

CHAPTER 7410
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DRIVER AND VEHICLE SERVICES DIVISION
DRIVER LICENSES AND MOTOR VEHICLE
RECORDS

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7410.0100 DEFINITIONS.

Subpart 1. **Scope.** For the purposes of parts 7410.0100 to 7410.0600, the following terms have the meaning given them.

Subp. 2. **Driver's license and motor vehicle registration records.** "Driver's license and motor vehicle registration records" includes:

A. all applications for drivers' licenses, instruction permits, and Minnesota identification cards;

B. all applications for motor vehicle certificates of title; and

C. all applications for motor vehicle registration plates.

Subp. 3. **Full name.** "Full name" means the first name, middle name, and surname.

Subp. 4. **First name.** "First name" means the name given at birth that appears first in a person's full name.

Subp. 5. **Middle name.** "Middle name" means the name given at birth between a person's first name and surname.

Subp. 6. **Surname.** "Surname" means the last name borne in common by members of a family.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.06*

7410.0200 PURPOSE AND SCOPE.

Subpart 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of parts 7410.0100 to 7410.0600 is to provide general standards for the administration of the laws requiring that full names appear on driver licenses and motor vehicle records and to provide standards for subsequent name changes on these documents.

Subp. 2. **Scope.** The scope of parts 7410.0100 to 7410.0600 is intended to be confined within the framework and to be consistent with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapters 168, 168A and 171.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.06*

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7410.0300 NAME, NAME COMBINATION, LENGTH.

Subpart 1. **Full name required.** The full name is required on driver licenses and motor vehicle records. It is comprised of the first name, one or more middle names, and one or more surnames.

Subp. 2. **Length of full name.** The full name may not exceed 28 characters and spaces. If the full name exceeds 28 characters and spaces, it will be abbreviated by the Department of Public Safety in a manner that will permit proper record storage and printing on the record.

Subp. 3. **Name combinations.** If a person has more than one middle name or more than one surname, they may be used in combination separated by a hyphen. If only one name in a combination is to be used on the document, the name used must be the first name of the combination name.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.06*

7410.0400 DOCUMENTATION OF PROOF OF NAME AND IDENTITY.

Subpart 1. **In General.** At the time of application for a driver's license or motor vehicle registration record, the applicant shall present a Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota identification card if either one of these has been issued to the applicant. If the applicant possesses a driver's license, chauffeur's license, or instruction permit from another jurisdiction, it must be surrendered.

Subp. 2. **Other documentation.** If the applicant cannot supply the documentation specified in subpart 1, one of the following will be accepted as proof of name and identity:

- A. an original or certified copy of the birth certificate of the applicant;
- B. an identification card issued to the applicant by the United States Armed Services;
- C. an alien identification card form 194 or a passport issued to the applicant if it meets the full name requirement specified in part 7410.0300;
- D. a certificate of motor vehicle title or registration issued to the applicant by another jurisdiction if it meets the full name requirement specified in part 7410.0300;
- E. a certified school record of the applicant;
- F. a baptismal record of the applicant; or
- G. confirmation of the name and identity of an applicant under 19 years of age by a parent, spouse, or guardian who must accompany the applicant and furnish proof of his or her name and identity as provided in items A to F or subpart 1.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.06*

7410.0500 DOCUMENTATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME ON DRIVER'S LICENSE OR MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND TITLE APPLICATION RECORDS.

Subpart 1. **In General.** When a change of name is required by law or requested by an applicant, the documentation in subparts 2 and 3 is required.

Subp. 2. **Specific documentation.** If the applicant is required by law or desires to change his or her surname, add an additional middle name or surname, or change any name, the applicant shall supply the most appropriate document from the following:

- A. applicant's certificate of marriage or a certified copy;
- B. applicant's marriage license or certified copy;
- C. a certified copy of a court order;
- D. a certified copy of a divorce decree or dissolution of marriage granted the applicant that specifies the name changes requested; or
- E. a certified copy of naturalization papers issued to the applicant.

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Subp. 3. **Surname in place of middle name.** After December 31, 1982, an applicant may use the applicant's surname prior to marriage on the driver's license in place of the middle name. The following is acceptable as proof of that name:

- A. an original or certified copy of the applicant's birth certificate;
- B. the baptismal record of the applicant; or
- C. a driver's license or instruction permit of the applicant showing the surname of the applicant prior to marriage.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.06*

7410.0600 VARIANCES.

Subpart 1. **Commissioner may grant.** The commissioner of public safety may grant variances from part 7410.0400.

Subp. 2. **Application for variance.** If a person is unable to comply with the provisions and requirements of part 7410.0400, he or she may make written application to the commissioner of public safety or his designee for a variance.

Subp. 3. **Documentation.** A person applying for a variance must submit written documentation of the reasons why a variance should be granted, including the reasons the required documents are not available. The applicant must provide additional information regarding his or her name and identity, such as names of relatives, date and place of birth, place of residence, social security number, military service information, and any arrest information, to aid the commissioner in verifying the applicant's identity.

Subp. 4. **Review.** The commissioner of public safety or his designee shall review the request for the variance. In making a decision to grant or deny the variance, the commissioner or his designee shall consider the following:

- A. the availability of the required documents;
- B. the degree of hardship placed on the applicant;
- C. the effect of granting the variance on the public;
- D. the effect of granting the variance on the integrity of the record system; and
- E. the trustworthiness of the information supplied by the applicant regarding his or her name and identity.

Subp. 5. **Conditions for granting.** The commissioner shall grant the variance if all of the following conditions are present:

- A. the documents required by part 7410.0400 are either not reasonably available or do not exist;
- B. compliance with part 7410.0400 would cause an undue hardship for the applicant;
- C. granting the variance will have no adverse effect on the public;
- D. granting the variance will not jeopardize the integrity of the record system; and
- E. the applicant has established his name and identity by trustworthy evidence and documentation.

Subp. 6. **Decision.** The commissioner of public safety or his designee shall grant or deny the request for the variance within 30 days of receipt of the request. The person shall be notified of the decision by mail within the 30-day period.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.06*

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PHOTOGRAPH REQUIREMENT

7410.1800 DRIVER'S LICENSE PHOTOGRAPH.

Subpart 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this part is to provide for a method of identification on a driver's license in lieu of a photograph for persons with religious objections to being photographed.

Subp. 2. **Scope.** The scope of this part is intended to be consistent with Minnesota Statutes 1971, section 171.071.

Subp. 3. **Issuance of driver license without photograph.** Procedures for issuing a driver's license without a photograph are:

A. Any person having religious objections to being photographed and to the use of a photograph as a means of identification may apply to the director of motor vehicle service for issuance of a driver license valid without photograph.

B. In order to qualify for a driver license valid without photograph, an applicant must present to the motor vehicle services director a signed certificate or statement that the taking of a photograph and its use as identification violates the tenets and beliefs of his religion. The certificate or statement must accompany the regular application for driver license or renewal of license.

Subp. 4. **Specifications for driver's license valid without photograph.** The driver license issued to qualified applicants having religious objections to the use of a photograph shall be the same as the classified photo license, except, in the space normally occupied by the photograph of the licensee, the following shall appear:

VALID WITHOUT
PHOTO IN
COMPLIANCE WITH
Minnesota Statutes,
section 171.071
AND Minnesota Rules,
part 7410.1800

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.071*

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL QUALIFICATIONS

7410.2100 DEFINITION OF GOOD CAUSE TO BELIEVE.

When used in parts 7410.2100 to 7410.3000, the following phrase shall have the following meaning: "Good cause to believe" means grounds put forth in good faith which are not arbitrary, irrational, unreasonable, or irrelevant and which are based on at least one of the following sources:

- A. written information from an identified person;
- B. facts supplied by the driver or applicant; or
- C. facts of which the commissioner or his employees or agents have personal knowledge.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

7410.2200 PURPOSE.

Parts 7410.2100 to 7410.3000 set out general standards for effective administration of the driver licensing statutes relating to the issuance, restriction, or denial of driving privileges with respect to persons having physical or mental disabilities under Minnesota Statutes, sections 171.04, 171.13, and 171.14.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

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7410.2300 SCOPE.

Parts 7410.2100 to 7410.3000 are intended to be confined within the framework of, and consistent with, the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 171.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

7410.2400 VISION.

Subpart 1. In general. Every applicant shall submit to a vision screening or examination. The screening device, designed to screen 20/40 or better corrected vision, shall be of a type accepted by the American Medical Association. The purpose of the vision screening is:

A. to screen each applicant to guarantee that those individuals with substandard vision are required to take the necessary steps required to achieve the best vision possible; and

B. to deny driving privileges to those whose vision is likely to interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicles in traffic.

Subp. 2. When corrective lenses not required. Except as otherwise provided herein, no corrective lenses will be required when the applicant:

A. scores 20/40 or better, with either one or both eyes, without corrective lenses;

B. has one eye, but scores 20/40 or better, without corrective lenses;

or
C. has the recommendation of an eye specialist that corrective lenses not be worn. In these cases, the commissioner shall either require the applicant to be examined further, or impose suitable restrictions upon his driving privileges or both.

Subp. 3. Corrective lens requirement. Corrective lenses shall be required in all cases when:

A. the applicant scores less than 20/40 with both eyes unassisted but scores 20/40 or better with corrective lenses;

B. the applicant submits a physician's statement, in a form as may be prescribed by the commissioner, indicating that the applicant scores 20/40 or better with either eye, or both eyes together, but where the physician recommends that the applicant wear corrective lenses; or

C. the applicant is blind in one eye and scores less than 20/40 with the other eye unassisted, but scores 20/40 or better with corrective lenses.

Subp. 4. Vision examinations. Any applicant shall be required to submit a vision report from a physician in a form as prescribed by the commissioner when:

A. the applicant disagrees with the results of the screening conducted by any driver examiner;

B. the applicant has cataracts;

C. the driver examiner is unable to determine the extent of the applicant's vision;

D. any court or police officer has recommended that the applicant's vision be examined;

E. the commissioner determines, in some other situation, when he has good cause to believe that an examination is warranted;

F. the applicant has strabismus; or

G. the applicant has double vision.

Subp. 5. Vision-restricted licenses. Applicants who score 20/50 or less corrected vision with either one usable eye or with two eyes shall, if otherwise eligible, be issued a restricted license to permit driving subject to the following restrictions.

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A. Speed restrictions.

20/50	55 miles per hour
20/60	50 miles per hour
20/70	45 miles per hour

When the applicant scores 20/80 to 20/100 corrected vision, the application will be referred to the chief evaluator who shall determine whether a restricted license can be issued and the kinds of restrictions which are necessary to ensure that the applicant does not pose an unreasonable safety risk to himself or others. When the applicant scores 20/100 or less corrected vision, or is known to be receiving assistance for the blind, all privileges shall be denied and any existing license cancelled under authority of Minnesota Statutes, sections 171.14 and 171.04, clause (9).

B. Restriction as to type of road. Any applicant subject to speed restrictions under item A may also be restricted to those roads having a maximum speed limit equal to the maximum speed limit imposed upon the applicant, if the commissioner determines that the restriction is necessary for the safety of the applicant and the public. Any person limited to a maximum speed of 45 m.p.h. or less shall be restricted from driving on any freeway, expressway, or limited access highway with a speed limit of more than 45 m.p.h.

C. Area restrictions. Any applicant who scores 20/50 or less corrected vision with both eyes may be restricted to driving within an area to be determined by the commissioner, if the commissioner determines that the restriction is necessary for the safety of the applicant and the public.

Subp. 6. **Other situations.** Any vision readings or problems not covered by the above general standards shall be referred to the chief evaluator, who shall determine whether a restricted license can be issued and the kinds of restrictions which are necessary to ensure that the applicant does not pose an unreasonable safety risk to himself or others.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

7410.2500 LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS OR VOLUNTARY CONTROL.

Subpart 1. **In general.** This part applies to all drivers and applicants for driving privileges who suffer from any paroxysmal disturbances of consciousness, including, but not limited to, epilepsy. Any person suffering from syncope of any cause, as well as any other type of periodic or episodic loss of consciousness or voluntary control, is included. This part applies regardless of whether the driver or applicant has an aura or warning of imminent seizure or attack or whether the driver or applicant has only had nocturnal attacks, and no exceptions shall be made for such drivers or applicants.

Subp. 2. **Physician's report.** When the commissioner has good cause to believe that a driver or applicant suffers from any of the periods of unconsciousness mentioned in subpart 1, a physician's report in such form as the commissioner may prescribe shall be required within 30 days or within such reasonable time that the person may require to obtain the report from the physician. This report shall include a sworn statement from the driver or applicant as to the date of his last period of unconsciousness.

Subp. 3. **Criteria for cancellation.** If this report is not filed, or, if upon review of the doctor's report the commissioner finds that the individual has suffered from periods of unconsciousness, with the last period of unconsciousness occurring within the last 12 months, all driving privileges shall be cancelled under the authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.14, and denied under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.04, clause (9). The person shall not be issued any driving privileges until the commissioner finds that the person is competent to drive safely.

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Subp. 4. **Criteria for reinstatement.** For reinstatement the commissioner shall require a satisfactory doctor's report and a satisfactory sworn statement from the person stating the date of the last period of unconsciousness and that it occurred at least 12 months previously.

Subp. 5. **Review of driver's condition.** Except as otherwise provided below, any driver suffering from medical conditions subject to this part shall be required to submit an annual physician's statement in the form prescribed by the commissioner, with respect to his medical history, present situation, and the prognosis with respect to the applicant's ability to operate a motor vehicle with safety to himself and others.

A. When the commissioner has good cause to doubt the stability of the driver's condition, the commissioner shall require physician's statements every six months, or at such shorter intervals as recommended by the reporting physician.

B. After three successive annual physician's statements indicating no episodes of loss of voluntary control, while on medication, the commissioner shall require a physician's report every four years, unless the physician recommends more frequent reports.

C. When the physician's statement indicates that an episode of loss of voluntary control resulted from a change or removal of medication on the physician's orders, the commissioner will not cancel the privilege to drive. However, a physician's statement shall be required every six months until the person has been episode-free for not less than one year.

D. When the physician reports that there has been only one such episode, the procedure shall be as indicated in item C.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

7410.2600 DIABETES.

Subpart 1. **In general.** When the commissioner has good cause to believe that a driver or applicant has diabetes, or has experienced a loss of voluntary control due to either insulin reaction or acidosis, a physician's report shall be required within 30 days or within such reasonable time that the person may require to obtain the report from the physician. If the physician's statement is not filed, or, if upon review of the report from the physician the commissioner finds that a person cannot drive safely, all driving privileges shall be cancelled under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.14, and denied under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.04, clause (9). The person shall not be issued any driving privileges until the commissioner finds that the person is competent to drive safely. For reinstatement, the commissioner shall require a satisfactory physician's report, demonstrating the individual is competent to drive safely.

Subp. 2. **Insulin control.** When the driver or applicant uses insulin to control diabetes, a physician's statement shall be required annually in the form prescribed by the commissioner. If the person remains free of episodes of loss of voluntary control due to insulin reaction or acidosis, for a period of five years, the physician's report shall be required every two years, unless the physician recommends more frequent reports. If the person remains episode-free for three of these two-year review periods, the physician's report shall be required every four years unless the physician recommends more frequent reports. If there is an episode of loss of voluntary control, the physician's report shall be required every six months, until the person has been episode-free for one year.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

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7410.2700 MENTAL ILLNESS OR DEFICIENCY.

Subpart 1. **Good cause.** For the purposes of this part, good cause to believe exists only if the commissioner has:

A. information that a person has operated a vehicle in an unsafe manner;

B. information that a person lacks judgment and coordination to safely operate a vehicle based on competent medical authority; or

C. facts supplied by the driver or applicant.

Subp. 2. **Loss of driving privilege.** When the commissioner has good cause to believe that a person is mentally ill, incompetent, or deficient, and that the mental illness, incompetency, or deficiency will affect the person in a manner to prevent him from exercising reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle while operating it upon the highways, a physician's statement, in such form as the commissioner may prescribe, shall be required within 30 days or in such reasonable time that a person may require to obtain a physician's statement. If the physician's statement is not filed, or, if upon review of the report from the physician the commissioner finds that a person cannot drive safely, all driving privileges shall be cancelled under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.14, and denied under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.04, clause (5) or (9). The person shall not be issued any driving privileges until the commissioner finds that the person is competent to drive safely.

Subp. 3. **Reinstatement.** For reinstatement, the commissioner shall require a satisfactory statement from any institution in which the person has been treated, from any treating physician, or from any competent authority demonstrating that the individual is competent to drive safely.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

7410.2800 MISCELLANEOUS PHYSICAL OR MENTAL CONDITIONS.

Subpart 1. **Requirements for physician's statement.** When the commissioner has good cause to believe that any of the situations listed in subpart 2 exist, and would adversely affect the driver's or applicant's ability to drive safely, a physician's statement in such form as the commissioner may prescribe shall be required within 30 days, or in such reasonable time that a person may require to obtain a physician's statement. If the physician's statement is not filed, or, if upon review of the statement the commissioner finds that the person cannot drive safely, all driving privileges shall be cancelled under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.13, subdivision 4, or Minnesota Statutes, section 171.14, and denied under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.04, clause (9). The person shall not be issued any driving privileges until the commissioner finds that the person is competent to drive safely.

Subp. 2. **Conditions requiring physician's statement** Situations covered by subpart 1 are:

A. use of any medication, whether or not prescribed;

B. any disease that raises reasonable doubts as to the person's ability to drive safely;

C. use of alcohol or controlled substances;

D. lack of physical control, such as that manifested by fainting or dizzy spells, blackouts, or periods of unconsciousness;

E. lack of physical endurance, such as that manifested by a person subject to fatigue, exhaustion, nervous tension, or adverse reaction to monotony;

F. abnormal reflexes, such as those manifested by persons suffering from cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, or similar conditions.

Subp. 3. **Requirements for driver's test.** When the commissioner has good cause to doubt the adequacy of the driver's or applicant's ability to safely operate a vehicle under the conditions listed in subpart 4, a driver's license

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examination shall be required within 30 days or within such reasonable time that a person may need to obtain a driver's test. If the driver's test is not satisfactorily completed within 30 days, or in such reasonable time as the person may require to obtain an examination, all driving privileges shall be cancelled under the authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.13, and denied under the authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 171.04. For reinstatement, the commissioner shall require proof of satisfactory completion of the driver's test.

Subp. 4. **Conditions requiring driver's test.** Conditions covered by subpart 3 are:

- A. driving procedures;
- B. judgment of space, time, and motion;
- C. physical strength to operate a vehicle's controls;
- D. physical condition to operate a vehicle.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

7410.2900 OTHER RESTRICTED LICENSES.

Subpart 1. **Issuance.** When a person has failed, after three attempts, to pass the driver's license examination, but can establish a genuine need to be able to drive, he may apply for a restricted license. All such applications shall be referred to the chief driver evaluator. The applicant must undergo examination by an examining supervisor, who shall determine the risk involved, and forward his/her written recommendations including, when applicable, suggested basic restrictions, to the chief driver examiner for forwarding to the chief driver evaluator. The chief driver evaluator shall review the entire record and determine whether any driving privileges may be authorized.

Subp. 2. **Cancellation.** Any restricted licenses issued shall be subject to cancellation whenever the commissioner determines that the person has violated the restrictions imposed. The commissioner may notify local law enforcement agencies of the issuance of any special restricted license and of the restrictions involved. Any report of a violation of the restrictions shall be referred to the chief driver evaluator for consideration. Any conviction indicating a violation of the restrictions shall result in cancellation. After cancellation no driving privileges may be allowed until the commissioner determines that the licensee can be trusted to operate within the restrictions imposed. Any reinstatement may be conditioned upon compliance with additional restrictions for such period as the commissioner may direct.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 171.04; 171.13; 171.14*

7410.3000 MEDICAL REVIEW BOARD.

Subpart 1. **Composition.** A medical review board shall be established for each of the various general types of physical and mental qualifications dealt with by parts 7410.2100 to 7410.3000. Each medical review board shall consist of one or more licensed physicians nominated by the state medical association. The physicians shall preferably be specialists in the area to which the problem relates.

Subp. 2. **Variance.** When a person disagrees with the determination of the commissioner, he may apply, in writing, for a variance from parts 7410.2100 to 7410.2900.

A variance from statutory standards shall not be granted. A variance, other than from statutory standards, shall be granted to any person who establishes, under the individual circumstances in that person's case, that the person can operate a motor vehicle safely, with reasonable and ordinary control, and without posing a danger inimical to public safety or welfare.

Any applicant applying for a variance shall have his treating physician or physicians provide the commissioner with a complete medical history relating to the condition in question, together with good medical reasons why a variance should be granted. The commissioner shall then forward to the appropriate

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medical review board all information submitted by the applicant together with the commissioner's records relating to the matter. Each physician on the review board shall review the file and make his recommendation to the chairman of the review board, who shall communicate the recommendation of the board, whether unanimous or divided, to the commissioner.

Upon receipt of the recommendation of the review board, the commissioner shall reconsider the application, take whatever action he then deems appropriate, and inform the driver or the applicant of his decision and of the reasons for the decision. This decision shall be reached and the applicant informed of the decision within 60 days of the request for a variance.

Statutory Authority: *MS s.171.04; 171.13; 171.14*