



# Reciprocal Driver's License Agreement with Japan

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) has an agreement with Japan for the reciprocal exchange of driver's licenses. This document serves as a requirement guide for applicants and BMV associates.

## Criteria Overview

If an applicant over 18 years of age presents a Japan driver's license that is either active or expired for less than three years, the BMV will waive the vehicle skills examination. These applicants must still take and pass both the written knowledge exam and vision exam. Commercial Driver's License (CDL) applicants are required to complete and pass all examinations for the CDL they wish to obtain.

## Identification Requirements

All applicants are required to comply with [The REAL ID Act](#) by providing proper proof of Identity, Lawful Status, Social Security, and two proof of Indiana Residency documents. Additional information can be found on the BMV website at [www.in.gov/bmv](http://www.in.gov/bmv) > [Real ID Documentation Checklist](#).

## Japan Driver's License and Translation Requirements

All eligible applicants are required to show proof of their Japan driver's license. If the driver's license and other supporting documentation is not in English or does not have English sub-headings, the applicant must provide proper translation by:

- A certification letter from the Consulate-General of Japan (or designee) stating the applicant's driver's license is valid. This letter must be dated within three months of the date of the credential application made at the BMV. This document also serves as the English translation of the license for eligible applicants.
- Translation into English of other supporting documentation by the Consulate-General of Japan (or designee) or other Japanese governmental entities are also acceptable.

## Indiana BMV Associates

Please refer to the Standard Operating Procedures found in the Credential Manual or reach out to Branch Support if additional guidance is needed. Applicants from Japan should be processed as Out-of-Country applicants.

Version date: April 2024

DRIVEN TO SERVE  
INDIANA BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES