

FAQ for Driving a Car in Ireland

A guide for Ukrainian drivers

22 April 2022



The information included in this document is correct at the time of printing but is subject to change so please visit www.rsa.ie for the latest information.



Driving licences

Can I drive on my Ukrainian driver licence in Ireland?

No. A Ukraine licence is not valid to drive in Ireland. However, under Irish law you can exchange your Ukraine car licence for an Irish one. The Irish licence will allow you to drive here in Ireland for up to one year.

How do I exchange my Ukraine driver licence for an Irish one?

You must have the Ukraine licence in your possession in order to be able to exchange it. You will have to complete a licence application at an NDLS Office. If you have a Ukraine licence and wish to exchange it you can make an appointment to attend an NDLS centre by clicking on this <https://www.ndls.ie/booking-service.html>.

If you have a particular query or need help please email ukrainellicence@ndls.ie and we will respond to you in due course.

As part of the application process you will have to surrender your Ukraine licence and this will be retained securely by the NDLS. This is normal as part of exchanging any driving licence for an Irish one. If you leave the State to return to Ukraine, the Ukraine licence can be returned to you but you will have to surrender your Irish licence.

What are the main documents I will need to exchange my licence?

You don't have to complete an application form in advance as you will be asked for your personal details at the NDLS Office. You can view the questions you will be asked in the NDLS Office at-

https://www.ndls.ie/images/Documents/Forms/171315_NDLS_FULL_LICENCE_AppForm_JAN_2022_WEB_HR.pdf

When you attend the NDLS appointment you will need to present –

- Your original Ukraine licence (this will be retained by the NDLS)
- Your Personal Public Service Number (PPSN) - this will be provided to you by the Department of Employment and Social Protection
- Temporary Residence Certificate (TRC)
- Details of your address in Ireland
- A Medical Report - this will apply in some cases

I hold a Ukraine licence that allows me to drive vehicles other than a car, when I exchange my Ukraine licence will my Irish licence let me drive those vehicles in Ireland?

No. On exchange of your licence you will be given an Irish licence that will allow you to drive a car. Ireland and the Ukraine do not have an exchange agreement that covers vehicle other than cars.

Professional bus or truck drivers

Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC)

What are the rules for driving a bus or truck professionally in Ireland?

To drive a bus or truck professionally in Ireland you must:

- hold an EU driver's licence for the vehicle you wish to drive.
- hold a Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) card.

You may be entitled to Driver CPC based on the date you received your EU licence. If not, you may have to complete some training or exams to get a CPC card.

More detailed information on becoming a professional bus/truck driver in Ireland is available on <https://www.rsa.ie/services/professional-drivers/cpc>

I have an EU truck/bus licence and Driver CPC. Can I drive professionally in Ireland?

If you previously exchanged your Ukrainian licence for an EU licence and hold a CPC qualification, you can drive professionally in Ireland until the expiry date of your licence or CPC card (whichever expires first). After that time, you are not allowed to drive professionally.

Can I renew my EU licence and CPC qualification in Ireland?

This depends on the following:

- If you're resident here and hold an EU licence which you originally exchanged from a Ukrainian licence, this can't be renewed in Ireland.
- If you're resident here and hold an original EU licence (obtained your qualification within the EU) this licence can be renewed in Ireland. You can also complete training here to renew your driver CPC qualification.

Information about renewing your licence is available at:

www.rsa.ie/services/licensed-drivers/driving-licence/manage-your-licence

More information on CPC training and qualification is available on:

www.rsa.ie/services/professional-drivers/cpc

I hold an EU licence and completed CPC training in an EU country, will I get credit for this in Ireland?

If you completed all CPC training in another EU country, you need to apply for a CPC card from that country.

If you completed some training in an EU country, we will need to see evidence of this and will review your documents. For more information please visit:

www.rsa.ie/services/professional-drivers/cpc/foreign-cpc-drivers

I hold an EU licence and CPC qualification, but don't have proof. What should I do?

If you don't have a Driver CPC card or 'Code 95' on your licence, you must start the CPC qualification process here in Ireland.

For more information please visit: www.rsa.ie/services/professional-drivers

Where can I get more information about driver licences and driver CPC?

You will find more information about CPC on www.rsa.ie and you will find more information about driver licences at www.ndls.ie. You can also use the email address ukrainellicence@ndls.ie to raise a query in the webform and you will be contacted with a response in due course.

Using your car in Ireland

Can I drive my Ukrainian-registered car in Ireland?

Yes. However, there are certain vehicle importation rules you must follow, depending on how long you stay in Ireland. For further advice or contact details please visit www.revenue.ie

Do I need to pay any vehicle tax when I enter Ireland?

Ukrainians can apply for an exemption from this where a vehicle is temporarily brought into Ireland, known as a 'vehicle temporary exemption'. For further advice or contact details please visit www.revenue.ie

If you decide in the future to register your car in Ireland (with Irish registration plates) Revenue would also provide advice on your application.

Can I register my Ukrainian car in Ireland?

Yes, but it will need to pass a number of checks first. Further guidance is available on: www.citizensinformation.ie under 'Importing a vehicle into Ireland' or in www.revenue.ie.

Can I insure my Ukrainian car in Ireland?

You can find details about vehicle insurance at this [link](#)

Vehicle safety

Do I need to get my Ukrainian vehicle roadworthiness tested?

If your car has Ukrainian number plates you don't have to get it tested. It only becomes subject to testing when it is registered in Ireland. However, by law you must always keep your vehicle in a safe and roadworthy condition when used on Irish roads.

If I register my car in Ireland, do I have to get it roadworthiness tested?

Yes. Once you register your Ukrainian car in Ireland, it must be roadworthiness tested i.e. it must undergo a National Car Test (NCT). The test due date will be based on the date the car entered Ireland. Once your car reaches four years old, it will need to be tested. Once your vehicle is four years or more, you must apply for a NCT right away. Please contact the National Car Testing Service (NCTS) at 01 4135992 or book a test online at www.ncts.ie

We offer helpful advice and tips about vehicle care on www.rsa.ie under 'Car maintenance'.

I plan to buy a car in Ireland. Is there any advice available?

We offer helpful advice and tips on www.rsa.ie under 'Advice on buying a used car'.

Údaras Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre
Road Safety Authority

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MyRoadSafety.ie

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driver information, services,
tests, permits and licences.