

Skills Test Route

The driver will be tested using a designated route (see example below). The Examiner and the Owner/Manager are responsible for setting up the route(s) to be used ahead of time. Once the routes have been established, they should be recorded and kept in a locked/secure location available for inspection. All routes are to be designed so that all examiners can read and understand the directions. A skills test should take approximately 15-20 minutes and if possible, will include, at the least, 4 right turns, 4 left turns and parking/backing. It should be challenging enough to test a driver's driving skills.

The following items will always be tested during the skills test:

- School Zone (if available): Posted with the following conditions: mph when children present, during posted hours, or when yellow light is flashing.
- Parking/Backing: Backing out of a parking space. This can be done at the start of the exam when the driver backs out of the parking spot. If vehicle has been backed into the space, the driver will need to park and back out of this space, or any other, at some point during the skills exam.
- Speed Zones: This is to test the driver's awareness to posted speed zones.
- Controlled Intersections: Testing at two, three and four-way stop signs and traffic lights with and without a "No Turn On Red" posted.
- General driving behavior on:
 - Right Turns: A minimum of four (4) using controlled and non-controlled intersections.
 - Left Turns: A minimum of four (4) using controlled and non-controlled with more than one (1) lane of traffic.
- Testing on the following items shall be performed, if available:
 - Multiple Lanes: If available include left turn, right turn and straight lanes. Include dual lanes to check the driver's ability to change lanes properly.
 - One-way streets: Look for driver position on one-way street and ability to be in correct lane for turns, either into or out of one-way systems. USE ONLY one-way streets that are clearly one-way with no parked vehicles up to the intersection where the driver will be required to turn.
 - Railroad Crossings: With and without control devices, (i.e. stop signs, railroad crossing lights or drop gates.)

Skills Test Route Example:

- START TEST
- Parking/Backing
- Turn left out of parking lot onto Meridian Street; go to four-way stop sign
- Turn left; go to traffic light
- Turn right onto State Road 135
- Lane change left; go to 2nd stop light

- Turn left onto Banta Rd; continue straight through intersection at US 31
- School Zone; continue straight to second stop sign
- Turn right on Orinoco; go to 2nd street
- Turn right on Maynard
- Turn right on Shelby; go to stop sign
- Turn left at four-way stop sign on Banta Rd
- Repeat School Zone; continue straight through intersection at US 31
- Turn right at traffic light on State Road 135
- Lane change left; go to 2nd stop light
- Turn left onto County Road 350; go to stop sign
- Turn right at four-way stop on Meridian Street
- Turn right into parking lot
- END TEST

Skills Test Procedure:

The Examiner will follow the following procedures:

- Speak clearly to the driver so they can understand your directions.
- Explain what you are going to do on the skills test in order to put the driver at ease.
- The Examiner should not show the driver how to use any controls on the vehicle such as turn signals, brake lights, etc.
- Do not allow any adult, children or pets to accompany a driver on the skills test.
- After the skills test is completed, inform the driver of his/her score and point out examples of the good and bad driving habits observed. Do not give the driver the Official Skills Test Score Sheet.
- If the driver fails, exit the vehicle and explain in detail to the driver and a parent (if under 18) what infraction(s) caused the failure. Be as discreet as possible when explaining and ONLY use terminology from the Official Skills Test Score Sheet. A failure is either an accumulation of eleven (11) or more points or one (1) or more infractions that are considered an automatic failure as indicated on the Official Skills Test Score Sheet.
- The examiner must ensure that the Official Skills Test Score Sheet has been completed properly with all issues marked and kept on file for 2 years.
- The driver must wait 14 days after the failed test before another skills test may be administered.

Automatic Skills Test Failures:

If any of the following occur, it will result in an automatic failure of the skills test:

- Disobeying a yield, stop, school zone, or no turn on red sign.
- Disobeying a traffic signal.
- Driving over a curb while parking.
- Driving into a parked vehicle while parking.

- Failure to follow instructions.
- Failure to use a seat belt.
- Failure to react to hazardous driving conditions.
- Speeding.
- Driving too fast for conditions.
- Turning from improper lane.
- Passing in a no passing zone or otherwise crossing a solid yellow line.
- Driving left of center.
- Straddling lane markings.
- Driving too close to pedestrians or bicycles.
- Failure to pull over or stop for emergency vehicles or school buses.
- Causing an accident during a road test.
- Failure to yield right-of-way.
- Failure to obey required laws regarding railroad crossings.
- Committing an unsafe act.

It shall be within the discretion of the Examiner to continue a skills test after one has been failed.

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- Turn left out of parking lot onto Meridian Street; go to four-way stop sign
- Turn left; go to traffic light
- Turn right onto State Road 135
- Lane change left; go to 2nd stop light

- Turn left onto Banta Rd; continue straight through intersection at US 31
- School Zone; continue straight to second stop sign
- Turn right on Orinoco; go to 2nd street
- Turn right on Maynard
- Turn right on Shelby; go to stop sign
- Turn left at four-way stop sign on Banta Rd
- Repeat School Zone; continue straight through intersection at US 31
- Turn right at traffic light on State Road 135
- Lane change left; go to 2nd stop light
- Turn left onto County Road 350; go to stop sign
- Turn right at four-way stop on Meridian Street
- Turn right into parking lot
- END TEST

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