

Following Virginia laws and medical review policies, DMV will evaluate:

- ▶ Information received in the initial impaired driver report
- ▶ The individual's medical and/or mental health information
- ▶ The individual's driving record
- ▶ Driver's license test results and comments from the DMV examiner
- ▶ If applicable, results of the driver evaluation conducted by a driver rehabilitation specialist

Based on the evaluation, DMV may take one or more of the following actions:

- ▶ Suspend driving privileges
- ▶ Restrict driving privileges
- ▶ Require the driver to submit periodic medical and/or vision reports. These may be required every three, six, 12 or 24 months.

Possible driving restrictions include:

- ▶ Driving with corrective lenses
- ▶ Driving during daylight hours only
- ▶ Driving within a specified radius of home
- ▶ Prohibition of interstate driving

In cases where the driver's physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or other provider submits an initial impaired driver report which recommends that the person no longer drive, DMV sends the driver a suspension order which takes effect in five days.

If the physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or other provider is unsure about the patient's ability to drive safely, he or she may recommend that DMV require the patient to pass the knowledge and/or road skills test. He or she may also refer the patient for a complete driver evaluation conducted by a driver rehabilitation specialist.

If DMV suspends your driving privilege as a result of medical review action, you will not be required to present legal presence proof documents to

reinstate your driving privilege unless required to do so for another suspension/revocation, or if your license expires.

If the driver is under medical review, then the driver may apply for an ID card without proof of legal presence if the license was suspended for medical reasons.

Exchanging Your Driver's License for an ID Card

If you hold a valid Virginia driver's license that is not suspended or revoked you may exchange it for an ID card. For those younger than 70, ID cards are valid for eight years and expire on your date of birth. If you are 70 or older, the ID card expires on your birthday when your age is divisible by five. ID cards cost \$2 per year, with a minimum cost of \$10 and a maximum cost of \$16. If you are age 70 or older, there is no charge for the exchange for your first ID card.

The Experts

Medical review requirements are based on the Code of Virginia and guidance from DMV's Medical Advisory Board. Appointed by the Governor, the Board consists of seven licensed physicians of various specializations currently practicing medicine in Virginia. The Board's responsibilities include:

- ▶ Establishing medical review policies and guidelines
- ▶ Consulting with DMV on medical issues related to agency programs
- ▶ Reviewing complex medical cases
- ▶ Reviewing medical cases contested by the driver

Contact Us

Fax: 804-367-1604 **Phone:** 804-367-6203

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
Post Office Box 27412 • Richmond, Virginia 23269-0001



MED 80 (07/01/2017) © Commonwealth of Virginia,
Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) 2017. All rights reserved.

Medical Fitness for Safe Driving



The medical review process ensures the safety of all drivers sharing the road.



Introduction

Safe driving requires knowledge, skills and keen physical and mental abilities. DMV reviews individuals who may have health or medical conditions that impair or hinder their safe driving. The review process ensures the safety of the individual and all drivers sharing the road.

DMV's goal is to allow individuals to drive for as long as they can safely operate a motor vehicle.

In this brochure, you will find information about:

- ▶ Your responsibility to provide medical information to DMV
- ▶ The agency's medical review process
- ▶ Tips for reporting a medically impaired driver

Medical Indicators

Virginia driver's license and identification card applicants may request one or more medical indicators that can be placed on their license. Applicants must present a signed statement from a licensed physician or nurse practitioner that the driver has:

- ▶ a hearing or speech impairment
- ▶ an intellectual disability
- ▶ autism spectrum disorder
- ▶ insulin-dependent diabetes

Medical indicator codes appear on the front of a credential under the word "restrictions" to identify the disability or condition to law enforcement. The code is defined on the back of the license.



Your Health

When you apply for or renew a driver's license, you are required to provide information about any physical or mental condition that may impair your ability to drive safely. The Virginia driver's license application asks questions about:

- ▶ Vision impairments
- ▶ Physical and/or mental conditions that require medication
- ▶ Seizures, blackouts or loss of consciousness
- ▶ Conditions that require the use of special equipment

Answering the application questions fully and honestly will assist DMV in identifying medical or health conditions that could affect your ability to drive safely.

Responsible Reporting

In addition to self-reporting, DMV relies on information provided by licensed medical professionals, law enforcement, judges, relatives, concerned citizens and other reliable sources to help identify drivers who may be unable to safely operate a motor vehicle.

DMV Medical Review Services only accepts reports in its original form. Mail your report to DMV at Post Office Box 27412, Richmond, Va. 23269-0001. DMV will accept a faxed report only if it is faxed directly from your healthcare provider, medical doctor, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant to (804) 367-1604 or (804) 367-0520.

DMV recommends using the Medical Review Request form (MED 3), available on the DMV website at www.dmvNOW.com.

All reports must include:

- ▶ Information, such as name, address and date of birth, to help DMV identify the impaired driver
- ▶ Specific concerns or reasons for the report, citing examples if possible
- ▶ Specific information about the driver's physical and/or mental condition
- ▶ The name, address and telephone number of the person submitting the report and relationship to the driver

Virginia law prohibits DMV from releasing information on the source or reason for the report submitted by a relative or medical professional treating the driver. Information on the source of other reports may be released, if requested.

Review Process

Each case reported is evaluated on its own merits. DMV is concerned with any condition that alters the driver's level of consciousness, vision, judgement and/or motor skills.

DMV promptly reviews all impaired driver reports. The agency notifies the driver that he or she is required to complete one or more of the following actions.

- ▶ Submit a medical and/or vision report from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant
- ▶ Pass the two-part driver's license exam
- ▶ Pass the road skills test

The driver must comply with the requirements within 30 days. If the initial requirement is a medical and/or vision report and it is approved, DMV may require the driver to successfully complete the knowledge and/or road skills tests. The driver is notified in writing and given an additional 15 days to comply. If the driver does not comply with the requirements or does not pass the required tests, DMV immediately suspends the driver's privilege to operate a motor vehicle.