

CBI Health Ontario Driver Rehabilitation Frequently Asked Questions

1. What happens during the on-road assessment?

The purpose of the on-road assessment is to determine if your medical condition is affecting your safety with driving. The assessment is approximately 45 minutes and takes place in an assessment vehicle with a dual brake. A Driving Instructor and an Occupational Therapist are present in the vehicle throughout the assessment. The Occupational Therapist is seated in the back seat to observe the client's responses. Depending on the clinic location and client's previous driving history, the assessment starts in a quiet low traffic area, progresses to busier roadways, and onto the highway or an 80km/hour.

The On-Road Evaluation assesses the following:

- Physical Ability and Endurance
- Cognitive/behavioral skills
- Response to the traffic environment
- Impact of your medical condition on driving competency

2. What happens during the in-clinic assessment?

During the in-clinical assessment, the Occupational Therapist conducts a subjective interview and gathers information about the clients' medical history and driving history. The Occupational Therapist will evaluate the clients' physical ability such as range of motion, strength, brake reaction time. The Occupational Therapist will also evaluate the client's cognitive abilities and visual perception such as their memory, attention, executive function which are required before the on-road assessment. The in-clinic assessment is approximately 80 minutes in length.

3. Are there pre-determined driving routes for the on-road assessment?

Yes, all routes are pre-determined. Each route is standardized and must consist of certain criteria that the Ministry of Transportation has provided (parking lot, certain number of right and left turns, lane changes, various speed zones, etc.)



4. Will I be required to drive on the highway?

Highway driving is included as part of the on-road assessment. Some clinics are not located near a major highway. The on-road assessment consists of an 80km/hour roadway.

5. What if there are no driver assessment centers near me and I am not familiar with the roads in that area?

During the on-road driving assessment the driving instructor provides directions to clients advising when to turn right and left, etc. Clients are given plenty of notice so that they can plan lane changes etc. in advance.

6. Is it a good idea to practice before the driving assessment?

If your driver's license has been suspended, you are not allowed to practice before the assessment since you do not have a valid license.

7. What documents do I need to bring to the assessment?

If applicable, please bring a valid driver's license and/or any correspondence received from the Ministry of Transportation, and a list of current medications. Please bring visual field studies, glasses or contact lenses if there is a condition on your driver's license. You are required to wear them for the on-road evaluation.

8. Can I bring food to the assessment?

Yes, it is recommended to bring snacks and/or something to drink. Many in-clinic assessments are booked in the morning and the on-road portion is usually booked in the afternoon.

9. Can I drive myself to the driving assessment?

If your license is valid at the time of the assessment and you fail the assessment, you will not be permitted to drive home. Alternate arrangements will have to be made for an individual to drive you and your vehicle home. It is recommended that you have a friend or family member drive you to the assessment.

10. Can I have a family member at the assessment with me because I am not confident in my ability to speak and understand English?

A family member can assist with translating for both the in-clinic and on-road portion if required. However, the family member or friend must not coach the client in any way.



11. I know what vehicle modifications I need; can I just have lessons?

An assessment with an Occupational Therapist is required to determine clients' limitations and what adaptive driving equipment is required to accommodate for clients' limitations. Once the specific adaptive driving equipment is determined, lessons are required to learn how to drive with the adaptive driving equipment. Furthermore, this will be followed by a re-assessment with an Occupational Therapist. The purpose of the re-assessment is to medically clear clients to drive with the adaptive equipment. A prescription will be provided to the client outlining their specific adaptive driving equipment needs.

12. What happens after the on-road assessment is complete?

Following the on-road assessment, the client is excused from the assessment vehicle. The Occupational Therapist and the driving instructor will discuss the client's performance during the on-road assessment and the outcome of the assessment. The Occupational Therapist meets with the client and family members (if applicable) to debrief during which the client is advised of the outcome of the assessment.

13. How long does it take the MTO to re-instate the licence?

Assessment results are faxed to the MTO. Upon receipt of the report, the MTO can take up to 30 business days to respond and re-instate the driver's license.

14. What happens if the Occupational Therapist recommends modifications?

Can I still drive before they are installed? Do I need lessons?

No, if it has been determined that your medical condition is impairing your ability to drive and adaptive driving equipment is required. It is recommended that you should not continue to drive. Lessons will be required to learn how to drive with the adaptive driving equipment in a multitude of driving environments such as low traffic, high traffic, and highways. This will be followed by a re-assessment with an Occupational Therapist.

15. What happens if I fail? Do you report it to the Ministry? What happens next?

If you have a valid driver's license at the time of the assessment and fail the assessment, a report will be sent to the Medical Review Department of the Ministry of Transportation. The report will advise them of the outcome of the assessment and recommendation that your license be suspended. You will be advised by the Occupational Therapist not to drive, and you will receive a letter from the Ministry of Transportation advising you of your license suspension.



16. What is the cost of the driving assessment?

\$750.00 for a Medical Functional Driving Assessment
\$900.00 for a Vision Waiver Functional Assessment
\$450.00 for a re-assessment after lessons have been completed
\$150.00 per medical driving lesson
\$175.00 per vision waiver driving lesson
(Lessons include the cost of the driving instructor and supervising Occupational Therapist)

17. What types of payment are accepted?

We process payments by credit card prior to finalizing your assessment location, date and time. A CBI Health credit card form will have to be signed by the card holder and returned. We accept a certified cheque payable to CBI Health from the bank and mailed to our office; 161-110 Greenbank Road, Nepean, ON K2H 5V6. Payment by cheque may cause a delay in scheduling your driving assessment due to mailing timelines.

18. Is the driving assessment with CBI Health covered by OHIP or the Ministry of Transportation?

No, you will be required to pay the assessment fee. The assessment fee is either \$750.00 or \$900.00 depending on the type of assessment. The type of assessment required can be found on the letter sent from the Ministry of Transportation. This payment can be made through credit card. CBI Health will email a receipt for the driving assessment payment.

19. What is a Functional Driving assessment and a Vision Waiver Assessment?

A functional assessment or driving evaluation is a full medical assessment and an on-road evaluation. It is conducted by an occupational therapist and a qualified driving instructor. The purpose of the functional driving assessment is to determine if a client's medical condition is impairing their driving abilities. Please see link to Ministry of Transportation site <https://files.ontario.ca/mto-fact-sheet-functional-assessments-en-2022-03-29.pdf>



20. What is a Vision Waiver Assessment?

The functional assessment for a vision waiver consists of a standardized in- clinic assessment and a standardized on-road test. It is conducted by an occupational therapist and a qualified driving instructor. The vision waiver driving assessment allows individuals who do not meet the visual field requirements the opportunity to demonstrate if they are able to compensate for their visual impairment and driving safely. Please see link to Ministry of Transportation site <https://files.ontario.ca/mto-fact-sheet-class-g-vision-waiver-en-2022-03-29.pdf>

21. I don not use email; how can I send in the required paperwork?

We can process paperwork sent by mail; however, this may cause a delay in scheduling your assessment due to varied mailing times. All documents should be mailed to 161-110 Greenbank Road, Nepean, ON, K2H 5V6. If you have a family member or close friend who uses email, we do recommend you ask them if you can use their email address. Email is the preferred method of correspondence (appointment dates and reports).

22. What locations do you provide driving assessments at?

CBI has approved Functional Assessment Centers (FACs) across the province of Ontario. Specifically, CBI conducts functional driving assessments in Ajax, Barrie, Belleville, Brantford, Burlington, Cambridge, Etobicoke, Guelph, Hamilton, Kitchener, London, Markham, Mississauga, Nepean, North York, Peterborough, Scarborough, and Windsor

23. Can I use my own car for the assessment?

No, the use of an assessment vehicle with dual brakes is required for safety purposes. CBI provides the assessment vehicle.

24. How do I know if I need a functional driving assessment or a Step 2 Vision Waiver Assessment?

Please refer to the letter mailed to you by the Ministry of Transportation (MTO).

25. My doctor said I need to get a driving assessment, but I am not sure if my licence is suspended yet or not. How can I find out?

Please refer to your doctor or contact the Ministry of Transportation (MTO). A functional driving assessment cannot take place without a valid license or a Temporary Driver's License (TDL). If your driver's license has been suspended, CBI will request a 1-day TDL for the purpose of conducting the functional driving assessment.



26. What if I need to cancel or reschedule?

A minimum of 72 business hour notice is required for any cancellation or rescheduling for a full refund. Cancellations/rescheduling notices with less than 72 hours' notice will be subject to a \$200.00 fee; the remaining balance will be refunded as necessary.

27. I have a date from the ministry saying when my driver's licence will be suspended, can I get an assessment booked prior to that?

Yes, you are required to complete a functional driving assessment prior to the date given and submit the results to the MTO. Otherwise, your driver's license will be suspended. Please give CBI as much notice as possible regarding your deadline from the MTO, and we will do our very best to provide you with an appointment prior to this date.

28. I don't have my letter from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO).

Please contact the MTO and request another copy to be sent to you. This letter contains important information telling you what type of driving assessment the Ministry requires.

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30. I don't know why my licence was suspended.

Please follow up with your doctor or refer to the letter from the Ministry of Transportation.

31. If I have done an assessment at another company and failed, can I have an assessment with CBI and what do need?

This will be determined on a case-by-case basis. A copy of the previous driving assessment report will be required.



32. What if CBI Health does not receive medical documents from my doctor prior to my assessment?

CBI will send clients documentation that must be completed and returned prior to the driving assessment being scheduled. Included in this documentation is consent for CBI Health to contact your physician or treatment team to obtain medical documentation to confirm your diagnosis/es. If there is a cost associated with this, it is the client's responsibility to make this payment to the medical professional providing the medical documents. Confirmation of diagnosis/es is required prior to an assessment being scheduled.

33. Why do you need to know my medical condition and request my medical documents from my doctor?

The purpose of the functional driving assessment is to determine the impact, if any, your medical condition is affecting your ability to drive. Therefore, the Occupational Therapist must know what medical condition(s) you have.

34. Why do you request a Temporary Drivers licence (TDL) for me?

If your driver's license has been suspended, a temporary driver's license (TDL) is required to conduct the on-road assessment. CBI will request and obtain a 1-day TDL on the clients' behalf.

35. How long can I use my temporary Drivers Licence?

The TDL for the assessment is only valid for one day and can only be used with a Driving Instructor or Occupational Therapist in the vehicle. If the Occupational Therapist requests a TDL for lessons, a 60-day or 90-day TDL may be requested. The TDL for Rehab is valid only with a driving instructor or Occupational Therapist in the vehicle.

36. Will the TDL be mailed to me or your office?

The temporary driver's license (TDL) for the assessment will be sent directly to CBI Health. However, after the assessment has taken place if the client is deemed a rehab candidate, and lessons are recommended. The temporary driver's license will be mailed to the client, and you will need to let CBI Health know once you have received it so lessons can be scheduled. The TDL is to be used only with a driving instructor from a Functional Assessment Centre or when the Occupational Therapist is present in the vehicle.