What to take to the driver licensing office

For the knowledge test you need:

- ☐ primary and secondary identification (see inside of back cover)
- ☐ a custodial parent or legal guardian if you are under 18
- ☐ the fees for your learner's licence and your knowledge test (if not already completed online).

Make sure you arrive at the office at least one hour before closing to take your knowledge test.

For the road tests you need:

- ☐ your current licence
- ☐ primary and secondary identification
- ☐ a safe vehicle, with registration and insurance papers (make sure that the insurance coverage permits you to drive the vehicle)
- ☐ a licensed driver that meets supervisor requirements (if you don't pass your road test, you will be issued a learner's licence that only permits you to drive while supervised)
- ☐ the fees for the road test and photo licence
- ☐ glasses or contact lenses, if you require them to drive
- ☐ for a Class 7 road test, your *Declaration of Completion* if you have successfully completed an ICBC-approved driver training course.

Notes: **All road tests are by appointment only. You must book ahead.** See **chapter 10** for more information and telephone numbers for booking road tests.

If you can't keep your road test appointment, you need to notify ICBC. A fee is charged if you do not show up for your scheduled road test and do not provide either 48 hours notice or a valid reason for not attending.

Knowledge and road test fees vary depending on which tests you will be taking. The fees are listed on **icbc.com**.

To learn more about getting your driver's licence, read **chapter 9, your licence**.

Study + Practice = Success

Prepare for your tests! If you do not qualify on any knowledge test, pre-trip or road test you will need to wait before another attempt can be made.

Retest wait periods

Failed attempt	Knowledge test	Class 5–8 road tests
1st	1 day	14 days
2nd	1 day	30 days
3rd +	1 day	60 days

About the knowledge test

As mentioned in chapter 9, your licence, the knowledge test can be taken online or at any of our driver licensing locations. Here are a few more helpful things you should know:

In-office knowledge test

- Start the test—If the screen is black (i.e. just has a floating number), please touch the screen to activate it.
- Skip feature—During the test you will see an option to skip a question. If you find a question difficult, hit the skip button. Depending on your score, you may or may not see this question again. The question will appear again at the end of the test. You may skip through all of the questions up to two times.
- Status feature—You can always check the bottom of your screen to see how you are doing. Test will end when you have correctly answered the required amount of questions or exceeded the number of incorrect answers allowed, the test will be complete.
- Clarify—If you are taking a passenger vehicle or motorcycle test, you may ask a staff member to help better explain a question you may not understand. We won't give you any hints but sometimes it helps to hear the question in a different way.
- After the test—You will be advised what to do after you complete the test.

Online knowledge test

- Test look and feel — Your online test will have the same look and support features as the in-office tests.
- For more information — You can learn more about the online knowledge test and whether it is the right choice for you by visiting **icbc.com/knowledgetest**.

It is normal to have some "anxiety" before taking the knowledge test and it is often produced by a fear of the unknown. Here are some suggestions to help with reducing anxiety:

1. Be prepared by following a study plan. Spread out studying the material over a few weeks—don't try to learn everything the night before. It's natural to panic when you know you'll be cramming for the test. There is no substitute for knowing the material.
2. Study with a purpose in mind and don't just read the material. Be clear about what you need to know, and what information you want to learn in each study session. Highlight key points and write down specific information you may need to recall on the test.

3. Get used to the test. Become familiar with the instructions and the format of the questions. Along with reading this guide, keep taking the online practice test as it's one of the best ways to prepare. Although you may see some repeats, there's almost 200 questions for you to learn. Take several practice tests, ideally at the same time of day that you will take the actual test. Review material that you're not completely comfortable with.
4. Get a good sleep before the test. Arrive early to give yourself time to relax and get used to the surroundings. Avoid going over the material just before the test. Focus on relaxing at this point. Breathe slowly and deeply, relax any tense muscles, stretch, and shift your attention away from any anxious thoughts that might be creeping in. If you start to feel anxious at any point during the test, take a deep breath, hold it for a couple of seconds and then slowly exhale.
5. Read each question slowly and carefully. Don't try to answer a question until you understand what it is asking. Take time to choose the correct answer—avoid impulsive responding. Taking the time to think improves your performance and also helps to reduce anxiety.

If you don't pass the test, don't beat yourself up. Everyone has good days and bad days. Reflect on how you can better prepare for the next time. And remember, anxiety is not something that controls you, you can manage it—you're in the driver's seat.

About your road test

The passenger vehicle road tests are designed to ensure that drivers know and understand the rules of the road and can drive safely on our roads.

Before the road test, the driver examiner will introduce themselves to you and say a few friendly words. They will then explain what will happen during the road test including manoeuvres that you will be asked to complete. You will then be given an opportunity to ask any questions.

During the road test, the driver examiner will remain quiet except to give you directions or notify you of a situation that requires your attention. Ongoing discussion during a road test may distract you. The driver examiner will not try to trick you or ask you to do anything illegal. If you are not clear about directions, be sure to ask the driver examiner for clarification.

Keep in mind that the driver examiner is not there to teach you or coach you through the road test. They are there to evaluate your driving against criteria based on safe driving practices and the rules of the road.

At the end of the test, the driver examiner will advise you of your road test results and give suggestions to further improve your driving. You may also ask your driver examiner to advise your supervisor of these results and suggestions.

Examiners' tips for passing the passenger vehicle road tests

Here are some tips from driver examiners on how to prepare to pass these tests:

- 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 therefore 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. The rest of the manoeuvre is a lane change.
- Practise all the manoeuvres you may be asked to do as part of your road test, including parallel parking, parking on a hill, and 2- and 3-point turns.
- If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask! We'll be happy to answer them before you start your road test.

Identification (ID)

When you go to a driver licensing office to take an in-office test or apply for a licence, you'll need to take one piece of primary ID and one piece of secondary ID. You'll also need a piece of primary ID to take an online knowledge test.

Prepare for your tests!

If you do not qualify on the knowledge test you will need to wait one day before another attempt can be made. For road tests, the re-test waiting period is 14 days after a first attempt, 30 days after a second attempt, and 60 days for any subsequent attempts.

New to B.C.?

Ensure you provide one primary and one secondary piece of ID and remember to bring your non-B.C. licence.

Has your name changed since birth?

Driver licences and B.C. Identification cards are issued in **legal name only**. If your name differs from that shown on your primary identification, you will also need to provide ALL name change documents to link back to your primary ID.

Photocopies are not accepted. The only exception is a photocopy that is certified as a true copy by the government agency that issued it.

One piece primary ID	
BC Driver's Licence (BCDL) (Must not be expired more than 3 years)	**Canadian Passport** (Must be valid and in exactly the same name as your Canadian Birth Certificate or Canadian Citizenship Certificate. If not, additional name linking document(s) will be required.)
BC Identification Card (BCID) (Must not be expired more than 3 years)	**Canadian Record of Landing** (Some exceptions apply)
BC Services Card with photo (Standalone or Combo) (Must not be expired more than 3 years)	**Permanent Resident Card** (Must not be expired)
Canadian Birth Certificate (Baptismal and Live Birth Certificates are not acceptable)	**Student, Work, Visitor or Temporary-resident Permit (Form number is IMM1442)** (Must not be expired)
Canadian Citizenship Card/Certificate (Commemorative certificates are not accepted)	
Indigenous Primary ID	
Certificate of Indian Status (Laser engraved photo cards with security features, issued by the Government of Canada) (White Card)	

One piece secondary ID	
Bank Card (Both your imprinted name and signature must appear on the card)	**Health Card issued by other Canadian Province or Territory** (Health Care Cards issued by AB not accepted as secondary)
BC Services Card Non Photo	**Legal Name Change Certificate** (Issued by Canadian Court or Canadian Provincial Vital Statistics Agency)
Birth Certificate from foreign country	**Marriage Certificate** (Issued by a vital statistic agency, religious organization or marriage commissioner)
Canadian Forces Identification	**Nexus Card**
Credit Card (Both your imprinted name and signature must appear on the card)	**Passport (Foreign)** (Must be valid and in exactly the same name as your Birth Certificate, Citizenship Cert., PRC or IMM. If not additional name linking document(s) will be required)
Department of National Defence 404 Licence	**Canadian Passport** (Must be valid and in exactly the same name as your Canadian Birth Certificate or Canadian Citizenship Certificate. If not, additional name linking document(s) will be required.)
Driver's Licence (Canadian or U.S.)	**Police Identification Card**
Employee ID Card (Must have name and photo)	**Student Card or ID** (Current year, name and photo must be imprinted)
Indigenous Secondary ID	
Certificate of Indian Status (Orange Laminated cards)	**Métis Nation BC Citizenship and ID Card**
Tla'amin Nation Citizenship Card	

A Combination BCDL/BCSC can only be used as one piece of ID.

If you were born outside Canada and do not have any of the required primary identification documents, please contact Citizenship and Immigration Canada at 1-888-242-2100.