plus two documents showing that you live in Yukon each time you come to Motor Vehicles.

## in this chapter

- Your driver's licence
- Summary of licence classes
- Responsibilities
  - protecting your driver's licence
  - medical requirements
  - new Yukon residents
  - retesting
  - reclassifying your licence
  - keeping your licence up-to-date
  - driving in other locations
  - insuring your vehicle
- Enforcement
  - outstanding fines
  - penalties for unsafe and impaired driving
  - registrar suspensions
  - getting your licence back
  - vehicle impoundment

## Your driver's licence

Some people stop learning as soon as they pass their road test. You may know people who still drive the same way now as they did when they got their driver's licence many years ago. This may not be safe. Even if their driving skills and knowledge haven't changed, other things have. Road signs may be different now. Traffic has probably increased. Vehicles have changed; the car they are driving now may be quite different from the one they used to learn to drive.






In your driving career, you may take on additional driving challenges, such as towing a trailer, driving a large recreational vehicle or driving for many passengers. You will need to get information to help you know how to drive safely. You may decide to take driving lessons or practise with a driver experienced in this type of driving.

Even if you do not change the type of vehicle you drive, your driving will probably change with age and experience. Research shows that it takes about five years for new drivers to develop into fully experienced drivers who are able to do several driving tasks at once. After that, people still need to work at keeping their driving skills sharp and up-to-date if they want to be safe on the road.

This chapter covers information that you need to be aware of as a Yukon driver.




## Summary of licence classes

This chart shows the various classes of licences for Yukon drivers. For more detailed information on Yukon licence classes contact your nearest Motor Vehicles office.

Class	Typical vehicles	Minimum age
Class 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• semi-trailer trucks</li> <li>• permits you to drive all types of vehicles except Class 6</li> </ul>	18
Class 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• motor coaches, transit buses, school buses, special activity buses with seating for over 24 passengers</li> <li>• permits you to drive all types of vehicles except Class 1 and Class 6</li> </ul>	18
Class 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• heavy vehicles, with two or more axles, that weigh over 11,000 kg. such as dump trucks, large tow trucks, fuel delivery trucks, moving trucks, buses without passengers, large motor homes over 11,000 kg.</li> <li>• towing trailers weighing under 4,550 kg.</li> <li>• permits you to drive Class 5 vehicles</li> <li>• Class 4 vehicles may be driven if approved by a driver's medical and your licence lists Class 3/4</li> </ul>	18
Class 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• taxi, limousine, ambulance, bus up to 24 passengers, special activity buses, handicapped bus</li> <li>• permits you to drive Class 5 vehicles</li> </ul>	18
Class 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two-axle vehicles including cars, trucks and tow trucks that weigh up to 11,000 kg. by itself or when towing another vehicle or trailer under 4,550 kg.</li> <li>• motorcycles 50 cc and under, construction vehicles, ATVs, snowmobiles and off-road vehicles</li> <li>• novice stage drivers, please refer to additional GDL restrictions and conditions</li> <li>• a full-privilege Class 5 licence is a learner's licence for all other licence classes</li> </ul>	17.5

### fast fact

A motor home with a registered gross vehicle weight (GVW) of over 11,000 kg requires a Class 3 licence to operate.

Class	Typical vehicles	Minimum age
Class 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>motorcycles and mopeds</li> </ul>	17.5
Class 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>permits the learner to operate vehicles in Class 5 and 6</li> <li>to get a Class 7 licence, you need to go through the GDL program; see chapter 9</li> </ul>	15
Class 2, 3, 4 and 5 heavy trailer endorsement  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>trailers or towed vehicles over 4,550 kg.</li> <li>no air brakes</li> <li>trailer or towed vehicle must not exceed the vehicle's safe towing capacity</li> </ul>	18

**fast fact**

A Class 2, 3, 4 or 5 driver's licence permits towing trailers weighing up to 4,550 kg. Some recreational and light duty industrial trailers exceed this weight. To tow them you need:

- a Class 1 licence OR
- a Class 2, 3, 4 or 5 licence with a heavy trailer endorsement
- a road test is required.

**Air brakes**

To operate vehicles equipped with air brakes on a highway (other than a vehicle defined as a construction vehicle), you must have a Yukon driver's licence with an air brake endorsement (code 15).

**Snowmobiles, ATVs and off-road vehicles**

Drivers of all off-road vehicles must be at least 16 and have a Class 5 driver's licence in order to operate an off-road vehicle on, beside or across any roadway or publicly accessible trail. In addition, the machine must be insured and licensed.

Contact Motor Vehicles to ensure you are up to date on any changes to the Yukon's requirements for off road vehicles. Also check municipal bylaws before using off-road vehicles anywhere inside a municipality's boundaries.

**Restrictions**

Restrictions, such as wearing adequate vision correction, driving in a limited area or only during daylight hours, may be placed on your licence for many reasons. Restrictions are listed as condition code numbers on your driver's licence. For information about restrictions or removal of a restriction, contact your nearest Motor Vehicles office.

Most restrictions are applied by Motor Vehicles. In addition, a parent or legal guardian can request restrictions on your licence while you are under 18. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles will consider all such requests and may place the requested restrictions on your licence.



## Responsibilities

### Protecting your driver's licence

As a licence-holder, you have legal responsibilities. Having a Yukon driver's licence is a privilege, not a right. You must insure your vehicle and drive safely to protect yourself and other road users.

#### Do...

- carry your licence every time you drive
- keep your licence current; notify Motor Vehicles if you change your name or address.

#### Don't...

- lend your licence to anyone else
- use a licence that isn't valid
- alter your licence in any way.

### Identity theft and driver licence fraud

Identity theft is one of the fastest-growing crimes in North America. Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information without your knowledge or consent to commit a crime, such as fraud or theft. Victims of identity theft suffer financial loss, a poor credit rating and a damaged reputation.

A driver's licence has become a widely accepted and trusted form of identification. If your driver's licence is stolen, obtained by fraud, scanned or faked, it can be used as a tool for committing crime.

You can't entirely control whether you become a victim of identity theft, but you can take steps to minimize your risk.

### Protecting you from fraud

There's a tough new penalty to help protect you from people who commit driver's licence and identification card fraud. People who commit these offences now face fines of between \$400 and \$20,000, up to six months in prison, or both.

Offences covered by the law include:

- making false or misleading statements, failing to disclose required information, presenting or using false records or fraudulently using records to obtain or try to obtain a driver's licence or identification card
- assisting someone to falsely obtain or try to get a driver's licence or identification card in the ways mentioned above

- using or possessing a driver's licence or identification card that belongs to someone else
- allowing someone else to borrow, use or possess your driver's licence or identification card
- using or having a fake or invalid driver's licence or identification card
- altering a driver's licence or identification card.

### **Strategies: Preventing identity theft and driver licence fraud**

- Keep your driver's licence with you in a secure place. Don't put your licence in a large pocket or in a large or open purse where it may easily be stolen or fall out. Never leave it in plain view inside your vehicle.
- Store your driver's licence in a safe place when you're not operating a vehicle. Don't leave your licence lying around, particularly where strangers can easily see it.
- Make sure to get your driver's licence back right away after you use it for identification, such as in a store. Don't leave it as a security deposit; it contains valuable personal information that could be stolen.
- Keep a list of your identification, including your driver's licence and credit cards, in a safe place in your home. Include card numbers and phone numbers of the card issuers so that you can notify them if cards are lost or stolen.
- If you lose your driver's licence, report the loss to the police and Motor Vehicles right away.
- If you are a victim of identity theft, in addition to notifying the police and Motor Vehicles, report the incident to PhoneBusters' National Call Centre at 1-888-495-8501 (toll-free).

### **note**

Remember, it's your identity; protect it!

## Medical requirements

Medical reports are required for Class 1, 2, 3 and 4 licences:

- on initial licence application and on renewal;
- every five years to age 45;
- every three years from age 45 to age 65;
- annually at 65 and over.

### note

If you are a pilot who already requires a medical for that purpose, contact your local Motor Vehicles office for information that may save you time and effort.

Medical reports for Class 5, 6 and 7 licences are not required until you reach age 70. A medical report is required again at 75, and again at 80, and then every two years after that.

The law requires you to report any medical condition, change in health, or physical disability that may affect your driving. Doctors and optometrists are also required by law to report to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles if they feel that the health or vision of a person who has, or is applying for, a driver's licence may interfere with the safe operation of a motor vehicle.

## New Yukon residents

People who have recently moved to Yukon may use a valid driver's licence from outside of Yukon for the first four months they live in Yukon. You must, however, apply for your Yukon driver's licence and surrender your old licence within that four month time period. You may not hold two valid driver's licences.

### note

If you are new to Yukon and want to apply for a full-privilege or a Novice Yukon driver's licence, you need to prove you have held a Novice licence for at least 18 months in a row. Present this proof when you first apply for your Yukon licence or you will be placed in Yukon's Graduated Licence program.

A Canadian driver's licence from outside Yukon is accepted at the same class without testing. All applicants get a vision screening test. Applicants for a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4 licence must provide a medical report. A medical report from another jurisdiction will be accepted if it is a valid motor vehicle medical report accepted by the home jurisdiction and it is dated within the last six months.

Tourists from any country can use a valid driver's licence for up to four months. Tourists who have an International Driver's Licence issued outside of Canada may use their licence in Yukon for four months or until the licence's expiry date, whichever occurs first.

New residents needing a licence should contact their nearest Motor Vehicles office listed on the back cover of this handbook.

### note

Drivers from other jurisdictions coming to Yukon will get credit for their driving experience in their original jurisdictions.

### strategies: sharpen your skills

Here are some ways to help you keep sharp and up-to-date.

- Use feedback. Ask a friend to watch your driving and give you some suggestions for improvement.
- Know your vehicle. Make sure you know all the controls of any vehicle you drive. The owner's manual is a good place to start.
- Keep up with the driving guides. Pick up a copy of the current guide to make sure you are up-to-date.
- Take advanced training. You may decide to take a course in defensive driving skills or a refresher course.
- Know yourself. You may experience physical and mental changes that affect your driving. Be aware of your condition. Regular medical checkups will help.

## Retesting

A driver's licence in Yukon is valid for a period of five years.

You **WILL** be asked to re-test if:

- your licence has been expired for more than two years;
- your licence has been suspended, disqualified or cancelled for more than two years;
- you have let your Class licence 1, 2, 3 or 4 requirement for a medical lapse for more than two years.

You **MAY** be asked to re-test if:

- your driver's medical report indicates a health issue or problem;
- the police have informed Motor Vehicles that your ability to safely operate a motor vehicle may be in question;
- members of your family or the public at large have indicated in writing that your ability to safely operate a motor vehicle may be in question.

## Reclassifying your licence

When upgrading your licence to a class with more requirements, you must first pass a vision screening test and the knowledge test for that class of licence. You must pay your fee and book a road test. After passing the road test, you need to provide a medical report completed by a doctor.

A road test will be conducted in an air brake-equipped vehicle when you have proof that you have the right endorsement on your licence. You may take the air brake and road tests together. If you need to repeat the air brake test, the road test will not be conducted and you will need to make another appointment.

## Keeping your licence up-to-date

If your licence is damaged or lost, you may apply for a replacement at any Motor Vehicles office.

It is your responsibility to renew your licence before it expires. A renewal notice is mailed to your registered address before the expiry date. If you do not receive your notice, contact Motor Vehicles.

To change your name or address on your driver's licence, visit your nearest Motor Vehicles office. Remember, you are required by law to notify Motor Vehicles of a name or address change for both your driver's licence and vehicle registration. You will

be required to properly identify yourself before any change, replacement or renewal can be performed. (See [chapter 9](#) for details.)

Driving without the proper class of driver's licence or with an expired licence is illegal. It is an offence for vehicle owners to permit operation of their vehicle by an unlicensed driver.

## Driving in other locations

Do you like to travel? You need to be aware that rules, signs and traffic controls can change when you cross a border. If you drive in another country, particularly overseas, you may find yourself driving on the left side of the road, going around a complex roundabout or looking at unfamiliar traffic signs. To be a safe driver, think ahead and find out the driving rules of the area where you're travelling. You may be able to find out some information about driving in other jurisdictions from guidebooks or the Internet.

### note

Check to make sure your vehicle insurance will cover you before you leave Canada.

### note

Check with schools and your insurance company to learn how much liability insurance you need to transport other people's children.

### warning!

The vehicle you are driving will likely be impounded by the police if you are caught driving without valid insurance or with expired registration.

## Insuring your vehicle

As a driver, you must ensure that the vehicle you are driving has a valid and current licence plate as well as adequate insurance. Collision insurance is needed to help pay for vehicle damage and liability insurance is needed to cover damages to people.

## Enforcement

The RCMP has authority under the *Motor Vehicles Act* to order you to stop your vehicle on the roadway or to pull your vehicle off the roadway if:

- you are considered to be breaking the law;
- your vehicle equipment does not meet Equipment Regulations under the *Motor Vehicles Act*; or
- a public road check campaign is being conducted.

Other peace officers have similar authority, including:

- municipal bylaw officers;
- highway and mobile safety enforcement officers; and
- other officers designated under the *Motor Vehicles Act*.

If an officer in uniform directs you to stop your vehicle, you must comply, and remain stopped until the officer allows you to proceed.

As a responsible driver, be courteous and respectful to a uniformed officer who has directed you to stop.

## Outstanding fines

Be sure to pay all fines promptly. Any outstanding fines for moving violations will affect your ability to renew your driver's licence or may result in a driving suspension.

## Penalties for unsafe driving

If you choose to drive unsafely, you could be fined and prohibited from driving. A prohibition means it is illegal for you to drive for a specific amount of time. If you are caught driving while you are prohibited, your vehicle could be impounded, and you may be subject to fines or a jail term. There is a fee to get your licence back after a suspension.

### Demerit point system

Demerit points are recorded against a driver's licence for traffic offences. Driver convictions under the *Criminal Code of Canada* may result in 10 demerit points being recorded against a driver.

- If you receive 15 or more demerit points, your licence is suspended for one month.
- A second demerit suspension within one year results in a three-month licence suspension.
- Three or more demerit suspensions within two years results in a six-month licence suspension for each offence.
- During the GDL program, seven or more demerit points means your licence is suspended for one month, and for two months on a second (or more) demerit suspension.
- When a demerit point suspension has been served, your licence is reinstated with seven demerit points, or three points in the case of GDL. These points remain on your record for two years after you complete your driving suspension.
- If you successfully complete a defensive driving course, you may be entitled to have up to three points removed from your driving record.

The only appeal of a demerit point suspension is if you can prove that the demerit points were assigned in error. You may request a review of your driving record on these grounds by contacting the Deputy Registrar of Motor Vehicles at 667-5315.

### warning!

If you drive without a valid driver's or learner's licence, or without the proper licence class, or contrary to licence restrictions or conditions, you could breach your insurance coverage. If you are in an accident, your insurance claim may be denied and you could be responsible for all costs associated with the crash.

## crash fact

Impaired driving remains one of the major causes of crashes. It kills hundreds of people each year and thousands more are injured.

## think about

Not being able to drive for a long time. If a prohibition from the court is for three months and the licence disqualification is for one year, after three months, the court-ordered prohibition would be over but there would still be nine months left to serve on the *Motor Vehicles Act* disqualification.

## Penalties for impaired driving

No matter where you live in Canada, if you are charged with an impaired driving offence, you will be charged under the *Criminal Code of Canada*. If you are convicted in Yukon, you will also face penalties under the *Yukon Motor Vehicles Act*. Like Yukon, other Canadian jurisdictions have their own territorial or provincial laws dealing with impaired driving. So, if you drink and drive anywhere in Canada, you will have to deal with both the federal and the territorial (or provincial) laws.

Impaired driving offences are criminal charges; they're not treated lightly. The penalties range from heavy fines to long jail terms. In every case, these offences include a court order that prohibits a convicted person from operating any kind of vehicle, anywhere in Canada, for a set period of time.

Under the *Yukon Motor Vehicles Act*, a federal driving prohibition also results in the convicted person being disqualified from holding a Yukon driver's licence. The disqualification can be for a much longer period of time than the court-ordered prohibition.

### More information about disqualifications

In addition to the penalties applied by the judge under the *Criminal Code of Canada*, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles will also order a licence disqualification and will set certain conditions for getting the licence back. A Yukon disqualification period is served at the same time as the court-ordered prohibition.

When Motor Vehicles receives a summary of a driver's conviction, the person's driving record is reviewed. An appropriate disqualification time period and certain conditions are set that must be fulfilled before the person's driving licence is reinstated, and before the person may drive.

### Driving while prohibited or disqualified after an impaired driving or related conviction

If you think it is worth the risk, you may become one of the foolish drivers who will be caught this year trying to beat the system. If you are caught driving a vehicle while you are prohibited or disqualified, you will be heavily fined or even go to jail. Jail terms for this offence are common.

In addition, another "impaired driving" charge will be levied against you. This will seriously affect your future driving privileges. Think about it. If you are convicted of driving while already under a one-year licence disqualification, you will be disqualified from driving for an additional three years. If you are convicted again while under a driving disqualification, you will be disqualified from ever again holding a Yukon driver's licence.

**fast fact**

If you drive while prohibited, you may face significant penalties including a stiff fine and jail.

Yukon, in cooperation with all the provincial and territorial law enforcement agencies, has put in place several programs to identify and catch people who flaunt the law by continuing to drive without a licence. These programs are proving to be very effective. Two such programs are the 90-Day Roadside Suspension and the Vehicle Impoundment programs.

**Other costs of impaired driving**

Besides the penalties listed above, there are still other costs if you are caught driving while impaired.

**Insurance** — if you are convicted of impaired driving and you cause a crash, your insurance claim could be denied, including claims for your own injuries, or damage you cause to your vehicle, or to other people or property. You could be responsible for paying all these costs. As well, your insurance rates may increase.

**Money** — to get your licence back you may have to take a remedial driving program and then have an ignition interlock device installed in any vehicle that you drive. You'd pay the costs for both of these measures.

**Job** — an impaired driving conviction can prevent you from holding certain jobs. Being unable to drive a vehicle may cause you to lose your job.

**Travel** —an impaired conviction could create problems for you when travelling to certain countries, including the United States and Mexico.

Offence	Possible penalties
Driving while impaired	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediate 24-hour driving suspension. Your vehicle may be impounded for 24 hours. You pay for towing and storing your vehicle.</li> <li>• You may be prohibited from driving if a police officer considers your ability to drive to be affected by alcohol or drugs, even if your blood alcohol content (BAC) is under .08.</li> <li>• 90-day roadside driving suspension.</li> <li>• If charged and found guilty under the <i>Criminal Code of Canada</i>, you will:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– lose your licence under the Motor Vehicles Act for a year (first conviction)</li> <li>– be fined</li> <li>– be prohibited from driving.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• You could also go to jail.</li> <li>• You'll be required to take a remedial driving program and may be required to have an ignition interlock device installed in vehicles you drive after completing the remedial program.</li> <li>• Drivers with three or more vehicle-related <i>Criminal Code of Canada</i> convictions will have their licences suspended indefinitely.</li> </ul>



## Registrar suspensions

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles may suspend a driver's licence for reasons such as a poor driving record, failure to pay a fine, medical grounds and failure to pay overdue fines.

## Getting your licence back

If you appear in court for an impaired driving charge and are convicted, your licence disqualification takes effect right away.

A Notice of Disqualification will be sent to you by registered mail to the last recorded address on your licence.

Read your notice carefully. It contains conditions that must be met after an impaired driving conviction, including completion of the remedial driving program and payment of the licence reinstatement fee.

A disqualification remains in effect until you meet all of the conditions listed on the Notice of Disqualification. This applies, as well, to drivers who have left Yukon.

### note

Be sure your licence shows your current address. It is your responsibility to keep Motor Vehicles informed when you change your address. Don't rely on the post office to have your mail re-routed.

## Vehicle impoundment

If you drive a vehicle while you are unlicensed or impaired, the police can impound the vehicle on the spot, for a minimum of 30 days. The owner must pay for the vehicle to be towed and stored.

During the next five years, if any vehicle registered to the same owner is impounded for another offence, the police can impound the vehicle for 60 days or more.

It's important for vehicle owners to understand that they are responsible for making sure that only licensed drivers use their vehicles. For example, if an employer allows a prohibited or unlicensed driver to use of a company vehicle, the vehicle could be impounded.

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# Yukon Driver's Basic Handbook

## Cars and Light Trucks

### Licensing information

Contact your nearest Yukon Motor Vehicles office to get information on licence classifications and requirements.

For general information call:

- Whitehorse, 667-5315
- toll-free throughout Yukon: 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5315

### Booking road tests

- Whitehorse, 667-5315
- other communities, contact the territorial agents or territorial representatives

#### Yukon Territorial Agents

Dawson City Liquor Store, 993-5348

Faro Liquor Store, 994-2724

Haines Junction Liquor Store, 634-2201

Mayo Liquor Store, 996-2276

Watson Lake Liquor Store, 536-7311

#### Yukon Territorial Representatives

Carmacks Community Housing Office, 863-6411

Carcross Community Housing Office, 821-4281

Teslin Community Housing Office, 390-2024

Old Crow, VGFN Office, 966-3261

Ross River Community Housing Office, 969-2347

### Website addresses

- Visit Motor Vehicles, [www.hpw.gov.yk.ca/mv](http://www.hpw.gov.yk.ca/mv)
- Road Safety information, [www.hpw.gov.yk.ca](http://www.hpw.gov.yk.ca)
- Yukon road report, [www.511yukon.ca](http://www.511yukon.ca)