

Vision and Maryland Drivers

HCC Optometry / Ophthalmology Seminar 2015

Mary Anne Scottino M.D.
Associate Chief, Medical Advisory Board
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration



ONE WAY

NO PARKING
NO STOPPING
NO LEFT TURN



NO STOPPING

ONE WAY

AT&T

zoom-zoom

5C81

Objectives

At the end of this session the participant will be able to:

- 1) Describe the requirements for driver license renewal for ages 40 and over
- 2) Describe the features of the Modified Vision Program



For Drivers licensed in Maryland:

- ▶ Vision Specialist may use the MVA's Authorized Online Vision Certification program and electronically submit their vision examination results to the MVA via a secure website; or
- ▶ Vision Specialist may download and complete the MVA Vision form (DL-043A); or
- ▶ have a vision screening conducted at the MVA.

Driver's License Requirements

All MD driver's license applicants and renewals must meet certain vision requirements.



To qualify for an unrestricted driver's license, the State of Maryland requires drivers to have:

- ▶ Binocular vision
- ▶ Visual acuity (Snellen) of at least 20/40 in each eye
- ▶ A continuous field of vision of at least 140 degrees

Driver's License Requirements



Restricted licenses may be issued to persons having:

- ▶ Visual acuity of at least 20/70 in one or both eyes
- ▶ A continuous field of vision of at least 110 degrees, with at least 35 degrees lateral to the midline of each side
- ▶ *Note: These two requirements must be simultaneous.*
- ▶ *Example: B restriction– corrective lenses;
C restriction– outside mirrors*

Non– commercial Driver’s License Requirements



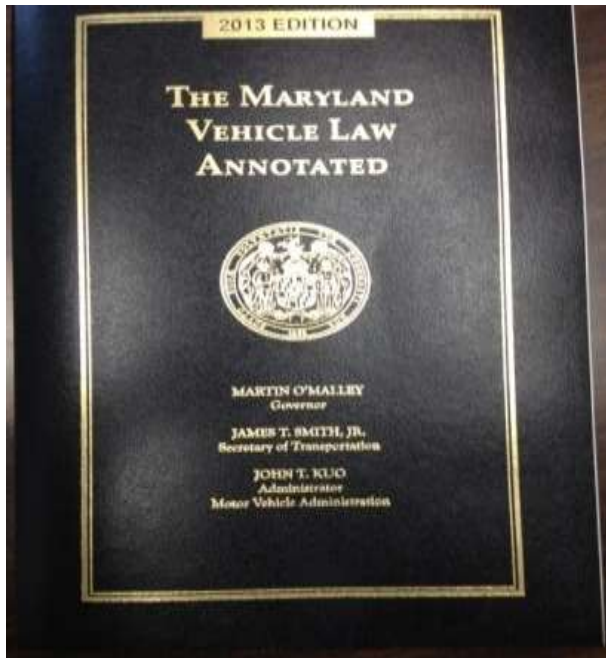
- ▶ **Binocular vision**
- ▶ **Visual acuity (Snellen) of at least 20/40 or better in each eye**
- ▶ **A field of vision of at least 70 degrees in each eye**
- ▶ **The ability to distinguish between red, green and amber colors**

Commercial Driver's License Requirements

Applicants for commercial driver licenses must meet both state and federal vision requirements.



Statutory Authority of the MAB §TR 16-118



Duties. 1 (c) (1) “The Administrator may refer to the Medical Advisory Board, for an advisory opinion, the case of any licensee or applicant for a license, if the Administrator has good cause to believe that the driving of a vehicle by him would be contrary to public safety.....

Paths to Driver Wellness & Medical Advisory Board



- **ALJ/court referral – includes DWI/DUI**
- **Police submit a Request for Re-examination**
- **Self report on application and at the time of renewal**
- **Report from a clinician**
- **Concerned citizen report (family, friend, neighbor...)**
- **Counter referrals**

Hypothetical


Request for Re-examination

In a shopping mall parking lot

“Mr. X was involved in a collision. He almost hit a pedestrian & hit three parked cars. He didn’t recall the incident and was confused.”

TRAY BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. Washington (301) 261-1147

STATE OF MARYLAND
MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION
REQUEST FOR RE-EXAMINATION OF DRIVER



Driver License Number _____

Date of Birth _____

Name _____
First Middle Last

Address _____
Street Address

City State Co. Zip Code

Violation _____

Summoned yes no (If Yes) Summons No _____

Date and Time of Incident _____ am
_____ pm

Location of Incident _____
Physical Defects: (be specific)

Summary: What action of the driver led you to the impression of the need for re-examination.

Certification of Officer
I certify pursuant to the provision of Section 12-100(b) Maryland Vehicle Law of the Annotated Code of Maryland under penalty of perjury that the statements made herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Officer's Signature _____ ID # _____
Approval of Commanding Officer Signature _____ Date _____
Law Enforcement Agency _____ District or Barrack _____

AJ-38 (6-80) Accepted, Rejected, by M.V.A.

Do you have any of the following conditions ?

- Cerebral Palsy
- Diabetes (insulin)
- Epilepsy
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Irregular heart rhythm or heart condition
- Stroke/TIA
- Alcohol dependence or abuse
- Drug dependence or abuse
- Loss of Limb(s)
- Traumatic brain injury
- Bipolar disorder
- Schizophrenic disorders
- Panic attack disorder
- LOC/ Seizure/Blackout
- Disorder which prevents a corrected minimum visual acuity of 20/70 or a field of vision of at least 110 degrees
- Parkinson's Disease
- Dementia (ex. Alzheimer's, mult-infarct)
- Sleep disorder(ex. Narcolepsy, sleep apnea)
- Autism

Clinician referral to the Maryland MVA is voluntary and is permitted in Maryland per Vehicular Law §16-119:

- (a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, together with the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty and the State Board of Examiners in Optometry, shall define:
 - (1) Disorders characterized by lapses of consciousness; and
 - (2) Disorders that result in a corrected visual acuity that fails to comply with the vision requirements of this subtitle.
- (b)
 - (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, any physician and any other person authorized to diagnose, detect, or treat disorders defined under subsection (a) of this section may report to the Medical Advisory Board and to the subject of the report, in writing, the full name, date of birth, and address of each individual 15 years old or older who has any such disorder.
 - (2) Unless authorized by the individual in writing, a report may not be made from information derived from the diagnosis or treatment of any individual on whom a confidential or privileged relationship is conferred by law.

Voluntary Physician Referral to the Maryland MVA

Note: This form is only to be used for a physician referral of a driver to the Maryland MVA.

Patient's Name: (last) _____ (first) _____ (MI) _____

Soundex (to be completed by MVA) _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Please check any of the medical condition(s) below for which you have a concern in relationship to your patient's driving and provide an explanation. Note: Currently, The Code of Maryland (COMAR) (11.17.03.02; .02-1) informs a licensee or applicant for a driver's license that he/she "shall notify the Administration if the licensee or applicant is diagnosed as having any of the following disorders."

- | | |
|--|---|
| Cerebral Palsy _____ | Panic Attack Disorder* _____ |
| Diabetes requiring insulin _____ | Impaired or loss of consciousness, fainting, blackout or seizure _____ |
| Epilepsy _____ | Disorder which prevents a corrected minimum visual acuity of 20/70 in at least one eye or binocular field of vision of at least 110 degrees _____ |
| Multiple Sclerosis _____ | Parkinson's Disease _____ |
| Muscular Dystrophy _____ | Dementia, for example, Alzheimer's Disease or multi-infarct dementia* _____ |
| Irregular heart rhythm or heart condition _____ | Sleep disorders, for example, narcolepsy or or sleep apnea _____ |
| Stroke, or Transient Ischemic Attack (mini stroke) _____ | Autism* _____ |
| Alcohol dependence or abuse* _____ | Other [Not in COMAR] _____ |
| Drug or substance abuse or dependence* _____ | |
| Loss of limb(s) _____ | |
| Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) _____ | |
| Bipolar Disorder _____ | |
| Schizophrenia _____ | |

*The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder, Fifth Edition (DSM-5[®]), May 2013 recommends the following diagnoses verbiage: Panic Disorder for Panic Attack Disorder; Neurocognitive Disorders for Dementia; Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) for Autism; Alcohol and Substance Use Disorders for Alcohol, Drug and Substance Abuse and Dependence.


[Please Note: Maryland Vehicular Law §16-119 allows physicians to report individuals with 1) disorders characterized by lapses of consciousness; and 2) disorders that result in a corrected visual acuity that fails to comply with the vision requirements. Physician reports are 1) confidential; 2) may be disclosed only on court order; and 3) may be used only to determine the qualifications of an individual to drive. A civil or criminal action may not be brought against a physician who makes a report under this section and who does not violate any confidential or privileged relationship conferred by law. [Notes: Physician-patient privilege. – Apart from the psychologist and psychiatrist privilege in §9-109 of the Courts Article, there is no physician-patient privilege in Maryland. 71 Op. Att'y Gen. 407 (1986). Disclosure of records. – Prohibitions of §4-301 (b) of the Health – General Article do not prevent physicians from reporting under this section. 71 Op. Att'y Gen. 407 (1986)]

On the following page, please provide the requested information regarding your patient: Thank you.

For more information, please call: 410-768-7000 (to speak with a customer agent).
 TTY for the hearing impaired: 1-800-492-4575. Visit our website at: www.MVA.Maryland.gov

Voluntary Physician Referral Form (DC- 220)

MVA Evaluation

- Client is assigned a nurse case manager in Driver Wellness and Safety.
 - Client submits the requested Medical information.
 - Case is reviewed by the Medical Advisory Board and a recommendation is rendered.
 - Nurse Case manager sends the client correspondence regarding the outcome of the medical review.
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Modified Visual Acuity Program

The Maryland MVA Modified Visual Acuity Program allows novice and currently licensed drivers with corrected visual acuity worse than 20/70 but not worse than 20/100, in one or both eyes, to obtain a restricted Maryland driver's license. The individual must also have a continuous field of vision of at least 110 degrees.

Modified Visual Acuity Program



Client submits a Modified Vision packet. The packet can be obtained at:

Maryland MVA
Driver Wellness and
Safety (DW&S) Division
6601 Ritchie Highway,
N.E.
Glen Burnie, MD 21062

For telephone questions:
Driver Wellness and Safety-
410-768-7153
MVA Customer Service
Center: 1-410-768-7000
TTY/Hearing Impaired: 1-
301-729-4563

Modified Visual Acuity Program



Client's that were previously licensed must successfully complete the following:

- ▶ **Clinical and behind-the-wheel evaluation at an authorized driver rehabilitation facility;**
- ▶ **20 hours of customized driver training at an authorized low vision driver training driving school;**
- ▶ **Standard Maryland driver's examination at the MVA's Glen Burnie Office**

Modified Visual Acuity Program



If client is a Novice driver (never had a driver's license):

- ▶ Clinical evaluation at an authorized rehabilitation facility;
- ▶ 10 hours of basic driver's education at an authorized low vision driver training driving school;
- ▶ Behind-the-wheel evaluation at an authorized rehabilitation facility;
- ▶ 20 hours of customized driver training at an authorized low vision driver training driving school;
- ▶ 60 hours of driving supervised by a parent, guardian or other supervising driver as required of all novice drivers; Pass MVA drive test

Modified Visual Acuity Program



Modified Visual Acuity Program

The following restrictions will be placed on the driver's license:

- ▶ outside mirrors each side
- ▶ daylight driving only restriction
- ▶ may only drive a vehicle weighing 10,000 pounds or less



Modified Visual Acuity Program

- ▶ After client is licensed through the Modified Vision Program, they will be requested to submit an annual Modified Vision Packet for medical review in order to maintain their license.
- ▶ The client may request removal of the Daylight Driving only restriction after meeting certain established criteria.
- ▶ The client is responsible for all costs associated with the driver rehabilitation center, low vision training driving school and the standard fees for a Maryland driver's license.



Modified Visual Field Program

The Maryland MVA Driver Wellness & Safety Modified Visual Field Program allows novice and currently licensed drivers who have a continuous field of vision of less than 110 degrees to pursue obtaining a restricted Maryland driver's license.

Modified Visual Field Program



A Medical Advisory Board Ophthalmologist will review the initial Modified Vision Packet. If the client has any other non-ophthalmologic medical condition(s) the case is also reviewed by another member of the Medical Advisory Board. If the client is approved, they may then begin the program.

Modified Visual Field Program



Client's that were previously licensed must successfully complete the following:

- ▶ **Clinical and behind-the-wheel evaluation at an authorized driver rehabilitation facility;**
- ▶ **Customized driver training at an authorized low vision driver training driving school;**
- ▶ **Standard Maryland driver's examination at the MVA's Glen Burnie Office**

Modified Visual Field Program



If client is a Novice driver:

- ▶ Clinical evaluation at an authorized rehabilitation facility;
- ▶ 10 hours of basic driver's education at an authorized low vision driver training driving school;
- ▶ Behind-the-wheel evaluation at an authorized rehabilitation facility;
- ▶ 20 hours of customized modified vision driver training at an authorized low vision driver training driving school;
- ▶ Then continue with standard licensing process.

Modified Visual Field Program



The following restrictions will be placed on all driver's license:

- ▶ outside mirrors each side
- ▶ daylight driving only restriction
- ▶ may only drive a vehicle weighing 10,000 pounds or less

Modified Visual Field Program



- ▶ After client is licensed through the Modified Vision Program, they will be requested to submit an annual Modified Vision Packet for medical review in order to maintain their license.
- ▶ The client is responsible for all costs associated with the driver rehabilitation center, low vision training driving school and the standard fees for a Maryland driver's license.

Modified Visual Field Program



- ▶ After client is licensed through the Modified Vision Program, they will be requested to submit an annual Modified Vision Packet for medical review in order to maintain their license.
- ▶ The client is responsible for all costs associated with the driver rehabilitation center, low vision training driving school and the standard fees for a Maryland driver's license.

Modified Visual Field Program





Mary Anne Scottino, MD
Associate Chief, Medical Advisory Board
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration
Glen Burnie, MD
msscottino@mdot.state.md.us
410-424-3097