

## International Drivers' Licenses and Reciprocity Update

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 signatories 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:

Mexico	Honduras
Brazil	Nicaragua
Colombia	Panama
Costa Rica	Uruguay
El Salvador	

### 1949 Convention on Road Traffic

Residents of countries that are signatories 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.	Gambia	Japan
Algeria	Chile	Georgia	Jordan
Argentina	China (Taiwan)	Ghana	Korea
Australia	Congo	Greece	Kyrgyz Rep.
Austria	Congo Democratic Rep.	Grenada	Laos
Bahamas	Cote d'Ivoire	Guatemala	Lebanon
Bangladesh	Cuba	Guyana	Lesotho
Barbados	Cyprus	Haiti	Luxembourg
Belgium	Czech Rep.	Hong Kong	Macao
Belize	Denmark	Hungary	Madagascar
Benin	Dominican Rep.	Iceland	Malawi
Botswana	Ecuador	India	Malaysia
Bulgaria	Egypt	Ireland	Mali
Burkina Faso	Fiji	Israel	Malta
Cambodia	Finland	Italy	Mauritius
Canada	France	Jamaica	Monaco

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

### 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 Germany and the Republic of Korea

Pursuant to MCL 257.302a(2) 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 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.