5 Laws Anybody Working In Apply For Driving License Poland Should Be Aware Of

How to Apply for a Driving License in Poland: The Ultimate Step-by-Step Guide

Securing a driving license (Prawo Jazdy) in Poland is a substantial turning point. Whether someone is a Polish resident or an expat making Poland their irreversible home, holding a valid driving license unlocks extraordinary freedom and benefit. Nevertheless, navigating the governmental landscape of Polish offices can feel frustrating at very first glance.

This thorough guide breaks down the whole process of how to request a driving license in Poland, making sure a smooth and hassle-free journey from the initial medical check to sitting behind the wheel.

1. Prerequisites Before You Start

Before enrolling in a driving school, candidates should satisfy specific legal and physical requirements set by Polish law.

- **Age Requirements:** The minimum age depends on the automobile category. For a standard cars and truck (Category B), the candidate needs to be at least 18 years old.
- **Residency Status:** Foreigners must prove legal residency in Poland for a minimum of 185 days each year. This is typically validated through a home card (*karta pobytu*), a Polish visa, or EU registration certificates.
- **Medical Fitness:** Every candidate needs to pass a medical exam to ensure they are physically and psychologically fit to drive.

2. Step-by-Step Guide to Getting a Polish Driving License

The journey to obtaining a Polish driving license follows a structured sequence of occasions.

Action 1: Obtain a PKK Number (Profil Kandydata na Kierowcu)

The **PKK** (Driver Candidate Profile) is a special electronic identification number created by the regional federal government workplace. Without a PKK, no driving school will accept an applicant.

To get a PKK, one need to visit the regional district office (*Starostwo Powiatowe*), municipal government (*Urząd Miasta*), or district borough workplace (*Urząd Dzielnicy* in Warsaw) and submit the following documents:

- A finished application (available at the office or online).
- A medical certificate validating no contraindications to driving.
- One recent picture (3.5 cm x 4.5 cm).
- Evidence of identity (Passport or ID card) and residency status (Residence card/Visa).
- A translation of foreign documents (if relevant).

Action 2: Enroll in a Driving School (*Ośrodek Szkolenia Kierowców* - OSK)

Once the PKK number is provided, the ***prawo jazdy bez egzaminu*** candidate can select a driving school. In Poland, Category B training typically consists of:

- **Theoretical training:** At least 30 hours of classroom or online lectures covering traffic rules, roadway signs, and very first aid.
- **Practical training:** At least 30 hours behind the wheel with a qualified instructor.

Tip for Expats: While the majority of driving schools perform courses in Polish, a growing number of schools in significant cities like Warsaw, Kraków, and Wrocław provide theoretical and practical lessons in English.

Step 3: Pass the Internal Exams

Upon completing the school's curriculum, students should pass internal theoretical and useful tests. Successfully passing these tests grants a graduation certificate from the OSK, which updates the candidate's PKK profile in the system.

Step 4: Pass the State Exams at WORD (*Wojewódzki Ośrodek Ruchu Drogowego*)

The last hurdle includes passing the official state assessments handled by WORD. This is divided into 2 parts:

1. **Theoretical Exam:** A computer-based test featuring 32 multiple-choice concerns relating to traffic policies. Prospects should score at least 68 out of 74 indicate pass.
2. **Practical Exam:** Conducted in 2 stages-- first, car checks and maneuvers on a closed course (e.g., hill start, reverse parking), followed by driving in real metropolitan traffic conditions under the inspector's supervision.

Step 5: Collect the Driving License

Once both state examinations are successfully passed, the WORD updates the system. The candidate must return to the regional office where the PKK was provided, pay the issuance charge, and submit proof of payment. The physical license card is normally all set within 9 to 14 working days.

Cost Breakdown of Getting a License in Poland

Budgeting for a driving license needs preparing for several repaired and variable expenses. The table below lays out the estimated expenditures associated with obtaining a Category B driving license in Poland.

Expense Item Description Approximate Cost (PLN) Approximate Cost (EUR) **Medical Examination** Needed physician's go to and certificate 200 PLN ~ EUR45 **Passport Photos** 1 set of standard biometric photos 30 - 50 PLN ~ EUR7 - EUR11 **Driving Course (OSK)** 30h theory + 30h practical training 2,500 - 4,000 PLN ~ EUR570 - EUR900 **State Theory Exam (WORD)** Official computer-based exam cost 50 PLN ~ EUR11 **State Practical Exam (WORD)** Official driving test cost 200 PLN ~ EUR45 **License Issuance Fee** Plastic card production fee 100.50 PLN ~ EUR23 **Overall Estimated Cost Complete Process 3,030 - 4,600 PLN ~ EUR680 - EUR1,035**

Keep in mind: Prices may vary depending upon the city, inflation, and whether the applicant requires additional driving lessons.

Exchanging a Foreign Driving License in Poland

For people who currently hold a driving license released outside of Poland, the procedure may be much kartaxpresspoland.com easier. Depending upon the providing nation, a complete retake of examinations might not be necessary.

- **EU/EEA Licenses:** Drivers with a license issued by an EU or EEA member state can drive in Poland lawfully until their license ends. However, they can voluntarily exchange it for a Polish license without taking any

examinations.

- **Non-EU Licenses (Vienna Convention signatories):** Drivers from nations that signed the 1968 Vienna Convention on Road Traffic can generally exchange their license for a Polish one after showing residency, submitting translations, and paying the relevant costs, without requiring to pass state examinations.
- **Other Countries:** Drivers from nations outside the Vienna Convention need to normally pass the theoretical state exam (*Teoria*) and in some cases finish an official procedure before a Polish license is approved.

Important Checklist for the Application Day

To ensure a smooth check out to the local office (*Urząd*), candidates need to prepare the following list:

- Valid passport or house card (*karta pobytu*).
- The PKK number offered by the office.
- Completed application type for issuing a driving license.
- Medical certificate confirming physical fitness to drive.
- One current picture (3.5 x 4.5 cm).
- Verification of state exam passes (released by WORD).
- Invoice of payment for the driving license card (approx. 100.50 PLN).

Last Thoughts

Making an application for a driving license in Poland requires perseverance, time, and financial investment, however the detailed system is transparent and well-organized. By preparing the medical documents early, securing a PKK number, and picking a reliable driving school, future motorists can successfully navigate the process and hit the open Polish roads with self-confidence.