

## Reciprocity Agreements and Underlying Authority

There are different sources of authority, including international treaties and state and federal laws, which govern the operation of commercial and non-commercial vehicles by persons licensed in foreign countries. The licenses of residents of foreign countries that are considered valid are listed below. An international driving permit is not required. For licenses that are not in English, an interpreter may be required to determine the license's validity.

**Courts and law enforcement should not seize and destroy foreign drivers' licenses pursuant to section 625g of the Michigan Vehicle Code.**

### 1943 Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic

Residents of countries that are parties to the 1943 Convention may drive in this country if they have a valid **non-commercial** or **commercial** driver's license issued by their country of residence or an authorized political subdivision of that country. These countries include:

Brazil	El Salvador	Nicaragua
Colombia	Honduras	Panama
Costa Rica	Mexico	Uruguay

### 1949 Convention on Road Traffic

Residents of countries that are parties to the 1949 Convention may drive in this country if they have a valid **non-commercial** driver's license issued by their country of residence. These countries include:

Albania	Central African Rep.	France	Italy
Algeria	Chile	Gambia	Jamaica
Argentina	China (Taiwan only)	Georgia	Japan
Australia	Congo	Ghana	Jordan
Austria	Congo Democratic Rep.	Greece	Korea
Bahamas	Cote d'Ivoire	Grenada	Kyrgyzstan
Bangladesh	Cuba	Guatemala	Laos
Barbados	Cyprus	Guyana	Lebanon
Belgium	Czech Rep.	Haiti	Lesotho
Belize	Denmark	Hong Kong	Luxembourg
Benin	Dominican Rep.	Hungary	Macao
Botswana	Ecuador	Iceland	Madagascar
Bulgaria	Egypt	India	Malawi
Cambodia	Fiji	Ireland	Malaysia
Canada	Finland	Israel	Mali

Malta	Poland	Spain	Turkey
Mauritius	Portugal	Sri Lanka	Uganda
Monaco	Romania	St. Lucia	Union of Soviet Socialist
Montenegro	Russian Federation	St. Vincent &	Socialist Republics
Morocco	Rwanda	the Grenadines	United Arab Emirates
Namibia	Samoa	Suriname	United Kingdom
Netherlands	San Marino	Swaziland	Vatican City
New Zealand	Senegal	Sweden	Venezuela
Niger	Serbia	Syrian Arab Rep.	Vietnam Rep.
Norway	Seychelles	Tanzania	Yugoslavia
Papua New Guinea	Sierra Leone	Thailand	Zambia
Paraguay	Singapore	Togo	Zimbabwe
Peru	Slovak Rep.	Trinidad & Tobago	
Philippines	South Africa	Tunisia	

#### Commercial Drivers' Licenses Issued by Canada and Mexico

If a driver has a valid commercial driver's license issued by Canada or Mexico, the license must be honored as required by federal law (see 49 USC 31301 *et seq.* and 49 CFR 383.23).

#### Special Reciprocity Agreements with France and Germany

Pursuant to MCL 257.302a(2) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, the Secretary of State has determined that the standards for licensing operators in France and Germany correspond substantially to those of the State of Michigan. Therefore, reciprocal driving privileges were extended to France, effective January 4, 1991, and to Germany, effective November 10, 1997. Persons holding valid driver licenses issued by France or Germany may operate passenger vehicles in Michigan on such licenses, if they are not receiving compensation for such operation. The privileges extended to France and Germany have not been withdrawn.

If you have any questions, please contact the Michigan Department of State at (888) SOS-MICH; (888) 767-6424.