

Reciprocal Partial Exemption of the Examination for the Driver License between Japan and Oregon

November 1, 2022
Consular Office of Japan in Portland

On November 1, 2022, a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Japan and the State of Oregon for the reciprocal partial exemption of the examination for the driver license was signed. As a result of this

- If you hold a valid Japanese driver license or apply for an Oregon license within one year of the expiration of a valid Japanese license
- If you hold a valid Oregon driver license

The respective driving license authorities will exempt the applicant from taking the knowledge test and the actual demonstration (skill examinations) in accordance with their respective laws and regulations.

Note: the applicant will not be exempt from submitting the necessary documents for application, vision test, payment of the application fee, etc.

This operation is effective for applications submitted on and after November 1, 2022.
Please refer to the following notes for further information.

1. To obtain an Oregon driver license

(1) The Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV) provides the necessary documents and procedures for obtaining an Oregon driver license. Please refer to

[DMV2U Online Service Center](#)

and contact the DMV directly if you have any questions.



(2) Partial exemption from the examination for driver license is available to persons 18 years of age or older who apply for a Class C (non-commercial) driver license in accordance with Oregon law. The motorcycle license is only applicable to those who have obtained a motorcycle license in conjunction with an automobile license.

(3) Applicants are required to submit a Japanese driver license along with the application documents required by the DMV.

In accordance with Oregon law, the issuance of an Oregon driver license will be made in exchange for a Japanese driver license, and the submitted Japanese driver license will not be returned to the applicant in principle, but will be sent to our office at a later date. If you need that license to drive in Japan, please refer to the following page (only in Japanese).

[領事事務所に送付された日本の運転免許証の受領方法](#)



(4) Although you are exempted from the knowledge test and the actual demonstration, please make sure you understand Oregon laws and traffic rules, and drive safely. Also check the

[Oregon Driver Manual](#)

issued by the DMV.



2. To obtain a Japanese driver license

(1) You may be exempted from the knowledge and skill examinations by submitting a valid Oregon driver license. The Japanese license must be a Class 1 driver license equivalent to an Oregon license (Class C) in accordance with Japanese laws and regulations. For more information on the documents to be submitted, fees, and hours of operation, please contact the prefectural driver's license examination center where you wish to apply in advance.

For reference, the procedures in Tokyo can be found at the following link.

[Can I convert my driving license issued by the foreign authorities to a Japanese one?](#) (Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department)



(2) In accordance with Japanese law, partial exemption from the examination for driver license is available to those who have stayed in a foreign country for a total of at least three months after obtaining a driver license. For this purpose, a passport or other document that proves the period of stay in the country where the driver license was obtained is required, such as a passport with entry and exit records.

(3) When applying for a driver license, you will need to present your Oregon driver license and a Japanese translation of that license. The Japan Automobile Federation (JAF) also offers a Japanese translation service (for a fee, non-members are also welcome). Please refer to the following link for details.

[Transfer your country's license to a Japanese license](#) (JAF)



(4) Although you are exempted from the knowledge and skill examinations, please be sure to understand Japanese laws and traffic rules, and drive safely. Please refer to the following page for more information.

[Rules of the Road](#) (JAF)

