

International Drivers' Licenses and Reciprocity Update

There are different sources of authority, including international treaties and state and federal laws, which govern the operation of commercial and non-commercial vehicles by persons licensed in foreign countries. The licenses of residents of foreign countries that are considered valid are listed below. An international driving permit is not required. For licenses that are not in English, an interpreter may be required to determine the license's validity.

Courts and law enforcement should not seize and destroy foreign drivers' licenses pursuant to section 625g of the Michigan Vehicle Code.

1943 Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic

Residents of countries that are signatories to the 1943 Convention may drive in this country if they have a valid **non-commercial** or **commercial** driver's license issued by their country of residence or an authorized political subdivision of that country. These countries include:

Mexico	Honduras
Brazil	Nicaragua
Colombia	Panama
Costa Rica	Uruguay
El Salvador	

1949 Convention on Road Traffic

Residents of countries that are signatories to the 1949 Convention may drive in this country if they have a valid **non-commercial** driver's license issued by their country of residence. These countries include:

Albania	Central African Rep.	France	Italy
Algeria	Chile	Gambia	Jamaica
Argentina	China (Taiwan)	Georgia	Japan
Australia	Congo	Ghana	Jordan
Austria	Congo Democratic Rep.	Greece	Korea
Bahamas	Cote d'Ivoire	Grenada	Kyrgyz Rep.
Bangladesh	Cuba	Guatemala	Laos
Barbados	Cyprus	Guyana	Lebanon
Belgium	Czech Rep.	Haiti	Lesotho
Belize	Denmark	Hong Kong	Luxembourg
Benin	Dominican Rep.	Hungary	Macao
Botswana	Ecuador	Iceland	Madagascar
Bulgaria	Egypt	India	Malawi
Cambodia	Fiji	Ireland	Malaysia
Canada	Finland	Israel	Mali

Malta	Poland	Singapore	Trinidad & Tobago
Mauritius	Portugal	Slovak Rep.	Tunisia
Monaco	Romania	South Africa	Turkey
Morocco	Russian Federation	Spain	Uganda
Namibia	Rwanda	Sri Lanka	United Kingdom
Netherlands	St. Lucia	Suriname	Vatican City
New Zealand	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	Swaziland	Venezuela
Niger	San Marino	Sweden	Vietnam Rep.
Norway	Senegal	Syrian Arab Rep.	Western Samoa
Papua New Guinea	Serbia and Montenegro	Tanzania	Yugoslavia
Paraguay	Seychelles	Thailand	Zambia
Peru	Sierra Leone	Togo	Zimbabwe
Philippines			

Commercial Drivers' Licenses Issued by Canada and Mexico

If a driver has a valid commercial driver's license issued by Canada or Mexico, the license must be honored as required by federal law (see 49 USC 31301 *et seq.* and 49 CFR 383.23).

Special Reciprocity Agreements with Germany and the Republic of Korea

Pursuant to MCL 257.302a(2) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, the Secretary of State has determined that the standards for licensing operators in Germany and the Republic of Korea correspond substantially to those of the State of Michigan. Therefore, reciprocal driving privileges were extended to Germany, effective November 10, 1997, and to the Republic of Korea effective, February 14, 2012. Persons holding valid driver licenses issued by Germany or the Republic of Korea may operate passenger vehicles in Michigan on such licenses, if they are not receiving compensation for such operation. The privileges extended to Germany and North Korea have not been withdrawn.

If you have any questions, please contact the Michigan Department of State at (888) SOS-MICH; (888) 767-6424.

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