

Ministry of Transportation

Safety Program Development
Branch

87 Sir William Hearst Avenue,
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Toronto, Ontario M3M 0B6

Ministère des Transports

Direction de l'élaboration des
programmes de sécurité

87, avenue Sir William Hearst,
bureau 212
Toronto, Ontario M3M 0B6



June 23, 2026

Dear Stakeholder:

Re: Ontario Driver Licensing (DL) Update

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is making updates to strengthen driver licensing requirements and improve road safety outcomes across the province. These updates support program integrity, reduce fraud, and better align Ontario with practices in other jurisdictions.

Regulatory amendments have been made to support these changes and can be viewed at [O. Reg. 185/26 DRIVERS' LICENCES | ontario.ca](#) and [O. Reg. 186/26 DRIVERS' LICENCES | ontario.ca](#).

1. Updates for Applicants from Non-Reciprocal Jurisdictions (Class G)

Non-reciprocal driver's licences and supporting documents are often difficult to authenticate due to limited security features. As a result, Ontario is implementing changes to how foreign driving experience is recognized.

Effective July 1, 2026, anyone applying for a Class G driver's licence from a jurisdiction that does not have a reciprocal exchange agreement with Ontario will:

- Have their foreign driving experience capped at a maximum of 12 months, even if more verified experience is presented.
- Be required to complete both the Class G2 and Class G road tests.
- Be subject to a mandatory 12-month waiting period after passing the G2 road test before attempting the Class G road test, regardless of prior experience.
- Be eligible to attempt the Class G2 road test immediately if they have 12 months of verified driving experience and may drive independently upon passing.

2. Mandatory Waiting Period for Class A Licensing

MTO is also introducing new requirements for Class A licensing to ensure drivers have sufficient experience before operating Class A commercial vehicles.

Effective January 1, 2027:

- Applicants for a full Class A licence must hold a valid Ontario Class G or higher (A(R), B, C, D, E or F – not G1, G2, M, M1, or M2) licence for at least six months before attempting the Class A road test and obtaining a Class A licence.
- The six-month period begins on the date a driver first obtains a full Class G licence in Ontario.
 - Equivalent driving experience from other Canadian jurisdictions may be recognized and counted toward the waiting period, where applicable. Existing policy regarding exchanges from other Canadian jurisdictions will apply.
- The waiting period applies only to full Class A licences (manual and automatic transmission) and does not apply to restricted Class A or other commercial licence classes.
- The waiting period must total at least six months of valid licence time within a 12-month period and does not need to be consecutive.
- Applicants may begin completing Class A licensing requirements (such as the medical report, knowledge test, and mandatory entry-level training) during the waiting period. The road test must take place after the six-month requirement has been met.

These measures are intended to improve safety outcomes and ensure new Class A drivers have sufficient on-road experience before advancing to commercial vehicle operation.

I would ask that you please bring this memorandum to the attention of the appropriate members of your organization. If anyone would like to discuss this change, please contact Grace Tam, Manager, Driver Program Development Office, at (437) 551-5021 or grace.tam@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your assistance in communicating these changes.

Sincerely,



Amanda Doobay
Director, Safety Program Development Branch
Transportation Safety Division