

Wisconsin Adult DMV Day Checklist

For New Drivers Age 18 and Older

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1. Mandatory Identification (Originals Only)

To get your instruction permit (temps), the DMV requires original documents to prove who you are. Photocopies are not accepted.

- Proof of Name & Date of Birth:** (e.g., Certified U.S. Birth Certificate or valid U.S. Passport).
- Proof of Identity:** (e.g., Social Security Card, valid Passport, or a government-issued ID).
- Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Legal Status:** (Your Birth Certificate or Passport covers this).
- Social Security Number:** Bring your physical card or a document like a W-2 that shows your full SSN.

2. Proof of Wisconsin Residency (2 Documents)

As an adult, you must prove you live in Wisconsin. If you want a **REAL ID** (the one with the star), you must bring **TWO** of the following. They must show your current name and Wisconsin address:

- Utility Bill:** (Water, gas, electric, or internet—dated within 90 days).
- Financial Statement:** (Bank statement or credit card bill).
- Government Correspondence:** (Official mail from a state or federal agency).
- Lease/Mortgage:** (A signed rental agreement or property deed).

3. Adult Learner Requirements

- No Driver's Ed Certificate Needed:** Unlike teens, adults 18+ are **not** required to take a formal driver's education course to get a permit or license.
- Vision Health:** Bring your glasses or contacts for the vision screen.
- Application Fee:** \$35 (Credit/Debit, Check, or Cash).

4. The "7-Day Rule" & Testing

- Knowledge Test:** You must pass the 50-question Knowledge Test at the DMV. No appointment is needed for the test, but check your local DMV for hours.
- Wait Time:** Once you get your permit, you must hold it for at least **7 days** before you are eligible to take your Road Test (unless you have a valid foreign license).

What to Expect at the DMV

1. **The Vision Test:** You'll look into a device to check your distance and peripheral vision.
2. **The Knowledge Test:** Taken on a touch-screen computer. You need 40 out of 50 correct to pass.
3. **The Photo:** You'll have a new photo taken for your permit card.
4. **The Receipt:** You will leave with a paper receipt that is legally valid for driving. Your plastic permit will arrive by mail in about 10 days.

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