How to obtain a Massachusetts Driver's License for Immigrants

The Work and Family Mobility Act is now officially law in Massachusetts and will become effective in July 2023. Beginning in July 2023, Massachusetts residents can apply for a standard driver's license, regardless of immigration status. While waiting for the law to come into effect, you can prepare by learning about the process and obtaining the necessary documents.

What Are The Requirements for a Standard Massachusetts Driver's License?

Be at least 16+ years old

Documents that prove your identity and state residency
Pass a Learner's Permit written exam
Pass a Road Test

What Documents Do I Need?

**Proof of identity and date of birth:**
- One document from List A and One document from List B.
  - At least one document must include a photo and at least one document must include the date of birth.
  - Foreign documents must have a certified English translation.

**List A:**
- Foreign passport that is unexpired.
- Consular identification document that is unexpired.

**List B:**
- A valid unexpired driver's license from any United States state or territory;
- An original or certified copy of a foreign birth certificate;
- A valid unexpired foreign national identification card;
- A valid unexpired foreign driver's license; or
- A marriage certificate or divorce decree issued by any state or territory of the United States

**Proof of Massachusetts Residency:**
* More information about proof of Massachusetts residency.

One document from the list below that shows you live in Massachusetts:
- A Massachusetts RMV-issued document.
- Letter from a state/federal/municipal/city/town/county agency.
- Utility bill, credit card statement, medical/hospital statement, or cellphone bill.
- Current lease/mortgage or similar rental contract.
- Financial-related documents including pay stub, W-2 wage, and tax information.
- School-issued documents including letter from school, transcript, proof of enrollment.
- Car insurance, renter's insurance, or homeowner's insurance policy for the current year.

How Do I Apply for a Standard Massachusetts Driver's License?

Remember - you cannot apply under the new law until July 2023!

Start your application online and schedule a Class D learner's permit exam at your local RMV Service Center. There is a $30 application fee.
- The exam is available in 34 languages. To pass, you must finish in 25 minutes and have at least 18 correct answers out of 25.
- The learner's permit exam tests your understanding of Massachusetts motor vehicle laws and safe driving practices. A learner's permit gives you permission to drive while you practice your driving skills and prepare for your road test.
- After you obtain a learner's permit, you must take and pass a road test to obtain your driver's license. If you are under 18 years of age, you must meet all junior operator requirements.

Additional Resources
Download and study the Class D driver's manual and practice the learner's permit exam.