20 Things That Only The Most Devoted Get Your Driver's License Poland Fans Know

Your Complete Guide to Getting a Driver's License in Poland

Obtaining a motorist's license is a significant milestone, and doing so in Poland is a structured, highly controlled, and effective procedure. Whether a citizen is a Polish person or an expatriate making Poland their home, the pathway to getting behind the wheel involves a particular sequence of medical checks, theoretical training, exams, and practical driving hours.

For those wondering where to start, this extensive guide breaks down every step required to get a driver's license in Poland (particularly Category B for passenger cars and trucks).

1. Prerequisites Before You Begin

Before enrolling in a driving school, candidates need to fulfill particular legal and physical Additional reading requirements.

- **Age Requirement:** The minimum age to obtain a Category B chauffeur's license in Poland is **18 years old**. However, applicants can start their training approximately three months before turning 18.
- **Residency Status:** Foreign nationals must show legal residency in Poland. This typically requires holding a valid visa, residence card (*karta pobytu*), or registration of EU resident home, in addition to remaining in Poland for a minimum of 185 days each year.
- **Medical exam:** Every applicant should visit an authorized occupational medicine physician to acquire a medical certificate validating physical and psychological fitness to drive.

2. Step-by-Step Process to Get a Polish Driver's License

The journey from pedestrian to licensed motorist in Poland follows a clear sequential course.

Step 1: Obtain a Medical Certificate

The candidate needs to set up a visit with a medical professional certified in transportation medication. The evaluation is generally quick, inspecting vision, hearing, and basic health.

- *Expense:* Officially regulated by the state, the medical examination typically costs around 200 PLN.

Step 2: Get a PKK Number (*Profil Kandydata na Kierowcę*)

The PKK (Driver Candidate Profile) is a distinct electronic identification number generated by the local municipal office (*Urząd Miasta* or *Starostwo Powiatowe*).To get a PKK, the applicant should submit:

1. A completed application.
2. The medical certificate.
3. One recent passport-sized photograph (3.5 x 4.5 cm).
4. Proof of identity (ID card or passport) and residency files (for foreigners).

Step 3: Enroll in a Driving School (*Ośrodek Szkolenia Kierowców* - OSK)

With the PKK number in hand, the applicant can select and register in a state-approved driving school.

- **Theory:** Minimum of 30 hours of classroom lectures (though lots of schools now provide e-learning options). This consists of a compulsory 4-hour First Aid course.
- **Practice:** Minimum of 30 hours behind-the-wheel training with a trainer.

Step 4: Pass the State Theory Exam

Upon finishing the school's theoretical course, the applicant needs to pass the official state theory test at a Wojewódzki Ośrodek Ruchu Drogowego (WORD) center.

- The examination is computer-based, consisting of 32 multiple-choice concerns.
- It is readily available in Polish, English, and German (at choose WORD centers).
- A passing score is at least 68 out of 74 possible points.

Step 5: Pass the State Practical Exam

As soon as the driving school trainer verifies the conclusion of the 30 practical hours and the theory examination is passed, the candidate can schedule the useful driving test at the WORD center.The useful exam has 2 parts:

1. **Vehicle preparation and checks:** Inspecting fluid levels, examining lights, and demonstrating fundamental vehicle knowledge.
2. **Maneuvers and driving:** Performing maneuvers on a designated track (e.g., hill start) followed by driving in genuine traffic conditions for at least 40 minutes.

Action 6: Collect the Driver's License (***Prawo Jazdy***)

After passing the practical exam, the WORD center updates the system. The candidate must then pay the production charge at the local municipal office. Within 9 to 14 working days, the physical plastic card will be prepared for pickup.

Expenses Breakdown

Getting a motorist's license in Poland includes several unique fees paid to physician, state evaluation centers, and driving schools.

Expenditure Category Description Approximate Cost (PLN) **Medical Examination** Licensed physician's checkup 200 PLN **Passport Photo** 1x needed for PKK 35-- 50 PLN **Driving School (OSK)** 30h theory + 30h practice 2,500-- 4,000 PLN (varies by city) **State Theory Exam** Paid to WORD 50 PLN **State Practical Exam** Paid to WORD (Category B) 200 PLN **License Production Fee** Paid to the regional municipality 100.50 PLN **Total Estimated Cost** *Complete procedure from scratch* **~ 3,085-- 4,600+ PLN**

Keep in mind: Prices for driving schools vary significantly depending on the city (Warsaw tends to be more expensive than smaller sized towns) and whether extra driving lessons are needed.

Crucial Tips for Foreigners

Navigating the Polish licensing system as a non-Polish speaker features a couple of special considerations:

- **Language Availability:** While the state theory examination can be taken in English, the useful test is conducted completely in Polish. Applicants are lawfully allowed to bring a sworn translator (*tłumacz*

przysięgły) into the vehicle during the useful examination to equate the examiner's directions.

- **International Driving Permits (IDP):** Depending on the candidate's native land, foreign licenses may be exchanged for a Polish license without taking examinations, or they might just be legitimate for the first 180 days of residency. Non-EU/EEA nationals typically should go through the full testing procedure if their home nation is not a signatory to the 1968 Vienna Convention.
- **Newbie Driver Probationary Period:** Newly certified chauffeurs in Poland get in a probationary period (typically 2 years), during which they go through stricter speed limits, mandatory safe-driving courses between the 4th and 8th month, and a zero-tolerance policy for alcohol.

Summary Checklist for Success

1. Examine age and legal residency status.
2. Check out a physician for the medical certificate.
3. Apply for the PKK number at the *Urząd Miasta*.
4. Complete 30 hours of theory and 30 hours of practice at an OSK.
5. Pass the state theory examination at WORD.
6. Pass the state practical test at WORD.
7. Pay the license charge and collect the physical file.

By following these steps patiently and preparing completely, getting a motorist's license in Poland is a straightforward procedure that opens the freedom to check out the nation safely and legally.