



Information and Resources to keep teens safer on the road!

California Driver's Ed Requirements and Checklist

Driver's Ed Course Requirements California

Getting a California first-time driver's license is a thrilling rite of passage for a teen. Yet before you can get behind the wheel, you'll have a few hurdles to overcome. Driver's Ed in California is a teen's first step toward getting a driver's permit, and it's a valuable safe-driving foundation that can help instill good driving habits.

Age and Eligibility for Driver's Ed

Any driver under the age of 18 interested in getting their [California driver's permit](#) and ultimately their driver's license is required to take Driver's Ed in California. The minimum age to start a driver's education course is 15.

Is State Approval Necessary?

Yes. The DMV expects students to pass a state-licensed course in order to meet their [California driver's education](#) requirement.



CALIFORNIA DRIVER'S ED REQUIREMENTS

Age Requirement:

15

Length of Driver's Ed:

30 hours

Passing Score:

80% (40 correct out of 50 questions)*

*Unlimited retakes available!

[Learn More](#)





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How Long Does Driver's Ed Take?

In order to meet state requirements, a California Driver's Ed course must last a minimum of 30 hours. Fortunately, students are no longer expected to sit in a classroom to complete a course. Taking it online means you can pick and choose when and where you work to meet this 30-hour requirement.

Benefits of Online vs. Classroom

Between school, friends, and hobbies, teens have very busy lives. Fitting 30 hours of driver's education into that schedule can be difficult, which is why California Driver's Ed online is an excellent choice for teens. You will have the luxury of starting and stopping this online course as often as necessary to fit the coursework into your busy day. Unlike a classroom course where students are expected to listen to tedious lectures and read from boring textbooks, this online course includes high-tech features, like 3-D graphics, animations, and videos — all designed to improve retention and make driver's education more fun!

Valuable Safety Topics Covered in Driver's Ed

An online California Driver's Ed course is designed to prepare a teen driver for their upcoming permit test. But the content is much more than test preparation, it's an invaluable tool designed to educate a teen on safe driving tips and other essential information that will make them smart, confident drivers.

Some of the safe-driving topics covered include:

- ▶ Dangers of drinking and driving
- ▶ Emergency vehicles and responses
- ▶ Sharing the roads
- ▶ Rules and safe-driving practices





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Parent-Teen Driving Contract and Parent's Role

Parents have a responsibility to set a good example for their teens. This can be done by exhibiting good driving behaviors and habits every time you're in the car with your teen. As a teenager prepares to take the wheel on their own, it's important for them to understand their parent's driving rules and expectations.

A [Parent-Teen driving contract](#) is an excellent way for everyone in the family to have a clear understanding of the rules and consequences associated with driving. Parents and teens should sign the contract and mutually agree to the terms to ensure that everyone knows what's expected.

Course Completion and Permit Application Process

At the end of your California Driver's Ed online course, you'll be faced with a 30-question final exam. But don't worry, you'll have unlimited retake opportunities in order to earn a passing score of 80%.

Once you complete your driver's education course, you are one step closer to [earning your California driver's permit](#). The sooner you get your proof of completion, the sooner you can get your permit and start your behind-the-wheel drivers training. We'll process your certificate of completion immediately and mail you a copy free of charge.

The next step is to make an appointment with the DMV to take your permit test. You can find a complete [list of forms](#) you'll need and steps to take on our website. On test day, be prepared to do the following:

- ▶ Show proof of your Social Security number
- ▶ Turn in a DL 44 permit application form
- ▶ Show your original birth certificate or a certified copy of it, or proof of legal U.S. residency
- ▶ Supply a thumbprint





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- ▶ Pay the application fee
- ▶ Pass a vision test

The driver's permit test includes 46 questions. You'll need to get a minimum of 39 answers correct and you'll have 3 chances to pass. But don't worry, you'll be well-prepared for the DMV exam thanks to your California online Driver's Ed course! If you don't pass, you will be able to retake your test after a 7-day waiting period.

You can find out more about obtaining your California learner's permit and your path to your first-time driver's license on our [FAQs](#) page. See you on the road!

