

SB2783



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2783

Introduced 1/13/2026, by Sen. Patrick J. Joyce

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/6-109

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that the Secretary of State shall allow an applicant for a renewal driver's license to obtain the vision examination from an ophthalmologist or optometrist.

LRB104 17102 LNS 30521 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
5 changing Section 6-109 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/6-109)

7 (Text of Section before amendment by P.A. 104-169)

8 Sec. 6-109. Examination of applicants.

9 (a) The Secretary of State shall examine every applicant
10 for a driver's license or permit who has not been previously
11 licensed as a driver under the laws of this State or any other
12 state or country, or any applicant for renewal of such
13 driver's license or permit when such license or permit has
14 been expired for more than one year. The Secretary of State
15 shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph (c), examine
16 every licensed driver at least every 8 years, and may examine
17 or re-examine any other applicant or licensed driver, provided
18 that during the years 1984 through 1991 those drivers issued a
19 license for 3 years may be re-examined not less than every 7
20 years or more than every 10 years.

21 The Secretary of State shall require the testing of the
22 eyesight of any driver's license or permit applicant who has
23 not been previously licensed as a driver under the laws of this

1 State and shall promulgate rules and regulations to provide
2 for the orderly administration of all the provisions of this
3 Section.

4 The Secretary of State shall include at least one test
5 question that concerns the provisions of the Pedestrians with
6 Disabilities Safety Act in the question pool used for the
7 written portion of the driver's license examination within one
8 year after July 22, 2010 (the effective date of Public Act
9 96-1167).

10 The Secretary of State shall include, in the question pool
11 used for the written portion of the driver's license
12 examination, test questions concerning safe driving in the
13 presence of bicycles, of which one may be concerning the Dutch
14 Reach method as described in Section 2-112.

15 The Secretary of State shall include, in the question pool
16 used for the written portion of the driver's license
17 examination, at least one test question concerning driver
18 responsibilities when approaching a stationary emergency
19 vehicle as described in Section 11-907. If an applicant gives
20 an incorrect response to a test question concerning subsection
21 (c) of Section 11-907, Section 11-907.5, or subsection (a-1)
22 of Section 11-908, then the Secretary of State shall provide
23 the applicant with information concerning those Sections.

24 (b) Except as provided for those applicants in paragraph
25 (c), such examination shall include a test of the applicant's
26 eyesight, his or her ability to read and understand official

1 traffic control devices, his or her knowledge of safe driving
2 practices and the traffic laws of this State, and may include
3 an actual demonstration of the applicant's ability to exercise
4 ordinary and reasonable control of the operation of a motor
5 vehicle, and such further physical and mental examination as
6 the Secretary of State finds necessary to determine the
7 applicant's fitness to operate a motor vehicle safely on the
8 highways, except the examination of an applicant 75 years of
9 age or older or, if the Secretary adopts rules under Section 37
10 of the Secretary of State Act to raise the age requirement for
11 actual demonstrations, the examination of an applicant who has
12 attained that increased age or is older shall include an
13 actual demonstration of the applicant's ability to exercise
14 ordinary and reasonable control of the operation of a motor
15 vehicle. All portions of written and verbal examinations under
16 this Section, excepting where the English language appears on
17 facsimiles of road signs, may be given in the Spanish language
18 and, at the discretion of the Secretary of State, in any other
19 language as well as in English upon request of the examinee.
20 Deaf persons who are otherwise qualified are not prohibited
21 from being issued a license, other than a commercial driver's
22 license, under this Code. The examination to test an
23 applicant's ability to read and understand official traffic
24 control devices and knowledge of safe driving practices and
25 the traffic laws of this State may be administered at a
26 Secretary of State facility, remotely via the Internet, or in

1 a manner otherwise specified by the Secretary of State by
2 administrative rule.

3 (c) Re-examination for those applicants who at the time of
4 renewing their driver's license possess a driving record
5 devoid of any convictions of traffic violations or evidence of
6 committing an offense for which mandatory revocation would be
7 required upon conviction pursuant to Section 6-205 at the time
8 of renewal shall be in a manner prescribed by the Secretary in
9 order to determine an applicant's ability to safely operate a
10 motor vehicle, except that every applicant for the renewal of
11 a driver's license who is 75 years of age or older or, if the
12 Secretary adopts rules under Section 37 of the Secretary of
13 State Act to raise the age requirement for actual
14 demonstrations, every applicant for the renewal of a driver's
15 license who has attained that increased age or is older must
16 prove, by an actual demonstration, the applicant's ability to
17 exercise reasonable care in the safe operation of a motor
18 vehicle.

19 (d) In the event the applicant is not ineligible under the
20 provisions of Section 6-103 to receive a driver's license, the
21 Secretary of State shall make provision for giving an
22 examination, either in the county where the applicant resides
23 or at a place adjacent thereto reasonably convenient to the
24 applicant, within not more than 30 days from the date said
25 application is received.

26 (e) The Secretary of State may adopt rules regarding the

1 use of foreign language interpreters during the application
2 and examination process.

3 (Source: P.A. 103-140, eff. 6-30-23; 103-680, eff. 1-1-25;
4 104-260, eff. 8-15-25.)

5 (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 104-169)

6 Sec. 6-109. Examination of applicants.

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13 shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph (c), examine
14 every licensed driver at least every 8 years, and may examine
15 or re-examine any other applicant or licensed driver, provided
16 that during the years 1984 through 1991 those drivers issued a
17 license for 3 years may be re-examined not less than every 7
18 years or more than every 10 years.

19 The Secretary of State shall require the testing of the
20 eyesight of any driver's license or permit applicant who has
21 not been previously licensed as a driver under the laws of this
22 State and shall promulgate rules and regulations to provide
23 for the orderly administration of all the provisions of this
24 Section.

25 The Secretary of State shall allow an applicant for a

1 renewal driver's license to obtain the vision examination from
2 an ophthalmologist or optometrist.

3 The Secretary of State shall include at least one test
4 question that concerns the provisions of the Pedestrians with
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6 written portion of the driver's license examination within one
7 year after July 22, 2010 (the effective date of Public Act
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18 vehicle as described in Section 11-907. If an applicant gives
19 an incorrect response to a test question concerning subsection
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21 of Section 11-908, then the Secretary of State shall provide
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3 ordinary and reasonable control of the operation of a motor
4 vehicle, and such further physical and mental examination as
5 the Secretary of State finds necessary to determine the
6 applicant's fitness to operate a motor vehicle safely on the
7 highways, except the examination of an applicant 75 years of
8 age or older or, if the Secretary adopts rules under Section 37
9 of the Secretary of State Act to raise the age requirement for
10 actual demonstrations, the examination of an applicant who has
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15 this Section, excepting where the English language appears on
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26 a manner otherwise specified by the Secretary of State by

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2 (c) Re-examination for those applicants who at the time of
3 renewing their driver's license possess a driving record
4 devoid of any convictions of traffic violations or evidence of
5 committing an offense for which mandatory revocation would be
6 required upon conviction pursuant to Section 6-205 at the time
7 of renewal shall be in a manner prescribed by the Secretary in
8 order to determine an applicant's ability to safely operate a
9 motor vehicle, except that every applicant for the renewal of
10 a driver's license who is 79 years of age or older must renew
11 in person, and every applicant for the renewal of a driver's
12 license who is 87 years of age or older or who is 75 years of
13 age or older and holds a commercial driver's license must
14 prove, by an actual demonstration, the applicant's ability to
15 exercise reasonable care in the safe operation of a motor
16 vehicle.

17 (d) In the event the applicant is not ineligible under the
18 provisions of Section 6-103 to receive a driver's license, the
19 Secretary of State shall make provision for giving an
20 examination, either in the county where the applicant resides
21 or at a place adjacent thereto reasonably convenient to the
22 applicant, within not more than 30 days from the date said
23 application is received.

24 (e) The Secretary of State may adopt rules regarding the
25 use of foreign language interpreters during the application
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1 (Source: P.A. 103-140, eff. 6-30-23; 103-680, eff. 1-1-25;
2 104-169, eff. 7-1-26; 104-260, eff. 8-15-25; revised 9-12-25.)

3 Section 95. No acceleration or delay. Where this Act makes
4 changes in a statute that is represented in this Act by text
5 that is not yet or no longer in effect (for example, a Section
6 represented by multiple versions), the use of that text does
7 not accelerate or delay the taking effect of (i) the changes
8 made by this Act or (ii) provisions derived from any other
9 Public Act.