

## INTRODUCTION

This manual is designed to help you become a safe driver. **It presents many of Pennsylvania's laws governing driving. It should be used as a general guide to the laws but not as a substitute for the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, which contains the laws affecting Pennsylvania's drivers and vehicles. It should also be noted that the information contained in this manual is subject to change.**

The purpose of this manual is to prepare you to take the driver's examination and to obtain a Pennsylvania driver's license. However, the rules of the road and traffic operation principles presented in this manual apply to the three types of vehicles recognized by Pennsylvania law: bicycles, horse-drawn vehicles and motor vehicles. For example, all bicyclists, just like motorists, are required to stop at red lights.

If you are learning to drive, this manual will give you all the information you need to study for the driver's examination. If you already have a Pennsylvania driver's license, you can use this manual to review some of the rules of the road you may have forgotten or to learn about some of the rules that may be new or have changed since you received your license.

### IMPORTANT

Before taking your Knowledge Test, you must complete the Non-Commercial Learner's Permit Application (DL-180).

If you are under the age of 18, you must complete the Parent or Guardian Consent Form (DL-180TD)

Both forms can be found on our website at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us) under the Forms and Publications link at the top of the page

Driving is a privilege and not a right. This privilege comes with many responsibilities. One very important responsibility is that you never mix drinking and driving.

**For the days and hours of operation at a Driver License Center nearest you, to download the most current forms, publications, and fact sheets or to access PennDOT's online services, including scheduling your On-the-Road Skills Test, visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us)**

**Please read this manual carefully, learn and practice the rules of the road in order to become a safe driver and enjoy your driving privilege in our beautiful state.**

**Courtesy of  
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation**

**THIS PUBLICATION IS NOT FOR SALE**

## Table of Contents

### Chapter 1 – Non-Commercial

<b>Learner's Permit Information</b> . . . . .	<b>1</b>
Applying for a Learner's Permit . . . . .	1
Organ Donor Designation . . . . .	2
Veterans Designation . . . . .	2
Social Security Number Information . . . . .	3
Pennsylvania Vision Standards . . . . .	3
Who Needs a Pennsylvania Driver's License . . . . .	3
Junior Learner's Permit Information . . . . .	3
Junior Driver's License Information . . . . .	3
What Class of Driver's License Do You Need . . . . .	4
Classes of Driver's Licenses . . . . .	4
Tests . . . . .	5
Knowledge Test . . . . .	5
Road Test . . . . .	5

### Chapter 2 – Signals, Signs and

<b>Pavement Markings</b> . . . . .	<b>7</b>
Signals . . . . .	7
Red, Yellow and Green Traffic Lights and Arrows . . . . .	7
Flashing Signals . . . . .	8
Non-Functioning Traffic Lights . . . . .	8
Ramp-Metering Signals . . . . .	8
Lane Use Control Signals . . . . .	8
Pedestrian Signals . . . . .	9
School Zone Signals . . . . .	9
Railroad Crossing Signals . . . . .	9
Signs . . . . .	10
Regulatory Signs . . . . .	10
Warning Signs . . . . .	13
Guide Signs . . . . .	19
Pavement Markings . . . . .	22
Chapter 2 Review Questions . . . . .	23
Chapter 2 Review Answers . . . . .	30

### Chapter 3 – Learning to Drive . . . . . 31

Choosing Safety First . . . . .	31
Vehicle Checks: Preparing to Drive . . . . .	31
Driver Factors . . . . .	32
Inattention . . . . .	32
Health Factors . . . . .	33
Alcohol and Driving . . . . .	33
Drugs and Driving . . . . .	34
Everyday Driving Skills . . . . .	34
Managing Space . . . . .	35
Managing Speed . . . . .	38
Turning, Merging and Passing . . . . .	43
Negotiating Intersections . . . . .	47
Negotiating Curves . . . . .	50
Negotiating Highways and Interchanges . . . . .	51
Parking . . . . .	51
Parallel Parking Tips . . . . .	52

Special Circumstances and Emergencies . . . . .	53
Work Zones . . . . .	53
Railroad Crossings . . . . .	54
Sharing the Road with Pedestrians, Bicyclists, Motorcyclists/Moped Drivers . . . . .	54
Sharing the Road with Trucks and Buses . . . . .	55
School Buses . . . . .	57
Emergency Vehicles/Situations . . . . .	58
Horse-Drawn Vehicles & Horseback Riders . . . . .	58
Passengers in an Open-Bed Truck . . . . .	58
Snow Plows . . . . .	59
Dealing with Road Rage . . . . .	59
Dealing with Driving Emergencies . . . . .	59
Funeral Procession . . . . .	62
Chapter 3 Review Questions . . . . .	63
Chapter 3 Review Answers . . . . .	76

### Chapter 4 – Driving

<b>Record Information</b> . . . . .	<b>77</b>
Pennsylvania's Point System . . . . .	77
What To Do If You Are Stopped By Police . . . . .	78
Crashes . . . . .	79
Fleeing or Eluding Police . . . . .	79
Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or a Controlled Substance . . . . .	80
Underage Drinking . . . . .	82
Driver's License Compact (DLC) . . . . .	82
Chapter 4 Review Questions . . . . .	84
Chapter 4 Review Answers . . . . .	86

### Chapter 5 – Laws and Related Issues . . . . . 87

Required Notification for Change in Name or Address . . . . .	87
Seat Belt Law . . . . .	87
Child Restraint Law . . . . .	88
Air Bag Safety Information . . . . .	88
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) . . . . .	89
Parking Areas for Persons with Disabilities . . . . .	89
Anti-Littering Law . . . . .	90
Vehicle Safety and Emissions Inspection . . . . .	90
Steer Clear Law . . . . .	90
Safe Passing (bicycles) . . . . .	90
Texting . . . . .	91
Obedience to Traffic-Control Devices Warning of Hazardous Conditions Law . . . . .	91

### Chapter 6 – References . . . . . 93

Road Test and Special Point Examination Appointments . . . . .	93
Departmental Forms and Publications . . . . .	93
Statewide and County Maps . . . . .	93
Information on Other Programs . . . . .	93
511PA . . . . .	93