International Driver’s Licenses and Reciprocity

International treaties, as well as state and federal laws, govern the operation of commercial and noncommercial vehicles by people licensed to drive by other countries. An individual may operate a noncommercial motor vehicle using a license issued by his or her home country. While operating a passenger vehicle in this state, nonresident drivers who hold a driver’s license issued by a country other than the United States must have in their immediate possession their valid license to operate a motor vehicle issued by that country and, if no English translation appears on the front or back of the license, one of the following:

- A valid international driving permit.
- A document containing a photo and an English translation that substantially corresponds to an international driving permit if the license to operate a motor vehicle is issued by a country that does not issue an international driving permit.

Courts and law enforcement officers should not seize and destroy foreign driver’s licenses pursuant to section 625g of the Michigan Vehicle Code.

1943 Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic

Residents of countries who are signatories to the 1943 Convention may drive in this country if they have a valid noncommercial or commercial driver’s license issued by a country listed below (or an authorized political subdivision of that country) in their immediate possession and, if no English translation appears on the front or back of the license, one of the following:

- A valid international driving permit.
- A document containing a photo and an English translation that substantially corresponds to an international driving permit if the license to operate a motor vehicle is issued by a country that does not issue an international driving permit.

These countries include:

Mexico    Honduras
Brazil    Nicaragua
Colombia  Panama
Costa Rica Uruguay
El Salvador

Commercial Driver Licenses issued by Canada and Mexico

If a driver has a valid Commercial Driver 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 Germany and the Republic of Korea

Pursuant to MCL 257.302a(4) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, the Secretary of State has determined that the standards for licensing operators in Germany and the Republic of Korea correspond substantially to those of the State of Michigan. Therefore, reciprocal driving privileges were extended to Germany, effective November 10, 1997, and to the Republic of Korea, effective February 14, 2012. Persons holding valid driver’s licenses issued by Germany or the Republic of Korea may operate passenger vehicles in Michigan on such licenses, if they are not receiving compensation for such operation. The privileges extended to Germany and Republic of Korea have not been withdrawn.

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

Page 1 (Cover)

[Name of Country]

International Motor Traffic

INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT

Convention on International Road Traffic of 19 September 1949

Issued at............................

Date of Issue..........................

[Seal or stamp of authority ]

[Signature or seal of authority or Signature or seal of the Association empowered by the authority]

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This permit is valid in the territory of all the Contracting States with the exception of the territory of the Contracting State where issued, for the period of one year from the date of issue, for the driving of vehicles included in the category or categories mentioned on the last page of this permit.

[Space reserved for a list of the Contracting States (optional)]

It is understood that this permit shall in no way affect the obligation of the holder to conform strictly to the laws and regulations relating to residence or to the exercise of a profession which are in force in each country through which he travels.
### Particulars concerning the Driver:

- **Surname 1**
- **Other names**
- **Place of birth**
- **Date of birth**
- **Permanent place of residence**

### Vehicles for which the permit is valid:

- **Motorcycles, with or without a sidecar, invalid carriages and three-wheeled motor vehicles with an unladen weight not exceeding 400 kg. (900 lbs.)**

### EXCLUSIONS

- **(countries)**
  - I
  - II
  - III
  - IV
  - V
  - VI
  - VII
  - VIII

### Signature of holder

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"Permissible maximum weight" of a vehicle means the weight of the vehicle and its maximum load when the vehicle is ready for the road.

"Maximum load" means the weight of the load declared permissible by the competent authority of the country of registration of the vehicle,

"Light trailers" shall be those of a permissible maximum weight not exceeding 750 kg. (1,650 lbs.).