

1 AN ACT relating to driver's licensing.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 186.480 (Effective July 1, 2024) is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) The Department of Kentucky State Police shall examine every applicant for an  
5 operator's license as identified in KRS 186.635, except as otherwise provided in this  
6 section. The examination shall be held in the county where the applicant resides  
7 unless:

8 (a) The applicant is granted written permission by the Transportation Cabinet to  
9 take the examination in another county; or

10 (b) The applicant is tested using a bioptic telescopic device.

11 (2) (a) The examination shall include:

12 1. A test of the applicant's eyesight to ensure compliance with the visual  
13 acuity and visual field standards set forth in KRS 186.577; ~~The vision~~  
14 ~~testing outlined in this subsection shall be administered under the~~  
15 ~~provisions established in KRS 186.577 at, or prior to, the time of~~  
16 ~~application. The examination shall also include]~~

17 2. A test of the applicant's ability to ***speak and understand English;***

18 3. ***A test of the applicant's ability to*** read and understand highway signs  
19 ***written in English*** regulating, warning, and directing traffic; ~~]~~

20 4. The applicant's knowledge of traffic laws; ~~]~~ and

21 5. An actual demonstration of the applicant's ability to exercise ordinary  
22 and reasonable control in the operation of a motor vehicle.

23 (b) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to an applicant who:

24 1. ~~(a)~~ At the time of application, holds a valid operator's license from  
25 another state, provided that state affords a reciprocal exemption to a  
26 Kentucky resident;

27 2. ~~(b)~~ At the time of application for a motorcycle instruction permit or

1 motorcycle operator's license, presents evidence of successful  
2 completion of an approved rider training course under KRS 176.5062;  
3 or

4 ~~3.(c)~~ Is a citizen of the Commonwealth who has been serving in the  
5 United States military and has allowed his or her operator's license to  
6 expire.

7 **(c) The provisions of paragraph (a)2. of this subsection shall not apply to an**  
8 **applicant who is deaf or hard of hearing.**

9 (3) In addition to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, an applicant for a  
10 motorcycle operator's license who does not present evidence of successful  
11 completion of an approved rider training course under KRS 176.5062 shall be  
12 required to show his or her ability to operate a motorcycle. An applicant who  
13 successfully completes the skills portion of the test under this subsection on a:

14 (a) Three (3) wheeled motorcycle shall be issued a motorcycle operator's license  
15 restricted to the operation of three (3) wheeled motorcycles under KRS  
16 186.447; or

17 (b) Two (2) wheeled motorcycle shall be issued a motorcycle operator's license  
18 without the restriction identified in KRS 186.447, and may operate both two  
19 (2) and three (3) wheeled motorcycles.

20 (4) Any person whose intermediate license or operator's license is denied, suspended,  
21 or revoked for cause shall apply for reinstatement at the termination of the period  
22 for which the license was denied, suspended, or revoked by submitting to the  
23 examination. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any person whose  
24 license was suspended for failure to meet the conditions described in KRS 186.411  
25 when, within one (1) year of suspension, the driving privileges of such individuals  
26 are reinstated.

27 (5) An applicant shall not use an autocycle for road skills testing administered under

1 the provisions of this section.