

75 California DMV Written Test Questions -2025



General Instructions for the California DMV Written Test

1. **Test Format:** The California DMV written test consists of 36 questions, and you must answer at least 30 correctly to pass (83% passing score).
2. **Study Material:** Use the **California Driver Handbook** as your primary study guide. All test questions are based on information from this handbook.
3. **Test Topics:** The test covers road signs, traffic laws, safe driving practices, and California-specific rules.
4. **Time Limit:** There is no time limit for the test, so take your time to read each question carefully.
5. **Retakes:** If you fail, you can retake the test (up to 3 attempts). After 3 failures, you may need to pay a re-examination fee.
6. **Language Options:** The test is available in multiple languages. If you need assistance, ask the DMV staff.

Important Points to Note

- **Focus on Road Signs:** Approximately 12 questions on the test are about road signs. Memorize the shapes, colors, and meanings of all signs.
 - **Alcohol and Drugs:** California has strict laws regarding driving under the influence (DUI). Be familiar with the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limits and penalties.
 - **Right-of-Way Rules:** Know who has the right-of-way in various situations, such as at intersections, roundabouts, and when merging.
 - **Speed Limits:** Be aware of California's basic speed law and specific speed limits for different zones (e.g., school zones, residential areas).
 - **Special Rules for Bicycles and Motorcycles:** California has specific laws for sharing the road with bicycles and motorcycles.
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75 Original California DMV Written Test Questions

Road Signs (12 Questions)

1. **Q:** What does a yellow diamond-shaped sign with a black cross indicate?
A: A crossroad ahead.
2. **Q:** What does a red octagonal sign mean?
A: Stop.
3. **Q:** What does a white rectangular sign with black letters "RR" indicate?
A: A railroad crossing ahead.
4. **Q:** What does a yellow pennant-shaped sign indicate?
A: A no-passing zone.
5. **Q:** What does a green sign with white lettering indicate?
A: Directions or distances to destinations.

6. **Q:** What does a blue sign with a white "H" indicate?
A: A hospital nearby.
7. **Q:** What does a yellow sign with a black arrow curving to the right indicate?
A: The road curves to the right.
8. **Q:** What does a white sign with a black arrow pointing left and a red circle with a slash mean?
A: No left turn allowed.
9. **Q:** What does a yellow sign with two children walking indicate?
A: A school zone or crossing ahead.
10. **Q:** What does a red triangle sign with a white border indicate?
A: Yield.
11. **Q:** What does a yellow sign with a black squiggly arrow indicate?
A: A winding road ahead.
12. **Q:** What does a white sign with a black arrow pointing up and a red circle with a slash mean?
A: No U-turn allowed.
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Traffic Laws (20 Questions)

13. **Q:** What is the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for drivers aged 21 and over in California?
A: 0.08%.

14. **Q:** What is the BAC limit for drivers under 21 in California?
A: 0.01%.
15. **Q:** What is the speed limit in a school zone when children are present?
A: 25 mph.
16. **Q:** What is the speed limit in a residential area unless otherwise posted?
A: 25 mph.
17. **Q:** What is the speed limit on a two-lane undivided highway unless otherwise posted?
A: 55 mph.
18. **Q:** What is the speed limit in a business or residential district unless otherwise posted?
A: 25 mph.
19. **Q:** What is the penalty for a first-time DUI conviction in California?
A: Fines, license suspension, and possible jail time.
20. **Q:** How far must you stay behind an emergency vehicle with flashing lights?
A: At least 300 feet.
21. **Q:** When must you use your headlights in California?
A: From 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise, or when visibility is less than 1,000 feet.

22. **Q:** What is the minimum following distance in good weather conditions?

A: 3 seconds.

23. **Q:** What is the minimum following distance in bad weather conditions?

A: 4 seconds or more.

24. **Q:** When must you yield to a pedestrian?

A: Always, especially at crosswalks and intersections.

25. **Q:** What should you do when approaching a flashing yellow traffic light?

A: Slow down and proceed with caution.

26. **Q:** What should you do when approaching a flashing red traffic light?

A: Stop, then proceed when safe.

27. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for child passengers under 8 years old?

A: They must be secured in a car seat or booster seat.

28. **Q:** What is the penalty for texting while driving in California?

A: A fine and a point on your driving record.

29. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for wearing seat belts in California?

A: All passengers must wear seat belts.

30. **Q:** What should you do if you miss your exit on a freeway?
A: Continue to the next exit.
31. **Q:** What is the rule for turning right on red in California?
A: You may turn right after coming to a complete stop, unless a sign prohibits it.
32. **Q:** What is the rule for turning left on red in California?
A: You may turn left on red only from a one-way street onto another one-way street.
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Safe Driving Practices (20 Questions)

33. **Q:** What should you do if your vehicle starts to skid?
A: Take your foot off the gas, steer in the direction you want to go, and avoid braking.
34. **Q:** What should you do if your brakes fail?
A: Pump the brakes, downshift, and use the parking brake if necessary.
35. **Q:** What is the proper way to merge onto a freeway?
A: Use the acceleration lane to match the speed of traffic and merge smoothly.
36. **Q:** What should you do if you encounter a large animal on the road?
A: Slow down and avoid swerving, as it may cause a loss of control.

37. **Q:** What should you do if you experience a tire blowout?
 A: Hold the steering wheel firmly, ease off the gas, and pull over safely.
38. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving in fog?
 A: Use low-beam headlights and reduce speed.
39. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving in heavy rain?
 A: Turn on your headlights, reduce speed, and increase following distance.
40. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving in snow or ice?
 A: Drive slowly, avoid sudden movements, and use chains if required.
41. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving at night?
 A: Use high beams when there is no oncoming traffic and reduce speed.
42. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving in a construction zone?
 A: Slow down, follow posted signs, and be prepared for workers and equipment.
43. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a school bus with flashing red lights?
 A: Stop and wait until the lights stop flashing.
44. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a pedestrian crossing?
 A: Yield to pedestrians and be prepared to stop.
45. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a bicycle lane?
 A: Check for bicycles before turning or merging.

46. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a railroad crossing?

A: Stop if lights are flashing or gates are down.

47. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near an emergency vehicle with flashing lights?

A: Pull over to the right and stop.

48. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a funeral procession?

A: Yield the right-of-way and do not cut through the procession.

49. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a slow-moving vehicle?

A: Pass only when it is safe and legal to do so.

50. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a large truck?

A: Avoid driving in the truck's blind spots and give it plenty of space.

51. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a motorcycle?

A: Give the motorcycle plenty of space and check your blind spots.

52. **Q:** What should you do if you are driving near a horse and rider?

A: Slow down and give them plenty of space.

California-Specific Rules (23 Questions)

53. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving in California?

A: Hands-free devices are required for all drivers.

54. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for drivers under 18?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.

55. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for commercial drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

56. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for school bus drivers?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.

57. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for emergency vehicle drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

58. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for public transit drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

59. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for taxi drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

60. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for limousine drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

61. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for ride-sharing drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

62. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for delivery drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

63. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for truck drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

64. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for bus drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

65. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for van drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

66. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for RV drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

67. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for motorcycle drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

68. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for scooter drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

69. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for moped drivers?

A: Hands-free devices are required.

70. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for bicycle riders?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.

71. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for skateboarders?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.

72. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for rollerbladers?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.

73. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for pedestrians?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.

74. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for joggers?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.

75. **Q:** What is the legal requirement for using a cell phone while driving for walkers?

A: No cell phone use, even hands-free.