

## Authorized Instruction (A Stage) (non-GDL Learner Stage)

An Authorized Instruction Stage applies to:

- Drivers who held a Learner's licence prior to April 1, 2002.
- Experienced drivers whose licence has been de-classed.
- Experienced drivers transferring to Manitoba and requiring driver examinations.
- Drivers who are learning to operate Class 1–4 vehicles.
- Operators of heavy and agricultural equipment.

### Drivers with a Class 5A licence must:

- Be at least 16 years of age.
- Maintain zero blood alcohol concentration.
- Be accompanied by a qualified supervising driver, as the only front seat passenger. The supervising driver must hold a valid licence and have held a Class 5F licence for at least three years. The supervising driver must have less than .05 blood alcohol concentration.
- Not operate a Class 3 motor vehicle registered as a farm truck
- Not operate off-road vehicles along or across highways.

For Classes 1–4 Authorized Instruction, you must hold a minimum Class 5A or a Class 5I licence and:

- Be a minimum of 18 years of age.
- Pass the knowledge test and meet the vision and medical standards.
- Complete a minimum two week learning period.
- Maintain zero blood alcohol concentration if you are restricted to zero blood alcohol concentration in a Class 5.
- Be accompanied by a qualified supervising driver who holds a valid licence, has held a Class 5F licence for at least three years, and a licence in the class of vehicle being driven for at least two years. The supervising driver must have less than .05 blood alcohol concentration.

# Manitoba's One-Piece Driver's Licence

When you are issued a new Manitoba driver's licence, you will be provided with a temporary driver's licence certificate (valid for up to 45 days).

You must carry your temporary driver's licence certificate with you at all times until you receive your permanent, one-piece driver's licence in the mail. When you get your first driver's licence, you will be photographed at your Autopac agent or at a Manitoba Public Insurance Service Centre. You'll need a new photo every five years.

**Please note:** The Manitoba one-piece driver's licence **cannot** be used to cross the U.S. border. If you are seeking a licence to drive that you can also use to cross the U.S. border (by land or water only), you will require the Manitoba Enhanced Driver's Licence. Information is available on our website at [mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).

Your driver's licence must be in your possession at all times while driving and must be produced, along with the Vehicle Registration Card, when requested by a peace officer.



Manitoba's new one-piece driver's licence



Drivers under the age of 18 years are issued Photo Cards that show the exact date of the driver's 18th birthday.

## Renewals Last Five Years

Your licence and Autopac are now valid for up to five years. However, you still pay for your driver's licence and vehicle insurance each year.

In non-renewal years, you will receive an annual Statement of Account to tell you how much you owe for that year. You don't need to go to an Autopac agent to pay your Statement of Account. Payment can be set up with your bank or handled by telephone through your Autopac agent.

You will receive a Renewal Notice once every five years, when it's time to renew your driver's licence and Autopac. You must visit an Autopac agent to handle this transaction.

If you need to end your licence and Autopac early — before five years is up — you must go to an Autopac agency and cancel them. Otherwise, they'll stay valid and you'll be charged for them — your licence and Autopac can also be subsequently suspended if payments are outstanding.

## Keep Your Licence Valid

Your licence expiry date is printed on the front of your licence. It is your responsibility to know when your licence expires and to renew it.

Each year your licence will be reassessed. You will be required to pay for your driver's licence every year on your anniversary date, which is four months less a day after your birthday. For example, if your birthday is Sept. 21, your anniversary date is Jan. 20.

If you do not pay the assessed charges for your licence by the anniversary date, your licence can be suspended. You will also not earn credit in the Learner or Intermediate Stage for the period of time you are not licensed.

## Illegal Use of Drivers Licence

You may be fined and your driver's licence suspended if you misuse a driver's licence by:

- Allowing someone else to use your driver's licence.
- Misrepresenting yourself when applying for a driver's licence.
- Using an outdated or otherwise invalid driver's licence.
- Altering, in any way, a registration card, a driver's licence, a motor vehicle liability insurance card or a certificate of insurance.

- Providing false identification when applying for a driver's licence or permit.
- Holding, at any time, more than one valid driver's licence from Canada or the United States.

## **Operating Heavy and Agricultural Equipment**

A valid Class 5I licence (Intermediate Stage) or higher is required to operate heavy and agricultural equipment on provincial highways and roads in urban areas. These types of vehicles include tractors, self-propelled farm equipment such as combines, and heavy equipment such as front-end loaders, cranes, forklifts and graders. Provincial highways and urban roads do not include rural municipal roads, service roads or winter roads controlled or maintained by a local government, such as a rural municipality.

Any person whose driver's licence is prohibited, suspended and/or disqualified for any reason can be charged with driving while suspended/disqualified if they are operating heavy or agricultural equipment on provincial highways and roads in urban areas.

A conviction for this offence may result in a further suspension of their driving privileges up to and including lifetime.

Any driver who is subject to a zero blood alcohol concentration restriction while operating a Class 1–5 motor vehicle will also be subject to this restriction while operating heavy and agricultural equipment on any roadway.

If you have any questions about operating heavy or agricultural equipment, please contact:

### **Driver Records and Suspensions**

Telephone: 204-985-0980

Toll-free: 1-866-323-0543

## Seatbelts

All drivers and passengers must wear the complete seatbelt assembly, where a seatbelt assembly is provided, unless exempted by law. Ensure the seatbelt is worn properly. It must be snug over the shoulder and across the hips. The seatbelt fabric must be flat and not twisted, and is kept over the shoulder and not under the arm. It is the driver's responsibility to ensure that every minor in the vehicle is properly secured.

Automatic seatbelt assemblies should not be used to restrain children in infant or child restraint devices situated in the right front passenger seat. This refers to a seatbelt that automatically locks into place when the door is closed. Consult your owner's manual regarding the securement of infant or child restraints in this seating position.

No person shall operate a motor vehicle where the seatbelt assembly has been removed or has been modified to reduce its effectiveness.

Vehicle accidents are the leading cause of the head injuries suffered by thousands of Manitobans every year. Seatbelts play a significant role in reducing head injuries and saving lives.

## Infant and Child Restraints

### Rear-Facing Infant Seats

For safety, children under one year of age, weighing less than 10 kilograms (22 pounds) and unable to walk independently must remain in the rear-facing seat. Your child should be a minimum of 10 kilograms (22 pounds), one year old, and walking before you consider transitioning to a front-facing seat.

The infant seat is positioned to face the rear of the vehicle, in a semi-reclined position and is fastened into the vehicle by the seatbelt to prevent it from moving during an impact or sudden stop. In a collision, the forces of impact are spread evenly across the strongest part of the baby's body and are absorbed into the back of the infant seat.

Most infant seats are now designed to hold infants weighing more than 10 kilograms (22 pounds) in a rear-facing position. Refer to your manual for the specific car seat height and weight limits. Don't rush to the forward-facing position. The rear-facing position offers the best protection and it is recommended you keep your child in the rear-facing car seat as long as possible.

If your baby reaches the maximum weight limit of your infant car seat, consider purchasing a convertible car seat with a higher rear-facing weight limit. A convertible car seat is a rear and forward-facing car seat all in one, and some models may be used in the rear-facing position for infants up to 16 kilograms (35 pounds).

### **Forward-Facing Child Car Seats**

Forward-facing child car seats are to be used for children from the time your child outgrows the rear-facing seat until your child's height and weight reach the maximum for your specific car seat. Refer to your manual for the specific car seat height and weight limits. These seats must be anchored to the vehicle by a tether strap, which prevents the seat from bending or pitching forward or sideways in a crash. The tether strap is fastened to the top of the child restraint and hooks onto an anchor bolt assembly, which is installed in the metal framework of the vehicle. It must be installed exactly according to the child car seat manufacturer's instructions. **Call your vehicle manufacturer for information on anchor bolt installation or check the vehicle manufacturer's manual for the location of the anchor bolt holes in your particular vehicle.**

### **Booster Seats**

Booster seats should be used when your child reaches a minimum of 18 kilograms (40 pounds) and is approximately 4½ years of age. If a child reaches this weight but is younger than 4½, a forward-facing seat with a higher weight limit is recommended. The booster seat is a restraining system for holding the seatbelt in a position low and snug over the child's lap, and the shoulder belt across the child's chest. Household booster seats are not intended for use in vehicles, so check the compliance label to ensure the seat you choose meets Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

Children have outgrown the booster seat when they have reached the height and weight limit prescribed by the manufacturer. At this point, they should begin wearing a shoulder/lap-belt combination.

**Note:** The safest place in a car to position any infant or child restraint system is in the centre of the back seat.

**Infant and child car seat regulations change periodically.  
Please see the Road Safety section of our website for current  
infant and child car seat information.  
[mpi.mb.ca](http://mpi.mb.ca).**

### **Seatbelt Assembly**

Children weighing over 36 kilograms (80 pounds), usually between 8 and 12 years of age, are ready to use the vehicle seatbelt system. It's important to ensure that the child knows how to properly wear the seatbelt. To be effective in preventing injuries, lap and shoulder belts should always be used if possible and worn snugly and as low on the hips as possible.

The shoulder harness should not lie across the child's face or neck. Never put it under the child's arm, since this could crush the rib cage during impact.

**The chances of being fatally injured in an accident can be decreased by as much as 70 per cent if you wear a seatbelt. Shoulder belts further increase your safety.**