How to Apply for an Irish Driving Licence: A Complete Step-by-Step Guide

Protecting an Irish driving licence is a considerable milestone, approving self-reliance and opening up brand-new travel chances across Ireland and beyond. Controlled by the National Driver Licence Service (NDLS), the application procedure is streamlined, but it requires cautious attention to detail, adherence to particular requirements, and appropriate documents.

Whether a person is transitioning from a learner permit to a complete licence or beginning the driving journey from scratch, comprehending the requirements is important for a smooth experience. This guide describes whatever needed to effectively make an application for an Irish *driving licence Ireland online* driving licence.

1. Prerequisites: Before You Begin

Before getting a full driving licence in Ireland, candidates need to satisfy particular requirements depending on their present driving status. Many commonly, drivers must hold a legitimate student authorization for the classification of car they wish to drive.

Key Requirements:

- **Age Limits:** Applicants need to meet the minimum age requirement for the particular lorry category (e.g., 17 for a standard car/Category B).
- **Learner Permit Holding Period:** For a Category B (vehicle) licence, the applicant should have held their learner permit for at least **6 months** before sitting the practical driving test.
- **Important Driver Training (EDT):** Learner chauffeurs need to finish an obligatory course of 12 one-hour lessons with an Approved Driving Instructor (ADI) before taking the test.
- **Theory Test:** Passing the Driver Theory Test is an obligatory initial step for all new chauffeurs before a learner license can be issued.
- **Driving Test:** Passing the main practical driving test carried out by the Road Safety Authority (RSA) is obligatory before looking for a complete licence.

2. Vehicle Categories and Minimum Ages

Different vehicles require different licence classifications. Below is a referral table laying out the common automobile classifications, the minimum age requirements, and the requirement permits needed.

Category Description Minimum Age Prerequisite **AM** Mopeds (two or 3 wheels, max speed 45km/h) 16 Theory Test & & Learner Permit **A1** Light motorcycles (max engine size 125cc) 16 Theory Test & & Learner Permit **A2** Medium motorcycles 18 Theory Test & & Learner Permit **A** Large motorcycles 24 (or 20 with 2 years on A2) Theory Test & & Learner Permit **B** Cars, light vans, and tractors 17 Theory Test, Learner Permit, EDT, & & Driving Test **C** Trucks (medium and heavy items cars) 21 Classification B Licence & & CPC D Buses and minibuses 21 Classification B Licence & CPC 3. Files Required for the Application To request a full Irish driving & licence through

the NDLS, applicants must present a particular set of validated documents. Incomplete applications will be declined, triggering delays. Checklist of Required Documents: Pass Certificate: The official Certificate of Competency issued by the

RSA after passing the practical driving test

1. **(must be less than two years old). Present Driving Permit: The present learner license need to be surrendered at the time of application. Evidence of Identity: A valid passport, Irish**
2. **passport card, or current national identity card from an EU/EEA member state. Proof of Residency: A document proving normal house in Ireland(if the applicant was born outside the EU/EEA). NDLS Medical Report Form: Required if the candidate is aged 70 or over, or if**
3. **they have a particular medical condition that impacts driving ability. This must be completed by an authorized medical professional within the**
4. **last month. Proof of PPS Number: Official documents revealing the Personal Public Service (PPS) number, such as a P60, tax assessment, or social welfare document. Application Fee: Payment is required at the time of booking or appointment.**
5. **4. Step-by-Step Application Process The NDLS runs mostly on an appointment-based system, though online applications are readily available for those with a confirmed**
6. **Public Services Card(PSC)and a MyGovID account. Method A: Applying Online(Recommended)Applying online is the fastest and most convenient approach, provided the**

applicant fulfills the digital requirements. Step 1: Ensure you have a confirmed MyGovID account and a Public Services Card (PSC). A picture and signature from the PSC will be utilized for the brand-new licence. Step 2: Gather digital copies of required files(such as the eyesight report or medical report, if appropriate). Action 3: Visit the official NDLS website and log

- **in using** your MyGovID. Step 4: Complete **the online application kind and upload any needed supporting documents**. Step 5: Pay the required charge using a credit or debit card. Approach B: Applying personally at an
- **NDLS Centre For those who choose to use face to face or can not utilize the online website, an appointment should be booked ahead of time.**
- **Action 1:** Visit the NDLS website to reserve an appointment at any of the
- **across the country centres. Step 2: Print or conserve the booking confirmation. Action 3: Bring all physical, original files(Pass Certificate, existing learner license, proof of identity, and evidence of PPS number)to the consultation. Step 4: Have your photo and signature caught digitally at the centre. Step 5: Pay the cost at the counter(card and contactless payments are accepted; cash is usually not accepted).**
    - **5. Costs** and Fees The cost of an Irish driving licence depends upon the duration of
    - **the licence provided. Requirement complete driving licences for cars(Category**
    - **B)are typically issued for a period of 10 years, provided the applicant is under the age of 70. Licence Type/ Duration Standard Fee Notes 10-Year Full Licence EUR55.00 Requirement for many motorists under age 70. 3-Year Licence EUR55.00 Provided to motorists aged in between 60 and 66. 1-Year Licence EUR55.00 Issued**

- **to motorists aged 70 and over(free for motorists aged 70 +). Exchange of Foreign Licence EUR55.00 Applicable when converting a recognized foreign licence. Replacement Licence(**

Lost/Stolen)EUR35.00 Requires a Garda report if stolen. Note: Drivers aged 70 or over are exempt from the standard licence fee. 6. What Happens Next? When the application is successfully processed-- whether online or face to face-- the physical driving

licence is printed centrally and dispatched by means of basic post. Processing Time: Most licences show up within 5 to 10 working days from the date of application. Driving Before the Card Arrives: In Ireland, candidates can not drive using a receipt or a pass certificate alone. An individual must remain in physical belongings of a valid driving licence or learner allow while operating a vehicle on public roads. Summary Tips for a Smooth Application Examine Document Expiry Dates: Ensure your passport and current student license are not expired before beginning the application. Book Tests Early: Because waiting lists for the useful driving test can change, plan ahead to ensure your theory test and EDT lessons are completed well beforehand

. *Use the Online Portal: If you currently have a Public Services Card*

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time and removes the requirement to travel to an NDLS centre. By following these steps and guaranteeing all documents is precise, acquiring an Irish driving licence ends up being a straightforward procedure, leading the way for safe

and legal driving on Irish roads .