

New Jersey Permit Test Study Guide

Original practice questions based on the official New Jersey driver manual. Not real test questions.

Checked against New Jersey MVC pages (nj.gov/mvc) in October 2026. Rules and fees change: confirm anything important at nj.gov/mvc.

1. How the knowledge test works

- The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) calls the permit test the knowledge test. It is multiple choice and based on the New Jersey Driver Manual. The MVC does not publish the number of questions or the passing score on the pages we checked.
- Teens 16 and older in the special learner permit path usually take the knowledge test and a vision test at their driving school.
- Adults buy a \$10 examination permit at a driver testing center with their 6 Points of ID, then make an appointment for the knowledge test.
- The written test is offered in 13 languages: English, Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, Spanish, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Japanese, Hindi, Albanian and Turkish. Oral tests are offered in English and Spanish.
- If you fail, you can retest in 7 days.

2. Road signs by shape and color

Sign	Meaning
Octagon (8 sides), red	Stop. Come to a full stop. Only stop signs use this shape.
Triangle pointing down, red and white	Yield. Slow down, let traffic and pedestrians go first, stop if needed.
Diamond, yellow	Warning: a curve, hill, merge or other hazard ahead.
Diamond, orange	Work zone ahead. Slow down and watch for workers.
Pentagon (5 sides)	School zone or school crossing.
Pennant (sideways triangle), yellow	No passing zone begins. Posted on the left side of the road.
Round, yellow, with an X and RR	Railroad crossing ahead.
Vertical rectangle, white	Regulatory: a rule you must follow, such as a speed limit.
Horizontal rectangle, green / blue / brown	Guide signs: directions (green), motorist services (blue), parks and recreation (brown).

3. Numbers to know

Rule	What to remember
Stopped school bus with flashing red lights	Stop at least 25 feet away, in either direction on an undivided road.
School bus on the other side of a divided highway	You may pass at 10 mph or less. No stop is needed where a safety island or barrier separates you.
Blood alcohol, drivers 21 and older	0.08 or higher is drunk driving. You can be convicted below 0.08 if impaired.
Blood alcohol, drivers under 21	Any detectable amount, .01 or above, breaks the zero tolerance law.

Rule	What to remember
GDL hours for permit and probationary drivers under 21	No driving from 11:01 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.
Supervised practice, under 21	At least 50 hours, including 10 hours in darkness.
Supervising driver	Over 21, licensed at least 3 years, in the front seat.
Wait before the road test	6 months after you pass the knowledge test (3 months if you are over 21).
Retest after a failed knowledge test	7 days.
Examination permit fee	\$10.

4. GDL rules for permit and probationary drivers under 21

- Red reflective decals on the front and rear license plates (upper left corner) for permit and probationary drivers under 21.
- No hand-held or hands-free interactive wireless devices while driving.
- Passengers with a permit: the supervising driver, your parents, guardians or dependents, and one more passenger unless a parent or guardian is in the car.
- Seat belts for everyone in the car.
- You cannot get your license until you are 17.

5. Practice questions

Circle one answer for each. Answers are on the last page.

1. A red, eight-sided sign means:
A) Yield B) Stop C) Do not enter
2. A red and white triangle pointing down means:
A) Yield B) Stop C) Merge
3. A yellow diamond-shaped sign is a:
A) Guide sign B) Warning sign C) Regulatory sign
4. A five-sided sign marks:
A) A hospital B) A school zone or crossing C) A rest area
5. Orange signs are used for:
A) Work zones B) Parks C) Motorist services
6. A yellow pennant on the left side of the road means:
A) Yield ahead B) No passing zone C) Merge left
7. A round yellow sign with an X and RR means:
A) Road closed B) Railroad crossing ahead C) Rest area

8. A blue rectangular sign shows:

- A) A warning B) Motorist services C) A speed limit

9. A school bus is stopped with red lights flashing on an undivided road. You must:

- A) Stop at least 25 feet away B) Pass slowly on the left C) Stop only if behind it

10. You are on the opposite side of a divided highway from a stopped school bus with no barrier between you. You:

- A) Must stop B) May pass at 10 mph or less C) May pass at the speed limit

11. For drivers 21 and older, the legal blood alcohol limit is:

- A) 0.05 B) 0.08 C) 0.10

12. For drivers under 21, New Jersey's zero tolerance law applies at a BAC of:

- A) .01 or above B) .05 or above C) .08 or above

13. Permit and probationary drivers under 21 may not drive between:

- A) 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. B) 11:01 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. C) Midnight and 6 a.m.

14. Supervised practice for drivers under 21 must include at least:

- A) 30 hours, 5 at night B) 50 hours, 10 in darkness C) 60 hours, 15 at night

15. A supervising driver must be:

- A) 18 or older B) Over 21 with at least 3 years of licensed driving C) Any licensed adult

16. Permit drivers under 21 may carry how many passengers besides the supervisor and family, unless a parent or guardian is present?

- A) None B) One C) Two

17. Under New Jersey's GDL rules, a permit holder under 21 may:

- A) Use a hands-free phone B) Use no interactive wireless device C) Text at red lights

18. GDL decals go on:

- A) The rear window B) The front and rear license plates C) The windshield

19. Under 21, how long after passing the knowledge test can you take the road test?

- A) 1 month B) 3 months C) 6 months

20. If you fail the knowledge test, you can retest in:

- A) 1 day B) 7 days C) 30 days

Answers

1. B 2. A 3. B 4. B 5. A 6. B 7. B 8. B 9. A 10. B 11. B 12. A 13. B 14. B 15. B 16. B 17. B
18. B 19. C 20. B

Scored 18 or more? Take a full practice test next. Missed more? Reread those sections of the New Jersey Driver Manual (free at nj.gov/mvc), then try again.

Free New Jersey permit practice tests: dmvzone.org/new-jersey