

SENATE, No. 1584

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 222nd LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator CARMEN F. AMATO, JR.

District 9 (Ocean)

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Henry

SYNOPSIS

Changes certain driver testing and education requirements for persons with disabilities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Transportation Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/19/2026)

S1584 AMATO, CORRADO

2

1 AN ACT concerning driver testing and education requirements for
2 persons with disabilities and amending various parts of the
3 statutory law.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. R.S.39:3-10 is amended to read as follows:

9 39:3-10. a. A person shall not drive a motor vehicle on a public
10 highway in this State unless the person is under supervision while
11 participating in a behind-the-wheel driving course pursuant to
12 section 6 of P.L.1977, c.25 (C.39:3-13.2a) or is in possession of a
13 validated permit, or a probationary or basic driver's license issued to
14 that person in accordance with this article.

15 b. A person under 18 years of age shall not be issued a basic
16 license to drive motor vehicles, and a person shall not be issued a
17 validated permit, including a validated examination permit, until the
18 applicant has passed a satisfactory examination and other
19 requirements as to the applicant's ability as an operator. The
20 examination shall include: a test of the applicant's vision; the
21 applicant's ability to understand traffic control devices; the
22 applicant's knowledge of safe driving practices, including the
23 dangers of driving a vehicle in an aggressive manner, which shall
24 include, but not be limited to, unexpectedly altering the speed of a
25 vehicle, making improper or erratic traffic lane changes,
26 disregarding traffic control devices, failing to yield the right of way,
27 and following another vehicle too closely; the applicant's
28 knowledge of operating a motor vehicle in a manner that safely
29 shares the roadway with pedestrians, cyclists, skaters, riders of
30 motorized-scooters, and other non-motorized vehicles, which shall
31 include, but not be limited to, a driver's responsibilities when
32 approaching and passing a pedestrian or person operating a bicycle
33 or personal conveyance on the roadway pursuant to P.L.2021, c.194
34 (C.39:4-92.4) and the penalties for failing to comply with these
35 responsibilities, recognizing bicycle lanes, navigating intersections
36 with pedestrians and cyclists, and exiting a vehicle without
37 endangering pedestrians and cyclists; the applicant's knowledge of
38 the effects that ingestion of alcohol or drugs has on a person's
39 ability to operate a motor vehicle; the applicant's knowledge of the
40 dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles and
41 techniques for the safe operation and proper maintenance of a motor
42 vehicle; the applicant's knowledge of portions of the mechanism of
43 motor vehicles as is necessary to ensure the safe operation of a
44 vehicle of the kind or kinds indicated by the applicant; and the
45 applicant's knowledge of the laws and ordinary usages of the road.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 The examination shall be made available in English and each of the
2 three languages, other than English, most commonly spoken in the
3 State, as determined by the chief administrator. The chief
4 administrator shall periodically, and at least every five years, verify
5 the three languages, other than English, most commonly spoken in
6 the State.

7 c. A person shall not sit for an examination for any permit
8 without exhibiting photo identification deemed acceptable by the
9 commission, unless that person is a high school student
10 participating in a course of automobile driving education approved
11 by the State Department of Education and conducted in a public,
12 parochial, or private school of this State, pursuant to section 1 of
13 P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.1).

14 Prior to taking an examination for any permit, a person shall
15 watch a video created by the commission, in conjunction with the
16 Attorney General, explaining the rights and responsibilities of a
17 driver stopped by a law enforcement officer. The video shall be
18 used for informational purposes only and shall not be used in any
19 criminal proceeding involving a driver stopped by a law
20 enforcement officer.

21 The commission may waive the written law knowledge
22 examination for any person 18 years of age or older possessing a
23 valid driver's license issued by any other state, the District of
24 Columbia, or the United States Territories of American Samoa,
25 Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin
26 Islands. The commission shall be required to provide that person
27 with a booklet that highlights those motor vehicle laws unique to
28 New Jersey. A road test shall be required for a probationary license
29 and serve as a demonstration of the applicant's ability to operate a
30 vehicle of the class designated. During the road test, an applicant
31 may use a rear visibility system, parking sensors, or other
32 technology installed on the motor vehicle that enables the applicant
33 to view areas directly behind the vehicle or alerts the applicant of
34 obstacles while parking.

35 d. A person shall not sit for a road test unless that person
36 exhibits photo identification deemed acceptable by the commission.
37 A high school student who has completed a course of behind-the-
38 wheel automobile driving education approved by the State
39 Department of Education and conducted in a public, parochial, or
40 private school of this State, who has been issued a special learner's
41 permit pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.1) prior
42 to January 1, 2003, shall not be required to exhibit photo
43 identification in order to sit for a road test. The commission may
44 waive the road test for any person 18 years of age or older
45 possessing a valid driver's license issued by any other state, the
46 District of Columbia, or the United States Territories of American
47 Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin
48 Islands. The road test shall be given on public streets, where

1 practicable and feasible, but may be preceded by an off-street
2 screening process to assess basic skills. The commission shall
3 approve locations for the road test which pose no more than a
4 minimal risk of injury to the applicant, the examiner, and other
5 motorists. New locations for the road test shall not be approved
6 unless the test can be given on public streets. Notwithstanding the
7 provisions of this section to the contrary, a person with a disability
8 shall be permitted to take the required road test with a parent or
9 guardian in the vehicle.

10 e. A person who successfully completes a road test for a
11 motorcycle license or a motorcycle endorsement when operating a
12 motorcycle or motorized scooter with an engine displacement of
13 less than 231 cubic centimeters shall be issued a motorcycle license
14 or endorsement restricting the person's operation of the vehicles to
15 any motorcycle with an engine displacement of 500 cubic
16 centimeters or less. A person who successfully completes a road
17 test for a motorcycle license or motorcycle endorsement when
18 operating a motorcycle with an engine displacement of 231 or more
19 cubic centimeters shall be issued a motorcycle license or
20 endorsement without any restriction as to engine displacement.
21 Any person who successfully completes an approved motorcycle
22 safety education course established pursuant to the provisions of
23 section 1 of P.L.1991, c.452 (C.27:5F-36) shall be issued a
24 motorcycle license or endorsement without restriction as to engine
25 displacement.

26 f. A person issued a motorcycle license pursuant to this section
27 may be issued a standard motorcycle license or a REAL ID
28 motorcycle license. The chief administrator shall require an
29 applicant for a standard motorcycle license to provide as proof of
30 the applicant's identity, age, and residence primary and secondary
31 documents, with which the chief administrator shall attribute point
32 values in accordance with the point based identification verification
33 program established pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2003, c.13
34 (C.39:2A-28). The point total required to prove the identity of an
35 applicant for the standard motorcycle license shall be the same for
36 every applicant, regardless of immigration status. In the event that
37 the commission changes the point total threshold, the requirement
38 that every applicant reach the same point total threshold shall
39 remain in effect.

40 In addition to requiring the person to submit satisfactory proof of
41 identity and age, the commission shall require the person to
42 provide:

43 (1) as a condition for obtaining a standard motorcycle license,
44 proof of the person's social security number and one document
45 providing satisfactory proof that the person is a New Jersey
46 resident.

47 If the person does not have a social security number, the person
48 shall either:

- 1 (a) provide satisfactory proof of an Individual Taxpayer
2 Identification Number; or
- 3 (b) indicate, in a manner prescribed by the commission and
4 consistent with all other provisions of P.L.2019, c.271 (C.39:3-10o
5 et al.), that the person is not eligible to receive a social security
6 number; or
- 7 (2) as a condition for obtaining a REAL ID motorcycle license:
8 two documents providing satisfactory proof that the person is a New
9 Jersey resident; proof of the person's social security number or
10 verification of ineligibility for a social security number in
11 accordance with the "REAL ID Act of 2005," Pub.L.109-13, any
12 acts amendatory or supplementary thereto, and any federal
13 regulations adopted thereunder; and proof that the person's presence
14 in the United States is authorized under federal law.
- 15 A standard motorcycle license shall indicate that the license shall
16 not be accepted as identification for an official purpose, as that term
17 is defined under the "REAL ID Act of 2005," Pub.L.109-13, any
18 acts amendatory or supplementary thereto, and any federal
19 regulations adopted thereunder.
- 20 g. The commission shall issue a standard basic driver's license
21 or a REAL ID basic driver's license to operate a motor vehicle other
22 than a motorcycle to a person over 18 years of age who previously
23 has not been licensed to drive a motor vehicle in this State or
24 another jurisdiction only if that person has: (1) operated a
25 passenger automobile in compliance with the requirements of this
26 Title for not less than one year, not including any period of
27 suspension or postponement, from the date of issuance of a
28 probationary license pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1950, c.127
29 (C.39:3-13.4); (2) not been assessed more than two motor vehicle
30 points; (3) not been convicted in the previous year for a violation of
31 R.S.39:4-50, section 2 of P.L.1981, c.512 (C.39:4-50.4a), section 1
32 of P.L.1992, c.189 (C.39:4-50.14), R.S.39:4-129, N.J.S.2C:11-5,
33 section 1 of P.L.2017, c.165 (C.2C:11-5.3), subsection c. of
34 N.J.S.2C:12-1, or any other motor vehicle-related violation the
35 commission determines to be significant and applicable pursuant to
36 regulation; and (4) passed an examination of the applicant's ability
37 to operate a motor vehicle pursuant to this section.
- 38 h. The commission shall expand the driver's license
39 examination by 20 percent. The additional questions to be added
40 shall consist solely of questions developed in conjunction with the
41 Department of Health concerning the use of alcohol or drugs as
42 related to highway safety. The commission shall develop, in
43 conjunction with the Department of Health, supplements to the
44 driver's manual which shall include information necessary to
45 answer any question on the driver's license examination concerning
46 alcohol or drugs as related to highway safety.
- 47 Up to 20 questions may be added to the examination on subjects
48 to be determined by the commission that are of particular relevance

1 to youthful drivers, including the importance of operating a motor
2 vehicle in a manner that safely shares the roadway with pedestrians,
3 cyclists, skaters, riders of motorized-scooters, and other non-
4 motorized vehicles, which shall include, but not be limited to, a
5 driver's responsibilities when approaching and passing a pedestrian
6 or person operating a bicycle or personal conveyance on the
7 roadway pursuant to P.L.2021, c.194 (C.39:4-92.4) and the
8 penalties for failing to comply with these responsibilities,
9 recognizing bicycle lanes, navigating intersections with pedestrians
10 and cyclists, and exiting a vehicle without endangering pedestrians
11 and cyclists, and the dangers of driving a vehicle in an aggressive
12 manner, which shall include, but not be limited to, unexpectedly
13 altering the speed of a vehicle, making improper or erratic traffic
14 lane changes, disregarding traffic control devices, failing to yield
15 the right of way, and following another vehicle too closely, after
16 consultation with the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic
17 Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety.

18 The commission shall expand the driver's license examination to
19 include a question asking whether the applicant is aware of the
20 provisions of the "Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act,"
21 P.L.2008, c.50 (C.26:6-77 et al.) and the procedure for indicating on
22 the driver's license the intention to make a donation of body organs
23 or tissues pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1978, c.181 (C.39:3-12.2).

24 The commission shall expand the driver's license examination to
25 include a question asking whether the applicant is aware of the
26 dangers of failing to comply with this State's motor vehicle traffic
27 laws and the "STOP for Nikhil Safety Pledge" set forth in
28 subsection e. of R.S.39:3-41.

29 The commission shall expand the driver's license examination to
30 include questions concerning the dangers of carbon monoxide
31 poisoning from motor vehicles and techniques for the safe operation
32 and proper maintenance of a motor vehicle.

33 i. Any person applying for a driver's license to operate a motor
34 vehicle or motorized bicycle in this State shall surrender to the
35 commission any current driver's license issued to the applicant by
36 another state or jurisdiction upon the applicant's receipt of a driver's
37 license for this State. The commission shall refuse to issue a
38 driver's license if the applicant fails to comply with this provision.
39 An applicant for a permit or license who is under 18 years of age,
40 and who holds a permit or license for a passenger automobile issued
41 by another state or country that is valid or has expired within a time
42 period designated by the commission, shall be subject to the permit
43 and license requirements and penalties applicable to State permit
44 and license applicants who are of the same age, except that if the
45 other state or country has permit or license standards substantially
46 similar to those of this State, the credentials of the other state or
47 country shall be acceptable.

1 j. (1) The commission shall create classified licensing of
2 drivers covering the following classifications:
3 (a) Motorcycles, except that for the purposes of this section,
4 motorcycle shall not include any three-wheeled motor vehicle
5 equipped with a single cab with glazing enclosing the occupant,
6 seats similar to those of a passenger vehicle or truck, seat belts, and
7 automotive steering or any vehicle defined as a motorcycle pursuant
8 to R.S.39:1-1 having a motor with a maximum piston displacement
9 that is less than 50 cubic centimeters or a motor that is rated at no
10 more than 1.5 brake horsepower with a maximum speed of no more
11 than 35 miles per hour on a flat surface.
12 (b) Omnibuses as classified by R.S.39:3-10.1 and school buses
13 classified under N.J.S.18A:39-1 et seq.
14 (c) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999, c.28)
15 (d) All motor vehicles not included in classifications (a) and (b).
16 A license issued pursuant to this classification d. shall be referred to
17 as the "basic driver's license" and may be issued as a standard basic
18 driver's license or a REAL ID basic driver's license.
19 (2) Every applicant for a license under classification b. shall be
20 a holder of a basic driver's license. Any issuance of a license under
21 classification b. shall be by endorsement on the person's basic
22 driver's license.
23 (3) A driver's license for motorcycles may be issued separately,
24 but if issued to the holder of a basic driver's license, it shall be by
25 endorsement on the person's basic driver's license. The holder of a
26 basic driver's license or a separately issued motorcycle license shall
27 be authorized to operate a motorcycle having a motor with a
28 maximum piston displacement that is less than 50 cubic centimeters
29 or a motor that is rated at no more than 1.5 brake horsepower with a
30 maximum speed no more than 35 miles per hour on a flat surface.
31 k. The commission, upon payment of the lawful fee and after
32 **[it]** the commission, or a person authorized by **[it]** the commission,
33 has examined the applicant and is satisfied of the applicant's ability
34 as an operator, may, in its discretion, issue a license to the applicant
35 to drive a motor vehicle. The license shall authorize the person to
36 drive any registered vehicle, of the kind or kinds indicated.
37 1. The license shall expire, except as otherwise provided,
38 during the fourth calendar year following the date in which the
39 license was issued and on the same calendar day as the person's date
40 of birth. If the person's date of birth does not correspond to a
41 calendar day of the fourth calendar year, the license shall expire on
42 the last day of the person's birth month.
43 The commission may, at its discretion and for good cause shown,
44 issue licenses that expire on a date fixed by it. If the commission
45 issues a REAL ID basic driver's license or REAL ID motorcycle
46 license to a person who has demonstrated authorization to be
47 present in the United States for a period of time shorter than the
48 standard period of the license, the commission shall fix the

1 expiration date of the license at a date based on the period in which
2 the person is authorized to be present in the United States under
3 federal immigration laws. The commission may renew the person's
4 REAL ID basic driver's license or REAL ID motorcycle license
5 only if it is demonstrated that the person's continued presence in the
6 United States is authorized under federal law. The fee for licenses
7 with expiration dates fixed by the commission shall be fixed by the
8 commission in amounts proportionately less or greater than the fee
9 herein established.

10 m. The required fee for a license for the license period shall be
11 as follows, subject to adjustment pursuant to section 16 of
12 P.L.2007, c.335 (C.39:2A-36.1):

13 Standard motorcycle license or endorsement: \$18.

14 REAL ID motorcycle license: \$29.

15 Omnibus or school bus endorsement: \$18.

16 Standard basic driver's license: \$18.

17 REAL ID basic driver's license: \$29.

18 The commission shall waive the payment of fees for issuance of
19 omnibus endorsements whenever an applicant establishes to the
20 commission's satisfaction that the applicant will use the omnibus
21 endorsement exclusively for operating omnibuses owned by a
22 nonprofit organization duly incorporated under Title 15 or 16 of the
23 Revised Statutes or Title 15A of the New Jersey Statutes.

24 n. The commission shall issue licenses for the following
25 license period on and after the first day of the calendar month
26 immediately preceding the commencement of the period, the
27 licenses to be effective immediately.

28 o. All applications for renewals of licenses shall be made in a
29 manner prescribed by the commission and in accordance with
30 procedures established by it.

31 p. The commission, in its discretion, may refuse to grant a
32 permit or license to drive motor vehicles to a person who is, in its
33 estimation, not a proper person to be granted a permit or license, but
34 a defect of the applicant shall not debar the applicant from receiving
35 a permit or license unless it can be shown by tests approved by the
36 commission that the defect incapacitates the applicant from safely
37 operating a motor vehicle.

38 q. A person issued a basic driver's license pursuant to this
39 section may be issued a standard basic driver's license or a REAL
40 ID basic driver's license. The chief administrator shall require an
41 applicant for a standard basic driver's license to provide as proof of
42 the applicant's identity, age, and residence primary and secondary
43 documents, with which the chief administrator shall attribute point
44 values in accordance with the point based identification verification
45 program established pursuant to section 28 of P.L.2003, c.13
46 (C.39:2A-28). The point total required to prove the identity of an
47 applicant for the standard basic driver's license shall be the same for
48 every applicant, regardless of immigration status. In the event that

1 the commission changes the point total threshold, the requirement
2 that every applicant reach the same point total threshold shall
3 remain in effect.

4 r. In addition to requiring an applicant for a driver's license to
5 submit satisfactory proof of identity and age, the commission also
6 shall require the applicant to provide:

7 (1) as a condition for obtaining a permit and standard basic
8 driver's license, proof of the person's social security number and
9 one document providing satisfactory proof that the applicant is a
10 New Jersey resident. If the person does not have a social security
11 number, the person shall either:

12 (a) provide satisfactory proof of an Individual Taxpayer
13 Identification Number; or

14 (b) indicate, in a manner prescribed by the commission and
15 consistent with all other provisions of P.L.2019, c.271 (C.39:3-10o
16 et al.), that the person is not eligible to receive a social security
17 number; or

18 (2) as a condition for obtaining a REAL ID basic driver's
19 license: two documents providing satisfactory proof that the
20 applicant is a New Jersey resident; proof of the applicant's social
21 security number or verification of ineligibility for a social security
22 number in accordance with the "REAL ID Act of 2005," Pub.L.109-
23 13, any acts amendatory or supplementary thereto, and any federal
24 regulations adopted thereunder; and proof that the applicant's
25 presence in the United States is authorized under federal law.

26 s. A standard basic driver's license shall indicate that the
27 license shall not be accepted as identification for an official
28 purpose, as that term is defined under the "REAL ID Act of 2005,"
29 Pub.L.109-13, any acts amendatory or supplementary thereto, and
30 any federal regulations adopted thereunder.

31 t. If the commission has reasonable cause to suspect that any
32 document presented by an applicant pursuant to this section is
33 altered, false, or otherwise invalid, the commission shall refuse to
34 grant the permit or license until the time when the document may be
35 verified by the issuing agency to the commission's satisfaction.

36 u. A person violating this section shall be subject to a fine not
37 exceeding \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for not more
38 than 60 days, but if that person has never been licensed to drive in
39 this State or any other jurisdiction, the applicant shall be subject to
40 a fine of not less than \$200 and, in addition, the court shall issue an
41 order to the commission requiring the commission to refuse to issue
42 a license to operate a motor vehicle to the person for a period of not
43 less than 180 days. The penalties provided for by this paragraph
44 shall not be applicable in cases where failure to have actual
45 possession of the operator's license is due to an administrative or
46 technical error by the commission.

1 v. Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter or extend
2 the expiration of any license issued prior to the date this
3 amendatory and supplementary act becomes operative.

4 w. Any documents and personal information, including an
5 applicant's photograph, obtained by the commission from an
6 applicant for a standard basic driver's license or standard
7 motorcycle license shall be confidential, shall not be considered a
8 government record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.),
9 P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.), or the common law concerning
10 access to government records and shall not be disclosed by the
11 commission for any purpose related to Title 8 of the United States
12 Code without the informed consent of the applicant, a warrant
13 signed by a State or federal judge, or a lawful court order or
14 subpoena, except that nothing in this section shall be construed to
15 prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action where such prohibition
16 or restriction would be contrary to federal law and except that
17 information under this subsection may be shared in accordance with
18 section 2 of P.L.2021, c.139 (C.39:2-3.9). When responding to a
19 warrant, court order, or subpoena, the commission may disclose
20 only those records or information specifically requested in the
21 warrant, court order, or subpoena.

22 Possession of a standard basic driver's license or standard
23 motorcycle license issued pursuant to this section shall not be
24 considered evidence of an individual's citizenship or immigration
25 status and shall not be used as a basis for an investigation, arrest,
26 citation, prosecution, or detention.

27 Information regarding an applicant's Individual Taxpayer
28 Identification Number, social security number, or ineligibility to
29 receive a social security number obtained by the commission for the
30 issuance of a standard motorcycle license or standard basic driver's
31 license pursuant to this section, shall not be considered a
32 government record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.),
33 P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.), or the common law concerning
34 access to government records, and shall not be disclosed by the
35 commission except where: (1) required by section 11 of P.L.1998,
36 c.1 (C.2A:17-56.60); (2) the applicant provides written informed
37 consent to the disclosure; (3) the requesting entity presents a
38 warrant signed by a State or federal judge, a lawful court order, or a
39 subpoena; (4) required by State or federal law, and to the extent that
40 the disclosure may be necessary to permit the State to participate in
41 the National Driver Register program, as set forth in 49 U.S.C.
42 s.30301 et seq.; (5) the disclosure is in connection with an audit or
43 investigation of identity fraud, driver's license fraud, or non-driver
44 identification card fraud; or (6) consistent with section 2 of
45 P.L.2021, c.139 (C.39:2-3.9).

46 x. As used in this section:

1 "Parking sensors" means proximity sensors which use either
2 electromagnetic or ultrasonic technology and are designed to alert
3 the driver to obstacles while parking.

4 "Person with a disability" means a person who has a physical or
5 mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life
6 activities or a person who has a history or record of such an
7 impairment, as determined by the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
8 Commission.

9 "Rear visibility system" means devices or components installed
10 on a motor vehicle at the time of manufacture that allow a [forward
11 facing] forward-facing driver to view a visual image of the area
12 directly behind the vehicle.

13 (cf: P.L.2025, c.103, s.1)

14
15 2. R.S.39:3-13 is amended to read as follows:

16 39:3-13. a. The chief administrator may, in the chief
17 administrator's discretion, issue to a person over 17 years of age an
18 examination permit, under the hand and seal of the chief
19 administrator, allowing that person, for the purpose of fitting the
20 person to become a licensed driver, to operate a designated class of
21 motor vehicles other than passenger automobiles and motorcycles
22 for a specified period of not more than 90 days, while in the
23 company and under the supervision of a driver licensed to operate
24 the designated class of motor vehicles.

25 b. The chief administrator, in the chief administrator's
26 discretion, may issue for a specified period of not less than one year
27 a passenger automobile or motorcycle-only examination permit to a
28 person over 17 years of age regardless of whether a person has
29 completed a course of behind-the-wheel automobile driving
30 education pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.1);
31 except that a person with a disability who is 16 years of age shall be
32 permitted to obtain a passenger automobile examination permit
33 regardless of whether the person has completed a course of behind-
34 the-wheel automobile driving education pursuant to section 1 of
35 P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.1). An examination permit applicant
36 who is under 18 years of age shall obtain the signature of a parent
37 or guardian for submission to the commission on a form prescribed
38 by the chief administrator. The chief administrator shall postpone
39 for six months the driving privileges of any person who submits a
40 fraudulent signature for a parent or guardian. As used in this
41 subsection, "person with a disability" means a person who has a
42 physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more
43 major life activities or a person who has a history or record of such
44 an impairment, as determined by the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
45 Commission.

46 c. For six months immediately following the validation of an
47 examination permit, and until the holder passes the road test, the
48 holder who is less than 21 years of age shall operate the passenger

1 automobile only when accompanied by, and under the supervision
2 of, a New Jersey licensed driver who is at least 21 years of age and
3 has been licensed to drive a passenger automobile for not less than
4 three years. The holder of an examination permit who is at least 21
5 years of age shall operate the passenger automobile for the first
6 three months under this supervision and until the holder passes the
7 road test. The supervising driver of the passenger automobile shall
8 sit in the front seat of the vehicle. Whenever operating a vehicle
9 while in possession of an examination permit, the holder of the
10 permit shall operate the passenger automobile with only one
11 additional passenger in the vehicle excluding dependents of the
12 permit holder, except that this passenger restriction shall not apply
13 when the permit holder is at least 21 years of age or when the
14 permit holder is accompanied by a parent or guardian. Further, the
15 holder of the passenger automobile permit who is less than 21 years
16 of age shall not drive during the hours between 11:01 p.m. and 5:00
17 a.m.; **[provided,]** however, **[that]** this condition may be waived for
18 an emergency which, in the judgment of local police, is of sufficient
19 severity and magnitude to substantially endanger the health, safety,
20 welfare, or property of a person, or for any bona fide employment
21 or religion-related activity if the employer or appropriate religious
22 authority provides written verification of the activity in a manner
23 provided for by the chief administrator. The holder of the
24 examination permit shall not use any hand-held or hands-free
25 interactive wireless communication device, except in an emergency,
26 while operating a moving passenger automobile on a public road or
27 highway. "Use" shall include, but not be limited to, talking or
28 listening on any hand-held or hands-free interactive wireless
29 communication device or operating its keys, buttons, or other
30 controls. The passenger automobile permit holder shall ensure that
31 all occupants of the vehicle are secured in a properly adjusted and
32 fastened seat belt or child restraint system.

33 d. The holder of an examination permit subject to the
34 provisions of section 1 of P.L.1977, c.23 (C.39:3-10b) shall not
35 operate a motorcycle at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a
36 half-hour before sunrise. A motorcycle operated by the holder of an
37 examination permit shall carry only the operator and shall not be
38 operated on any toll road over which the New Jersey Turnpike
39 Authority or the South Jersey Transportation Authority has
40 jurisdiction or on any limited-access interstate highway.

41 e. The holder of any examination permit shall not operate a
42 motorcycle having a motor with a maximum piston displacement
43 that is less than 50 cubic centimeters or a motor that is rated at no
44 more than 1.5 brake horsepower with a maximum speed of no more
45 than 35 miles per hour on a flat surface at any time from a half-hour
46 after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise and shall not operate the
47 motorcycle with any other passenger. The holder of any
48 examination permit shall not operate such a motorcycle upon

1 limited-access interstate highways or public roads or highways with
2 a posted speed limit greater than 35 miles per hour.

3 f. An applicant for an examination permit subject to the
4 provisions of section 1 of P.L.1977, c.23 (C.39:3-10b), who is less
5 than 18 years of age, shall be required to successfully complete a
6 motorcycle safety education course established pursuant to the
7 provisions of section 1 of P.L.1991, c.452 (C.27:5F-36) as a
8 condition for obtaining a motorcycle license or endorsement.

9 g. The chief administrator shall provide the holder of an
10 examination permit with two removable, transferable, highly
11 visible, reflective decals indicating that the driver of the vehicle
12 may be the holder of an examination permit. The decals shall be
13 designed by the chief administrator, in consultation with the
14 Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and
15 Public Safety. The chief administrator may charge a fee for the
16 decals not to exceed the actual cost of producing and distributing
17 the decals. The decals shall be displayed in a manner prescribed by
18 the chief administrator, in consultation with the Division of
19 Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public
20 Safety, and shall be clearly visible to law enforcement officers. The
21 holder of an examination permit shall not operate a vehicle unless
22 the decals are displayed. The decal shall be removed once the
23 driver's examination permit period has ended.

24 h. When notified by a court of competent jurisdiction that an
25 examination permit holder has been convicted of a violation which
26 causes the permit holder to accumulate more than two motor vehicle
27 points or has been convicted of a violation of: R.S.39:4-50; section
28 2 of P.L.1981, c.512 (C.39:4-50.4a); section 1 of P.L.1992, c.189
29 (C.39:4-50.14); R.S.39:4-129; N.J.S.2C:11-5; section 1 of
30 P.L.2017, c.165 (C.2C:11-5.3); subsection c. of N.J.S.2C:12-1; or
31 any other motor vehicle-related law the chief administrator deems
32 significant and applicable pursuant to regulation, in addition to any
33 other penalty that may be imposed, the chief administrator shall,
34 without the exercise of discretion or a hearing, suspend the
35 examination permit holder's examination permit for 90 days. The
36 chief administrator shall restore the permit following the term of the
37 permit suspension if the permit holder satisfactorily completes a
38 remedial training course of not less than four hours which may be
39 given by the commission, a driving school licensed by the chief
40 administrator pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1951, c.216 (C.39:12-2),
41 or any Statewide safety organization approved by the chief
42 administrator. The course shall be subject to oversight by the
43 commission according to its guidelines. The permit holder shall
44 also remit a course fee prior to the commencement of the course.
45 The chief administrator also shall postpone, without the exercise of
46 discretion or a hearing, the issuance of a basic license for 90 days if
47 the chief administrator is notified by a court of competent
48 jurisdiction that the examination permit holder, after completion of

1 the remedial training course, has been convicted of any motor
2 vehicle violation which results in the imposition of any motor
3 vehicle points or has been convicted of a violation of: R.S.39:4-50;
4 section 2 of P.L.1981, c.512 (C.39:4-50.4a); section 1 of P.L.1992,
5 c.189 (C.39:4-50.14); R.S.39:4-129; N.J.S.2C:11-5; subsection c. of
6 N.J.S.2C:12-1; or any other motor vehicle-related law the chief
7 administrator deems significant and applicable pursuant to
8 regulation. When the chief administrator is notified by a court of
9 competent jurisdiction that an examination permit holder has been
10 convicted of any alcohol or drug-related offense unrelated to the
11 operation of a motor vehicle and is not otherwise subject to any
12 other suspension penalty therefor, the chief administrator shall,
13 without the exercise of discretion or a hearing, suspend the
14 examination permit for six months.

15 i. An examination permit for a motorcycle or a commercial
16 motor vehicle issued to a person with a disability, as determined by
17 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission after consultation with
18 the Department of Education, shall be valid for nine months or until
19 the completion of the road test portion of the license examination,
20 whichever period is shorter.

21 j. Each permit shall be sufficient license for the person to
22 operate the designated class of motor vehicles in this State during
23 the period specified, while in the company of and under the control
24 of a driver licensed by this State to operate the designated class of
25 motor vehicles, or, in the case of a commercial driver license
26 permit, while in the company of and under the control of a holder of
27 a valid commercial driver license for the appropriate license class
28 and with the appropriate endorsements issued by this or any other
29 state. The person, as well as the licensed driver, except for a motor
30 vehicle examiner administering a driving skills test, shall be held
31 accountable for all violations of this subtitle committed by the
32 person while in the presence of the licensed driver.

33 k. In addition to requiring an applicant for an examination
34 permit to submit satisfactory proof of identity and age in
35 accordance with the type of license for which the applicant has
36 applied, the chief administrator also shall require the applicant to
37 provide the requisite number of documents providing satisfactory
38 proof that the applicant is a resident of the State in accordance with
39 the provisions of R.S.39:3-10.

40 l. Any documents and personal information, including an
41 applicant's photograph, obtained by the commission from an
42 applicant for a standard permit shall be confidential, shall not be
43 considered a government record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73
44 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.), or the
45 common law concerning access to government records, and shall
46 not be disclosed by the commission for any purposes related to Title
47 8 of the United States Code without the informed consent of the
48 applicant, a warrant signed by a State or federal judge, or a lawful

1 court order or subpoena; except that nothing in this section shall be
2 construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action where such
3 prohibition or restriction would be contrary to federal law; and
4 except that information under this subsection may be shared in
5 accordance with section 2 of P.L.2021, c.139 (C.39:2-3.9). When
6 responding to a warrant, court order, or subpoena, the commission
7 may disclose only those records or information specifically
8 requested in the warrant, court order, or subpoena.

9 Possession of a standard permit issued pursuant to this section
10 shall not be considered evidence of an individual's citizenship or
11 immigration status and shall not be used as a basis for an
12 investigation, arrest, citation, prosecution, or detention.

13 Information regarding an applicant's Individual Taxpayer
14 Identification Number, social security number, or ineligibility to
15 receive a social security number obtained by the commission for the
16 issuance of a standard permit pursuant to this section, shall not be
17 considered a government record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73
18 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.), or the
19 common law concerning access to government records, and shall
20 not be disclosed by the commission except where: (1) required by
21 section 11 of P.L.1998, c.1 (C.2A:17-56.60); (2) the applicant
22 provides written informed consent to the disclosure; (3) the
23 requesting entity presents a warrant signed by a State or federal
24 judge, a lawful court order, or a subpoena; (4) required by State or
25 federal law, and to the extent that the disclosure may be necessary
26 to permit the State to participate in the National Driver Register
27 program, as set forth in 49 U.S.C. s.30301 et seq.; (5) the disclosure
28 is in connection with an audit or investigation of identity fraud,
29 driver's license fraud, or non-driver identification card fraud; or (6)
30 consistent with section 2 of P.L.2021, c.139 (C.39:2-3.9).

31 m. If the chief administrator has reasonable cause to suspect
32 that any document presented by an applicant pursuant to this section
33 is altered, false, or otherwise invalid, the chief administrator shall
34 refuse to grant the permit until the document is verified by the
35 issuing agency to the chief administrator's satisfaction.

36 n. A person violating this section shall be subject to a fine not
37 exceeding \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for not more
38 than 60 days, but if that person has never been licensed to drive in
39 this State or any other jurisdiction, the applicant shall be subject to
40 a fine of not less than \$200 and~~],~~ in addition, the court shall issue
41 an order to the commission requiring the commission to refuse to
42 issue a license to operate a motor vehicle to the person for a period
43 of not less than 180 days.

44 o. A probationary driver's license shall not be issued to the
45 holder of an examination permit under the age of 21 unless the
46 permit holder completes a minimum of 50 hours of practice driving,
47 10 hours of which shall be completed during hours of darkness.
48 The permit holder's parent or guardian, or the person who

1 accompanied and supervised the permit holder during the practice
2 driving, shall certify, in a form and manner determined by the chief
3 administrator, that the permit holder has completed the required
4 number of hours of practice driving, including the required number
5 of hours during hours of darkness. The chief administrator shall
6 suspend for six months the driving privileges of any examination
7 permit holder who submits a fraudulent certification of a parent,
8 guardian, or supervising driver.

9 The holder of an examination permit shall be required to take a
10 road test in order to obtain a probationary license. No road test for
11 any person who has been issued an examination permit to operate a
12 passenger vehicle shall be given unless the person has met the
13 requirements of this section. No road test for a probationary license
14 shall be given unless the applicant has first secured an examination
15 permit and no road test shall be scheduled for an applicant who has
16 secured an examination permit for a passenger vehicle or a
17 motorcycle for which an endorsement is not required until at least
18 six months, for an applicant under 21 years of age, or three months,
19 for an applicant 21 years of age or older, have elapsed following the
20 validation of the examination permit for practice driving, or, in the
21 case of an examination permit for other vehicles, until 20 days have
22 elapsed. In the case of an omnibus endorsement or school bus, no
23 road test shall be scheduled until at least 10 days shall have elapsed.
24 Every applicant for an examination permit to qualify for an omnibus
25 endorsement or an articulated vehicle endorsement shall be a holder
26 of a valid basic driver's license.

27 p. The required fees for special learner's permits and
28 examination permits shall be as follows:

- 29 Basic driver's license.....up to \$10
- 30 Motorcycle license or endorsement.....\$5
- 31 Omnibus or school bus endorsement.....\$25

32 q. The chief administrator shall waive the payment of fees for
33 issuance of examination permits for omnibus endorsements
34 whenever the applicant establishes to the chief administrator's
35 satisfaction that the applicant will use the omnibus endorsement
36 exclusively for operating omnibuses owned by a nonprofit
37 organization duly incorporated under Title 15 or 16 of the Revised
38 Statutes or Title 15A of the New Jersey Statutes.

39 r. The specified period for which a permit is issued may be
40 extended for not more than an additional 60 days, without payment
41 of an added fee, upon application made by the holder thereof, where
42 the holder has applied to take the examination for a driver's license
43 prior to the expiration of the original period for which the permit
44 was issued and the chief administrator was unable to schedule an
45 examination during the period.

46 s. As a condition for the issuance of an examination permit
47 under this section, the chief administrator shall secure a digitized
48 photograph of the applicant. The photograph shall be stored in a

1 manner prescribed by the chief administrator and may be displayed
2 on the examination permit.

3 The chief administrator may require that whenever a person to
4 whom an examination permit has been issued has reconstructive or
5 cosmetic surgery which significantly alters the person's facial
6 features, the person shall notify the chief administrator who may
7 require the photograph of the person to be updated.

8 t. Specific use of the examination permit and any information
9 stored or encoded, electronically or otherwise, in relation thereto
10 shall be in accordance with P.L.1997, c.188 (C.39:2-3.3 et seq.),
11 section 2 of P.L.2021, c.139 (C.39:2-3.9), and the federal "Driver's
12 Privacy Protection Act of 1994," Pub.L.103-322. Notwithstanding
13 the provisions of any other law to the contrary, the digitized
14 photograph or any access thereto or any use thereof shall not be
15 sold, leased, or exchanged for value.

16 (cf: P.L.2023, c.216, s.1)

17

18 3. Section 1 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.1) is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 1. a. The Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
21 Commission may issue to a person over 16 years of age a special
22 learner's permit, under the hand and seal of the chief administrator,
23 allowing such person, for the purpose of preparing to qualify for a
24 probationary license for a passenger automobile by operating a
25 **[dual pedal controlled]** motor vehicle while taking a required
26 course of behind-the-wheel automobile driving education approved
27 by the State Department of Education and conducted in a public,
28 parochial, or private school of this State or a course of behind-the-
29 wheel automobile driving instruction conducted by a drivers' school
30 duly licensed pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1951, c.216
31 (C.39:12-1 et seq.). The special learner's permit shall be issued in
32 lieu of the examination permit provided for in R.S.39:3-13.

33 b. In addition to requiring an applicant for a permit to submit
34 satisfactory proof of identity and age in accordance with the type of
35 license for which the applicant has applied, the chief administrator
36 also shall require the applicant to provide the requisite number of
37 documents providing satisfactory proof that the applicant is a
38 resident of the State.

39 Any documents and personal information, including an
40 applicant's photograph, obtained by the commission from an
41 applicant for a standard permit shall be confidential, shall not be
42 considered a government record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73
43 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.), or the
44 common law concerning access to government records, and shall
45 not be disclosed by the commission for any purpose related to Title
46 8 of the United States Code without the informed consent of the
47 applicant, a warrant signed by a State or federal judge, or a lawful
48 court order or subpoena; except that nothing in this section shall be

1 construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action where such
2 prohibition or restriction would be contrary to federal law; and
3 except that information under this subsection may be shared in
4 accordance with section 2 of P.L.2021, c.139 (C.39:2-3.9). When
5 responding to a warrant, court order, or subpoena, the commission
6 may disclose only those records or information specifically
7 requested in the warrant, court order, or subpoena.

8 Possession of a standard permit issued pursuant to this section
9 shall not be considered evidence of an individual's citizenship or
10 immigration status and shall not be used as a basis for an
11 investigation, arrest, citation, prosecution, or detention.

12 Information regarding an applicant's Individual **[Tax]** Taxpayer
13 Identification Number, social security number, or ineligibility to
14 receive a social security number obtained by the commission for the
15 issuance of a standard permit pursuant to this section, shall not be
16 considered a government record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73
17 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.), or the
18 common law concerning access to government records, and shall
19 not be disclosed by the commission except where: (1) required by
20 section 11 of P.L.1998, c.1 (C.2A:17-56.60); (2) the applicant
21 provides written informed consent to the disclosure; (3) the
22 requesting entity presents a warrant signed by a State or federal
23 judge, a lawful court order, or a subpoena; (4) required by State or
24 federal law, and to the extent that the disclosure may be necessary
25 to permit the State to participate in the National Driver Register
26 program, as set forth in 49 U.S.C. s.30301 et seq.; (5) the disclosure
27 is in connection with an audit or investigation of identity fraud,
28 driver's license fraud, or non-driver identification card fraud; or (6)
29 consistent with section 2 of P.L.2021, c.139 (C.39:2-3.9).

30 If the chief administrator has reasonable cause to suspect that
31 any document presented by an applicant pursuant to this section is
32 altered, false, or otherwise invalid, the chief administrator shall
33 refuse to grant the permit until such time as the document may be
34 verified by the issuing agency to the chief administrator's
35 satisfaction.

36 A person violating this section shall be subject to a fine not
37 exceeding \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for not more
38 than 60 days, but if that person has never been licensed to drive in
39 this State or any other jurisdiction, the applicant shall be subject to
40 a fine of not less than \$200 and, in addition, the court shall issue an
41 order to the commission requiring the commission to refuse to issue
42 a license to operate a motor vehicle to the person for a period of not
43 less than 180 days.

44 c. The special learner's permit described above, when issued to
45 a person taking a course of behind-the-wheel driving education
46 conducted in a public, parochial, or private school, shall be retained
47 in the office of the school principal at all times except during such
48 time as the person to whom the permit is issued is undergoing

1 behind-the-wheel automobile driving instruction. The chief
2 administrator may make such rules and regulations as he may deem
3 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

4 (cf: P.L.2021, c.139, s.6)

5
6 4. Section 2 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.2) is amended to read
7 as follows:

8 As used in this section, “person with a disability” means a person
9 who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits
10 one or more major life activities or a person who has a history or
11 record of such an impairment, as determined by the New Jersey
12 Motor Vehicle Commission.

13 The special permit shall be sufficient license for the person to
14 operate a **【dual pedal controlled】** motor vehicle in this State during
15 the period specified, while in the company of and under the control
16 of: a teacher, certified by the State Department of Education as
17 authorized to instruct in an approved behind-the-wheel automobile
18 driving education course or a duly licensed instructor of a drivers'
19 school**【,】** or while in the company of a representative of the
20 **【Division of Motor Vehicles】** New Jersey Motor Vehicle
21 Commission for the purpose of submitting to examination for a
22 driver's license. Such person, as well as the said teacher or
23 instructor, shall be held accountable for all violations of subtitle 1
24 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes and any supplements thereto
25 committed by such person while in the presence of the teacher or
26 instructor. A parent or guardian of a person with a disability who is
27 a holder of the special permit shall be allowed to be present in the
28 motor vehicle during an approved behind-the-wheel automobile
29 driving education course.

30 (cf: P.L.1977, c.25, s.5)

31
32 5. This act shall take effect immediately.