

Chapter MVD 14

PROCEDURE FOR EXAMINATION OF APPLICANTS FOR AN  
OPERATOR'S LICENSE

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**MVD 14.01 Performance of certain maneuvers required.** (1) Whenever an examination of a person's driving ability is required, the following driving maneuvers shall be performed, observed and scored:

- (a) Starting (on the level).
- (b) Hill stop and start.
- (c) Quick stop.
- (d) Speed and braking.
- (e) Backing.
- (f) Parallel parking.
- (g) Turn-about (Y-turn).
- (h) Approach to intersection.
- (i) Signalling intention.
- (j) Right turn.
- (k) Left turn.
- (l) Traffic signals.
- (m) Stop sign.
- (n) Following.
- (o) Passing and being passed.
- (p) Position in road.
- (q) Right of way to vehicles.
- (r) Right of way to pedestrians.
- (s) Attention and distraction.
- (t) Driver posture.

(2) In addition to these maneuvers, any person attempting to qualify for a school bus operator's license will be asked to perform a simulated passenger pickup and discharge, and a railroad crossing stop.

(3) Whenever an examination of driving ability for the operation of a motor-driven cycle is required, all or part of the maneuvers specified in

sub. (1) may be performed, observed and scored in addition the following skill maneuvers shall be performed, observed and scored where possible:

- (a) Location and use of controls.
- (b) Off/on stand.
- (c) Walk, figure 8.
- (d) Starting motor.
- (e) Slow ride.
- (f) Shifting gears up and down.
- (g) Straight line ride.
- (h) Serpentine ride.
- (i) Stopping.
- (j) Figure 8 ride.

(4) Whenever the person is required to demonstrate his ability to operate any motor-driven cycle or motor vehicle, the test may be refused by driver license examiners if in their opinion the weather or road conditions are such that it would be hazardous or might be impossible to complete the test. Tests may also be denied if the vehicle furnished by the applicant is not in safe operating condition. Tests may be concluded at any time if in the opinion of the examiner, continuing the test would constitute a hazard to the applicant, the motoring public, or himself.

(5) The examination of a person's driving ability in the operation of a motor-driven cycle may be waived if all the following qualifying standards are met:

(a) He had previously held an out-of-state license or holds a valid Wisconsin operator's license and had qualified for the regular Wisconsin license prior to September 1, 1967.

(b) For a period of at least one year, must have regularly operated a motor-driven cycle which meets the following standards:

1. A two-wheeled motor-driven cycle of any make or model with a piston displacement of 125 cubic centimeters, or more.

2. The motor-driven cycle, which was regularly operated, must meet the equipment requirements specified for motor-driven cycles in ch. 347, Stats.

(c) Must have driven a two-wheel motor-driven cycle a minimum of 5,000 miles as a regular operator.

(d) If a period of 4 years has passed since the applicant last regularly operated a motor-driven cycle, a test of the ability to operate as specified in s. MVD 14.06 (3) will be required.

(e) Any person who for at least one year has regularly operated a three-wheel motor-driven cycle, or a motor-driven cycle with a piston displacement of less than 125 cc, may qualify for the waiver of examination of driving ability, providing:

1. The authority to operate a motor-driven cycle is restricted to the type of vehicle which the person has regularly operated.

2. The qualifying standards specified in (5) (a), (b), and (b) 2. are met and has operated the type of motor-driven cycle specified in (e) for a minimum of 5,000 miles.

History: Cr. (1) and (2), Register, April, 1961, No. 64, eff. 5-1-61; cr. (3), (4), and (5), Register, March, 1968, No. 147, eff. 4-1-68.

**MVD 14.02 Scoring the examination.** (1) In scoring each maneuver which is satisfactory, no deduction shall be shown and the maneuver will appear unmarked.

(2) Those maneuvers which are not satisfactorily performed shall be scored as fair, poor or fail, depending on the degree of deviation from a satisfactory performance of the maneuver.

History: Cr. Register, April, 1961, No. 64, eff. 5-1-61.

**MVD 14.03 Computing the score.** In computing the score of the examination, 3 maneuvers scored fair shall be equivalent to one maneuver scored poor. Three maneuvers scored poor shall be equivalent to a failure of the examination. Any maneuver scored as a fail shall be a failure of the examination, except that no person taking the examination shall be failed solely on their inability to parallel park the vehicle, unless in attempting to parallel park the vehicle, he commits a dangerous action such as cutting off and obstructing other traffic, striking other vehicle or object, or backs or drives over curbing.

History: Cr. Register, April, 1961, No. 64, eff. 5-1-61.

**MVD 14.04 When repeat examinations permitted.** (1) Any person who fails the first examination may not take the second examination until a period of 10 days shall have elapsed since the first examination. Any person who fails the second examination may not take the third examination until a period of 30 days shall have elapsed since the second examination. Any person who fails the third examination may not take the fourth examination until a period of 90 days shall have elapsed since the third examination, except that when the applicant has had considerable previous driving experience and the sole cause of failure was a single traffic violation the division may in its discretion permit a repeat examination within a lesser period of time than specified herein.

(2) When the applicant is able to furnish proof of professional driving instruction or considerable driving practice since the previous examination, the division may in its discretion, permit a repeat examination within a lesser period of time than specified in sub. (1).

History: Cr. (1), Register, April, 1961, No. 64, eff. 5-1-61; cr. (2), Register, March, 1968, No. 147, eff. 4-1-68; am. (1), Register, February, 1969, No. 153, eff. 3-1-69.

**MVD 14.05 Division may conduct further examinations.** If any person fails the fourth examination, further examinations may be granted when the division is satisfied that improvement in the driving ability of the applicant has been demonstrated. Such further examinations shall be conducted at such intervals of time as the division may deem reasonable.

History: Cr. Register, April, 1961, No. 64, eff. 5-1-61; am. Register, February, 1969, No. 153, eff. 3-1-69.

**MVD 14.06 Examination requirements.** (1) Whenever an examination for a license is required in accordance with s. 343.16 (1) (a), 343.12 (2) (e) or 343.125 (4) (b), Stats., such examination shall include a test of the applicant's eyesight, his ability to read and understand highway signs regulating, warning and directing traffic, his knowledge of the traffic laws (including s. 346.26, Stats.) and an actual demonstration of his ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control of a motor vehicle.

(2) In addition to those examinations specified in s. 343.16 (1) (a), Stats., effective July 1, 1969, the division shall examine every applicant for a renewal of an operator's license. The examination shall consist of a test of eyesight.

(3) The division shall also examine every applicant for a license to operate a motor-driven cycle. Such examinations shall consist of a test of eyesight, ability to read and understand highway signs regulating, warning and directing traffic, knowledge of traffic laws and regulations governing motor-driven cycle operation, knowledge and ability to perform specified skill maneuvers in addition to exercising ordinary and reasonable control of the motor-driven cycle unless examination for the ability to operate is waived under s. MVD 14.01 (5).

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1968, No. 147, eff. 4-1-68.

**MVD 14.07 Test of applicant's eyesight.** **History:** Cr. Register, March, 1968, No. 147, eff. 4-1-68; r. and recr., Register, July, 1970, No. 175, eff. 8-1-70; r. Register, May, 1988, No. 389, eff. 6-1-88.

**Note:** See ch. Trans 103 for vision standards for motor vehicle operators.

**MVD 14.08 Road sign test.** (1) The road sign recognition test shall determine the applicant's ability to read and comprehend the meaning of a series of diagrams or silhouettes of common highway signs.

(2) The applicant's ability to read and understand highway signs will be scored on a pass or fail basis. The inability to explain all the signs in a series will constitute a failure of the test.

(3) Any person who fails a sign test may not take further examinations until a period of one day has elapsed since the previous examination. Any person who fails 4 such examinations may not take the fifth examination until he satisfies the division he has received competent instruction in reading and understanding road signs.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1968, No. 147, eff. 4-1-68.

**MVD 14.09 Test on knowledge of traffic laws and evaluation of hearing.** (1) The test on knowledge of traffic laws shall consist of a series of questions concerning traffic laws and rules of the road, vehicle equipment and safe driving practices. This test may be administered as a written examination or as an oral examination, as determined by the division, except no oral test will be given to a person applying for his or her first school bus operator license.

(2) A separate series of knowledge tests shall be used to qualify an operator for a school bus license, chauffeur license, (except those licensed under s. 343.125 (4) (a) Stats.) or for motor-driven cycle operation.

(3) In grading the knowledge test, a score of 75 or more of a possible 100 constitutes a passing grade. A score below 75 constitutes a failure of the test.

**Register, May, 1988, No. 389**

(4) Upon failure of the knowledge test for chauffeur license, school bus license, reinstatement of a license, or a previously licensed person who has moved to Wisconsin, a repeat examination may be taken no sooner than the following day after the test is failed. Applicants who fail the knowledge test for an instruction permit or for motor-driven cycle operation, may not take future examinations until a period of 7 days has elapsed since the previous examination. Any person who fails 4 examinations on knowledge of traffic laws may not take a fifth examination until a period of 90 days shall have elapsed since the previous examination, or until he satisfies the division that he has received competent instruction on rules of the road.

(5) At the time of examination for a license, a determination shall be made of the applicant's ability to hear. If the applicant is unable to hear the normal spoken voice, a determination shall be made of the apparent ability to hear normal traffic sounds. Persons who are unable to meet this requirement shall be restricted to the operation of a motor vehicle equipped with outside mirror and/or hearing aid provided they otherwise meet the license standards.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1968, No. 147, eff. 4-1-68; am. (1), Register, December, 1979, No. 288, eff. 1-1-80.