

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1168  
(Representatives Toman, Bosch, Ertelt, Kading, Mock)  
(Senator Schaible)

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 39-06-13 and 39-06-19 and subsection 2 of section 39-06-49 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to operator's license examinations, renewals, and fees.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-06-13 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**39-06-13. Examination of applicants.**

1. Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, the director shall examine every applicant for an operator's license. The examination must include a test of the applicant's eyesight; ability to read and understand highway signs regulating, warning, and directing traffic; and knowledge of the traffic laws of this state. The director shall make any written portion of the examination, except writing on illustrations of signs, available to an applicant in any widely practiced language. The director may waive the written portion of the examination for an applicant who has successfully passed a written examination in another state and has an operator's license that is not or in the process of being revoked, suspended, or canceled.
2. The director shall establish a process to administer the written portion of an examination for an operator's license through an online electronic medium. The director shall charge an applicant a fee of ten dollars to access the online written examination. The online examination must:
  - a. Use personal questions about the applicant before the examination which the applicant is required to answer during the examination, to strengthen test security to deter fraud; and
  - b. Require the applicant's parent or legal guardian to certify to the department the parent or legal guardian monitored the applicant during the online written examination, before issuance by the department of a class D instruction permit to an applicant who has passed the online examination.
3. The examination must include an actual demonstration of ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the operation of a motor vehicle unless waived for an applicant who has successfully passed an actual ability test in this or another state conducted by a state licensing authority or by a commercial driver training school meeting the driver education requirements prescribed by the director under chapter 39-25. A minor may operate a motor vehicle no matter how owned for the actual ability test.
- ~~3.4.~~ In lieu of an eyesight test, the applicant may provide a statement of examination from a licensed physician or an optometrist stating the corrected and uncorrected vision of the applicant, if the examination was within six months of the application.
- ~~4.5.~~ The director may require any other physical or mental examination.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-06-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**39-06-19. Expiration of license - Renewal.**

1. Every operator's license issued under this chapter or chapter 39-06.2 expires and is renewed according to this section.
2. The expiration date of a noncommercial operator's license for an individual whose birth occurred in a year ending in an odd numeral is twelve midnight on the anniversary of the birthday in the third subsequent year ending in an odd numeral, except for an individual who, at the time of renewal, is seventy-eight years of age or older is twelve midnight on the anniversary of the birthday in the second subsequent year ending in an odd numeral. The expiration date of a noncommercial operator's license for an individual whose birth occurred in a year ending in an even numeral is twelve midnight on the anniversary of the birthday in the third subsequent year ending in an even numeral, except for an individual who, at the time of renewal, is seventy-eight years of age or older is twelve midnight on the anniversary of the birthday in the second subsequent year ending in an even numeral.
3. The expiration date of a commercial operator's license for an individual whose birth occurred in a year ending in an odd numeral is twelve midnight on the anniversary of the birthday in the second subsequent year ending in an odd numeral. The expiration date of a commercial operator's license for an individual whose birth occurred in a year ending in an even numeral is twelve midnight on the anniversary of the birthday in the second subsequent year ending in an even numeral.
4. An individual who has a valid, unexpired nonimmigrant visa or nonimmigrant visa status for entry into the United States, a pending application for asylum in the United States, a pending or approved application for temporary protected status in the United States, approved deferred action status, or a pending application for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence or conditional permanent residence status in the United States will be issued a temporary operator's license or nondriver photo identification card. The temporary operator's license or identification card is valid only during the period of time of the applicant's authorized stay in the United States or, if there is no definite end to the period of authorized stay, a period of one year. The license or card may be renewed only upon presentation of valid documentary evidence that the status has been extended.
5. An applicant for renewal must present the application with the fee for renewal of license to the director not before ten months prior to the expiration date of the operator's license. The director may require an examination of an applicant as upon an original application. The director may require an applicant for renewal or a substitute to provide documentation that confirms to the satisfaction of the director the true identity, date of birth, and legal presence of the applicant and provide a social security card or other satisfactory evidence of a social security number and proof of residence address, if not previously completed or if there are changes to the information already on file. The director may not issue a distinguishing number that is, contains, can be converted to, or is an encrypted version of the applicant's social security number.
6. The director may not renew an operator's license if the license has been suspended under section 14-08.1-07. Upon the recommendation of the court, the director may issue a temporary permit to the licensee under section 39-06.1-11 if the temporary permit is necessary for the licensee to work and the court has determined the licensee is making a good-faith effort to comply with the child support order.
7. An applicant for renewal of an operator's license must provide a certificate of examination from the driver licensing or examining authorities or a statement as to the corrected and uncorrected vision of the applicant from a licensed physician or an optometrist, except as required under subsection 9. The director shall provide visual examination equipment at each location where a license may be renewed.

8. An individual submitting an application and the fee for renewal of license one year or more after the expiration of a license, except an applicant whose military service has terminated less than thirty days prior to the application, must be treated as an initial applicant.
9. A noncommercial applicant may apply by mail or electronically for renewal of a license during every other renewal cycle, except as otherwise provided by subsection 10. The director may use vision information provided by the applicant to meet vision requirements for applicants under sixty-five years of age and adopt procedures necessary to implement this subsection.
10. A noncommercial applicant for an operator's license may not renew by mail or electronically if the applicant is seeking a new photo or changes to the information on the face of the physical operator's license.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 2 of section 39-06-49 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. The fee for:
  - a. An application for a nondriver photo identification card is eight dollars.
  - b. Written testing for an application for an operator's license is five dollars.
  - c. Online written testing for an application for an operator's license is ten dollars.
  - d. Actual ability testing for an application for an operator's license is five dollars.
  - ~~d.e.~~ An application for an operator's license is fifteen dollars.
  - e-f. An application for a motorized bicycle operator's permit is ten dollars.
  - f-g. A substitute operator's license is eight dollars unless the substitute is for erroneous information due to a change in name or address, then the fee is three dollars.
  - ~~g-h.~~ An operator's license renewal is fifteen dollars.
  - h-i. Reinstatement after suspension is fifty dollars unless the suspension was the result of a suspension under subsection 3, 4, or 6 of section 39-06-03 or subdivision b of subsection 1 of section 39-06-32, then the fee is twenty-five dollars, or unless the suspension was a result of a violation under section 39-08-01 or chapter 39-20, then the fee is one hundred dollars.
  - i-j. Reinstatement after revocation is fifty dollars, unless the revocation was imposed for a violation of subsection 6 of section 39-06-17 or section 39-06-31, 39-06-43, or 39-20-04, then the fee is one hundred dollars.

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Speaker of the House

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President of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1168.

House Vote:      Yeas 89              Nays 4              Absent 1

Senate Vote:    Yeas 47              Nays 0              Absent 0

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Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State