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Exchange of driving licences

from non-EU and non-EEA (European Economic Area) countries



Is a foreign driving licence from a non-EU or non-EEA country also valid in Germany?

Citizens of countries outside the EU or EEA who reside in Germany may use their driving licence for a period of six months upon arriving in German territory. Using such a license after the six-month deadline is considered a criminal offense.

How long is a foreign driving licence valid in Germany?

Anyone holding a foreign driving licence must exchange it for a German driving licence within a period of six months. The six-month deadline for the validity of a foreign driving licence begins upon arrival in Germany. If, in the meantime, the license holder leaves Germany for more than 185 days, the six-month deadline re-starts from the beginning.

What are the requirements for exchanging a foreign driving licence?

There are no uniform regulations for the exchange of foreign driving licences. The conditions are in fact mainly set by the country that issued the license.

The exchange of a foreign driving licence must be include both a theoretical and a practical driving licence exam.

However, certain issuing countries are subject to special conditions. Special conditions that are currently in force may be found in the following:

Issuing Country	Licence Class	Theoretical Test	Practical Test
Andorra	all	no	no
Australia	Differs depending on Territory	Differs depending on Territory	Differs depending on Territory
Bosnia and Herzegovina	C, R	no	no
French Polynesia	A1, A, B	no	no
Guernsey	all	no	no
Insel Man	all	no	no
Israel	all	no	no
Japan	В	no	no
Jersey	all	no	no
Canada	Differs depend- ing on Province	_	_
Monaco	all	no	no
Namibia	A1, A, B, EB, C1, EC1, C, EC	no	no
New Caledonia	all	no	no
New Zealand	1, 6	no	no
Republic of Korea	1, 2	no	no
San Marino	all	no	no
Switzerland	all	no	no
Serbia	AM, A1, A2, A, B, BE, C1, C1E, C, CE, D1, D1E, D und DE	no	no
Singapore	all	no	no
South Africa	all	no	no
Taiwan	B, BE	no	yes
United States of America	Differs depending on State	Differs depending on State	Differs depending on State

Which documentation is required for the application process?

- A valid national identity card or passport, including visa (residency permit)
- The original driving licence (for authentification purposes)
- The original registration documents from your arrival in Germany which state your country of origin plus any stays in transit countries
- · A current biometric (German) passport photo
- A translation of the driving licence by an officially recognized authority
- Certification of a successfully completed first aid course
- · A valid eye test (no older than two years)
- · Name of the driving school
- Application fee of 42.60 euros

For applications for bus and truck driving licences, we require additional documentation. For further information please contact the service line.

Please note: We can only process your application if all necessary documentation is complete!

Please note:

- The foreign driving licence must not have been issued after the date of arrival in Germany.
- The foreign driving licence must still be valid during the period of application for exchange.

I wish to exchange my foreign driving licence.

Where do I make my application?

Please submit your application to the designated Driving Licence Authority. The location of the office depends on where your primary residence is located.

The Darmstadt Driving Licence Department is responsible for all Residents of the City of Darmstadt, including the suburbs of Arheilgen, Eberstadt, Kranichstein and Wixhausen.

It is necessary to make an appointment.

In order to make an application, you need to make an on-line appointment or to have a ticket for an appointment from the Driving Licence Authority.

Appointments may be made on-line at: https://www.darmstadt.de/rathaus/online-dienste

Tickets for appointments can be picked up during opening hours on the main floor of City Hall (Residents' and Public Order Office).

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Appointments can be made during the following times:

Monday8:00 - 15:30Tuesday8:00 - 18:00Wednesday7:00 - 12:30Thursday8:00 - 19:00Friday7:00 - 12:30

Contact

Bürger- und Ordnungsamt Fahrerlaubnisbehörde Luisenplatz 5 64283 Darmstadt

Service phone: 115

E-Mail: fahrerlaubnisbehoerde@darmstadt.de

www.darmstadt.de/fuehrerschein



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