

6 Obtaining a German driver's license with the required tests

For holders of **all other** non-German driver's licenses, classroom and driving tests are required without obligation training in order to obtain a German license. A translation and classification is required and can be obtained from the ADAC. The costs for this range in accordance with price list.

You can ...

submit your non-German driver's license to an ADAC office near you.

About one week later (3 weeks for licenses written in non-Roman scripts), you can then pick up your driver's license from the ADAC office or have it returned by registered mail together with the required classification and translation.

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

or send it by regular/registered mail to the ADAC:

**ADAC Berlin-Brandenburg e.V.
Führerscheinübersetzung
Bundesallee 29/30
D-10717 Berlin**

Phone: +49 (30) 86 86 274

You may register at the driving school of your choice for the test. While classroom or driving training are not required, we nevertheless recommend one or two hours of driving training. In addition, a vision test and a first-aid course are required.

These regulations also apply to Germans who obtained their driver's license abroad and who would like to be granted a German license. Said Germans must supply proof that they spent a continuous period of at least 185 days abroad while obtaining their license. They may then use the non-German license and a translation thereof in Germany for a period of **six months**.

Acceptance of your national driver's license in Germany

Please note that a non-German driver's license and translation thereof will entitle you to operate a motor vehicle for a maximum of **six months** from the starting date of your permanent residence in Germany. Exceeding this period will make you liable to prosecution for driving without a valid license!

Prerequisites for the use of non-German driver's licenses with translations in Germany:

- the driver's license must be valid,
- the driver's license must have been obtained in accordance with applicable regulations,
- the license holder must have been a resident of the issuing country for a minimum of 185 days,
- any applicable time limits must not have elapsed.

The scope of the driver's license shall correspond to that in the issuing country.

As a rule, your German driver's license will be issued by the licensing authorities of your German place of residence.

Please note that it may take several weeks for you to receive your German driver's license. Please be sure to allow enough time for this reason. You will **not** be allowed to drive a vehicle after the six-month period has elapsed, even if you have already applied for a German license in the mean time.

! Important note:

The international driver's license will not be deemed valid if you are a permanent resident of Germany.

Acceptance of your national driver's license in Germany

Important information

- 1 **EU states**
- 2 **States not subject to testing**
- 3 **Without testing from**
 - **US states**
 - **Canadian provinces**
- 4 **Classroom test**
 - **US states**
 - **Other states**
- 5 **Driving test**
- 6 **Receiving a German driver's license with a simplified test**

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ADAC

1 Obtaining a German driver's license for holders of licenses from other EU states

Germany fully recognizes driver's licenses from EU and EEA states without restrictions since 1 July 1996. While it is no longer necessary for citizens of these states to obtain a German license or have their national license translated, this may still be done on a voluntary basis. The non-German license will be retained by the authorities in this case, however.

• Austria	Italy
• Belgium	Latvia
• Bulgaria	Lithuania
• Cyprus	Luxembourg
• Czech Republic	Malta
• Denmark	Netherlands
• Estonia	Poland
• Finland	Portugal
• France	Romania
• Greece	Sweden
• Great Britain	Slovakia
• Hungary	Slovenia
• Ireland	Spain

The EEA states are also covered by this ruling:

- Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway

As a holder of a license from one of the listed countries, it is not necessary for you to have your national license translated and classified in order to obtain a German license. Some licensing offices may request a translation nevertheless. Translations are available from the ADAC for a processing fee in accordance with price list.

2 All classes exempted from testing, application required:

- Andorra
- French Polynesia
- Guernsey
- Isle of Man
- Israel (B only)
- Japan
- Jersey
- Croatia
- Monaco
- New Caledonia
- Republic of Korea ¹⁾
- San Marino
- Switzerland
- Singapore
- South Africa

3 Exempted from testing, application required:

- US states¹⁾

State	Classes
Alabama	D
Arizona	G, D, 2
Arkansas	D
Colorado	C, R
Delaware	D
Idaho	D
Illinois	D
Iowa	C
Kansas	C
Kentucky	D
Louisiana	E
Massachusetts	D
Michigan	Operator
New Mexico	D
Ohio	D
Oklahoma	D
Pennsylvania	C
Puerto Rico	3
South Carolina	D
South Dakota	1, 2
Utah	D
Virginia	NONE, ABC(M not with Code 6)
Washington State	Driver License, IDL
West Virginia	E
Wisconsin	D
Wyoming	C

• Canadian provinces¹⁾

Alberta	5
British Columbia	5, 7 (Novice Driver's Licence)
Manitoba	5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Stage F
New Brunswick	5, 7 Level 2
Newfoundland	5
Northwest Territories	5
Nova Scotia	5
Ontario	G
Prince Edward Island	5
Quebec	5
Saskatchewan	5, 1
Yukon	5

4 Classroom test

• US states¹⁾

Connecticut	D, 1, 2
District of Columbia	D
Florida	E
Indiana	Operator
Minnesota	D
Mississippi	Operator, R
Missouri	F
Nebraska	O
North Carolina	C
Oregon	C
Tennessee	D

• Other states

New Zealand	1, 6
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5 Driving test

Taiwan	B, BE ¹⁾
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Driver's licenses issued in the de facto area of control of the administration of **Taiwan***).

*) Germany does not maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

1) If the "Class(es)" column specifies one or more individual classes rather than "all", a license will be granted for Class B only as a result.