

# Information on driving in the UK

**NHS**

Professionals

International



# Information on driving in the UK

This guide is designed to assist newly employed international healthcare professionals in navigating driving regulations in the United Kingdom (UK). It's crucial that you are fully informed about the legal obligations and the potential additional costs associated with driving in the UK, which may vary from your home country.

## Driving in UK

- When driving in the UK, you are required to adhere to various legal obligations. Find out more here: [Legal obligations of drivers and riders - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/legal-obligations-of-drivers-and-riders)
- Driving in the UK requires compliance with certain legal requirements. These include having valid road tax, a Ministry of Transport test (MOT) (ensuring the vehicle meets road safety standards), and adequate insurance coverage, with the minimum being third-party insurance. These obligations will cost you various amounts and must be met annually. These are all compulsory for driving on UK roads.
- Information on taxing a vehicle can be found here: [Tax your vehicle - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tax-your-vehicle)
- Information on cost of taxing a vehicle can be found here: [Vehicle tax rates: Cars registered on or after 1 April 2017 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/vehicle-tax-rates-cars-registered-on-or-after-1-april-2017)
- Information on MOT can be found here: [Getting an MOT: When to get an MOT - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/getting-an-mot-when-to-get-an-mot)
- Information on insurance in UK can be found here: [Vehicle insurance: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/vehicle-insurance-overview)

## Which overseas driving licenses allow you to drive in the UK?

### EU countries:

- You are not required to convert to a UK driving license; you can drive using your current license
- Please verify your driving license to ensure it covers the category of vehicle you are driving in the UK
- Speak with your employer to confirm whether any restrictions apply to your current driving license for your new job

**You can drive on a full valid driving license for 12 months from when you become UK resident from the following locations:**

- Gibraltar
- Jersey
- Guernsey
- Isle of Man

As well as the following designated countries:

- Andorra
- Australia
- Barbados
- British Virgin Islands
- Canada
- Cayman Islands
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Gibraltar
- Hong Kong
- Japan
- Monaco
- New Zealand
- Republic of Korea
- Republic of North Macedonia
- Singapore
- South Africa
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- Zimbabwe

After 12 months, you will need to exchange your license. Please note, there may be a cost associated and this may vary depending on country and type of license you hold.

## Other countries

- Once you have become a UK resident, you can your current driving licence for 12 months. After 12 months, you will need to [apply for a provisional licence](#) and pass the [theory](#) and [practical](#) driving tests

Find out more here <https://www.gov.uk/driving-nongb-licence>

## Learning to drive in the UK

- In the UK, the process of learning to drive involves gaining a provisional license and then enlisting the guidance of a driving instructor to acquire driving skills
- The cost of a provisional driving license cost varies from circa £34.00 to £43.00
- To obtain a license, you must pass a theory and practical driving test. Find out more here: [Learn to drive a car: step by step - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- You must use a qualified driving instructor when learning to drive. Find out more here: [Find driving schools, lessons and instructors - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). Costs can vary from circa £40.00 to £45.00 per hour
- The cost of a theory test varies from circa £23.00. We recommend visiting the UK government's website for practice theory tests here: [Take a practice theory test - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- The cost of a practical test varies from circa £62.00 to £75.00. Find out more here [Book your driving test - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)