

## PennDOT ~ ~ WHAT's NEW???

( [www.dmv.state.pa.us/](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/) )

Beginning January 9, 2006, new motorcycle learner's permit changes go into effect. Applicants requesting a motorcycle learner's permit are required to take and pass the knowledge test before a learner's permit is issued. More information can be found in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) at ( <http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/faq/faq-mcpermit.shtml> ).

### Frequently Asked Questions: Miscellaneous

PennDOT has changed its motorcycle licensing (Class M) procedures. These changes ensure that applicants have the basic knowledge and understanding necessary to operate a motorcycle before road skills are practiced on public roadways. Additionally, the new permit procedure is now consistent with non-commercial and commercial licensing processes in the state.

<b>What is changing?</b>	Effective January 9, 2006, all applicants who request motorcycle learner's permits will be required to first pass the knowledge test before a learner's permit is issued. Learner's permits issued prior to January 9 will not be affected.
<b>How do I obtain a motorcycle license? What is the process?</b>	A <a href="#">Motorcycle Learner's Permit Application</a> (Form DL-5) will first need to be completed and, along with the \$10.00 fee, taken to a <a href="#">PennDOT Driver License Center</a> for processing. You will be given a vision screening and a motorcycle knowledge test at this time. After passing the knowledge test, the application will be processed and a motorcycle (Class M) learner's permit issued. The learner's permit allows you to practice safe operating skills and is valid for one year. When ready to take your skills test, you can either schedule an appointment at one of PennDOT's Driver License Centers or schedule training through the motorcycle safety program. After the skills test has been passed, a motorcycle (Class M) license will be issued.
<b>How do I schedule the motorcycles skills test at a Driver License Center?</b>	The skills test can be scheduled <a href="#">online</a> or by contacting PennDOT at <a href="http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/contact_us/index.shtml">http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/contact_us/index.shtml</a>

<p><b>Can I receive my motorcycle license through the Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety Program (PAMSP)?</b></p>	<p>Yes. If you take and pass the PAMSP motorcycle safety course, you will be issued a motorcycle (Class M) license.</p>
<p><b>What is the Motorcycle Safety Program?</b></p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety Program (PAMSP) offers free rider training courses for Pennsylvania residents with a motorcycle (Class M) license or permit.</p> <p>The beginner Basic Rider Course provides an introduction to the fundamentals of safe, responsible motorcycling, consists of 15 hours of classroom and riding instruction, and is suitable for both beginners and intermediate/advanced riders. Students are provided with a motorcycle and a helmet for use during the training course. Students who successfully complete the course will be issued a motorcycle license.</p> <p>The Experienced Rider Course addresses critical skills and knowledge, is designed for experienced motorcyclists of all ages, is completed in one day, and is ideal for graduates of the Basic Rider Course. Participants use their own motorcycle.</p>
<p><b>How can I find more information and obtain schedules for a motorcycle safety course?</b></p>	<p>You can obtain course schedules for your local area and even register for the training on the <a href="http://www.pamsp.com/">Motorcycle Safety Program</a> (<a href="http://www.pamsp.com/">http://www.pamsp.com/</a>) website or by calling the program office at 1-800-845-9533 between 8:00 am and 12:00 pm, Monday through Friday.</p>
<p><b>Am I required to wear a helmet when riding a motorcycle?</b></p>	<p>Pennsylvania law requires that any person who operates a motorcycle must wear protective headgear unless he or she is over 21 years of age and has had a motorcycle (Class M) license for a minimum of two years or is over 21 years of age and has completed a motorcycle safety course approved by PennDOT or the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.</p> <p>If you are exempt from wearing a helmet and your passenger is 21 years of age or older, he or she is also exempt from wearing a helmet.</p> <p>Individuals with motorcycle learner's permits are required to wear helmets when operating a motorcycle.</p>

	<p><b>Please Note:</b> The operator or an occupant of a three-wheeled motorcycle equipped with an enclosed cab is exempt from wearing a helmet.</p>
<p><b>I have a non-commercial (Class C) driver's license. What do I need to do to obtain a motorcycle learner's permit?</b></p>	<p>You will need to complete a <a href="#">Motorcycle Learner's Permit Application</a> (Form DL-5). This form, along with the \$10.00 fee, will need to be taken to a <a href="#">PennDOT Driver's License Center</a> for processing. At the license center you will be given a vision screening and a motorcycle knowledge test. Upon passing the tests, your application will be processed and you will be given a motorcycle learner's permit valid for one year.</p> <p><b>Please Note:</b> If you are under age 18 – You must practice on a learner's permit for at least 6 months and complete 50 hours of practical driving experience for each class of license prior to your 18th birthday. After completing this requirement, you may test for your motorcycle license at either a Driver's License Center or through the Motorcycle Safety Program.</p>
<p><b>My motorcycle learner's permit has expired. How do I get an extension?</b></p>	<p>You must complete the <a href="#">Motorcycle Learner's Permit Application</a> again (DL-5) and submit the \$10.00 fee.</p> <p><b>Please Note:</b> If you have not yet successfully taken the motorcycle knowledge test, you will be required to pass it before an extension can be processed.</p>
<p><b>I lost my motorcycle learner's permit. How can I obtain another permit?</b></p>	<p>You must complete the <a href="#">Motorcycle Learner's Permit Application</a> again (DL-5) and submit a \$10.00 fee.</p> <p><b>Please Note:</b> If you have not yet successfully taken the motorcycle knowledge test, you will be required to pass it before another permit can be issued.</p>
<p><b>If I passed the motorcycle knowledge test but failed the skills test three times, do I need to apply for another motorcycle learner's permit?</b></p>	<p>Yes. You will be required to submit a <a href="#">Motorcycle Learner's Permit Application</a> (DL-5) along with a \$10.00 fee and a learner's permit will be issued. You will not be required to retake the motorcycle general knowledge test as long as the knowledge exam was taken and passed within the last 12 months.</p>
<p><b>What are the motorcycle skills test requirements?</b></p>	<p>The PennDOT Driver's License Center skills test consists of a pre-trip inspection and the evaluation of the following skills: left circles, right circles, and figure eights.</p>

<b>What should I bring with me the day of the skills test? Do I need to bring a licensed driver?</b>	You will need to bring the following: your valid PA motorcycle (Class M) learner's permit, valid PA driver's license, valid inspection sticker, valid registration card for the motorcycle and proof that the motorcycle is currently insured. You will not need to be accompanied by a driver with a motorcycle license.
<b>How do I renew my motorcycle (Class M) license?</b>	PennDOT will automatically mail you an invitation to renew your driver's license 60 days before your current license is due to expire which will include the fees required. You can <a href="#">renew online</a> , by mail, or by visiting any <a href="#">PennDOT authorized On-line Messenger Service Center</a> .
<b>What if I want to drop my motorcycle (Class M) license at time of renewal?</b>	If you would like to remove the motorcycle (Class M) at time of renewal, write "Do not renew Class M" on the renewal application and deduct \$20 from the fee listed on the invitation to renew. (Motorcycle renewal fees are \$5 per year.)

## Contact DMV at:

### Driver and Vehicle Services Customer Call Center

PennDOT operates a state-of-the-art call center where customer inquiries concerning Driver and Vehicle services may be directed. Inquiries concerning directions to PennDOT locations and their hours of operation along with information on the status of vehicle registration and driver license renewals can be obtained 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from the automated voice response system. In addition, extensively trained customer service representatives are at your disposal **Monday through Friday** (except holidays) from **8 AM** until **6 PM ET**.

<b>Driver and Vehicle Services Customer Call Center</b>	
<b>If you are calling from...</b>	<b>Phone</b>
within state	1-800-932-4600
out of state	1-717-412-5300
hearing impaired (within state)	1-800-228-0676 (TDD)
hearing impaired (out of state)	1-717-412-5380 (TDD)