

Foreign Driver's Licences

In certain cases, driver's licences from other countries are valid in Sweden. Here you can read about the rules for driver's licences that are issued in countries outside Sweden.

Validity of driver's licences from EEA countries in Sweden

A driver's licence that was issued in a country within the European Economic Area, the EEA, is valid in Sweden on certain conditions.

The EEA countries are: Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary and Austria.

The following requirements apply in order for a driver's licence from an EEA country to be valid in Sweden:

- The driver's licence must be valid in the country where it was issued.
- The driver's licence must not have been exchanged for a Swedish driver's licence.
- The owner must not also have a Swedish driver's licence that has been confiscated or revoked.

If you have a driver's licence from an EEA country which meets these requirements, then your licence is valid in Sweden. This applies regardless of if you are registered in Sweden and for how long you have been registered. In addition, you can also be approved as a private tutor for driving practice, if you meet the requirements.

Exchange of driver's licences from EEA countries

You may exchange your driver's licence from an EEA country for an equivalent Swedish driver's licence, provided that your driver's licence is valid in Sweden and you are a permanent resident here. You apply by completing and submitting the "Application for exchange of foreign driver's licence" (Ansökan om utbyte av utländskt körkort), which you can order from the Swedish Transport Agency's website, under the header 'Blanketter'. This page has not been translated.

Please observe that in order for you to use the online service 'Order form' (Beställ Blankett), the Swedish Transport Agency needs to be able to access your personal identity number or coordination number and your address in the Vehicle register.

You can also contact the Swedish Transport Agency's customer service for questions regarding driver's licences, telephone number +46 (0)771-81 81 81.

Validity of driver's licences from other countries in Sweden

The following requirements apply in order for driver's licences from other countries to be valid in Sweden:

- The driver's licence must be valid in the country it was issued.
- The owner must not have been registered in Sweden for more than one year.
- The driver's licence must not have been exchanged for a Swedish driver's licence.
- The owner must not also have a Swedish driver's licence that has been confiscated or revoked.

There are international agreements on how a driver's licence is to be designed (the Conventions on Road Traffic of 1949 and 1968). A driver's licence which has not been designed according to these rules, and which has not been issued in English, German or French, is only valid together with a certified translation into English, German, French, Swedish, Danish or Norwegian. If the driver's licence does not have a photograph, then it is only valid together with an identification document that has a photograph.

Exchange of driver's licences from countries outside the EEA

A driver's licence from a non-EEA country cannot be exchanged for a Swedish driver's licence.

However, if you have a driver's licence that was issued in Switzerland or Japan, it may be exchanged for an equivalent Swedish driver's licence. In order for the driver's licence to be valid in Sweden, you must meet the personal and medical requirements that apply for driver's licences in Sweden, and you must be a permanent resident here.

Please observe that if you wish to exchange a driver's licence that was issued in Switzerland or Japan for a Swedish driver's licence, you must do so within a year of being registered in Sweden.

Furthermore, if you apply for exchange of a driver's licence that was issued in Switzerland or Japan, you must also submit a health declaration with an eye examination certificate. If your application regards the driver's licence qualifications C, CE, D or DE, you must also submit a doctor's certificate. The forms for these certificates can be ordered via our online service 'Order form' (Beställ Blankett). This online service has not been translated.

Rules for all foreign driver's licences

Applications are sent to Transportstyrelsen, 701 97 Örebro, Sweden.
You will be charged a fee for your application, which is to be paid with a payment form from the Swedish Transport Agency.

You must be able to prove for how long you have had the driver's licence. You are not allowed to drive a car in Sweden until you have turned 18, even if you have the right to do so in the country where your driver's licence was issued.

The regulations for when a driver's licence can be confiscated by the police, or revoked by the Swedish Transport Agency, also apply for foreign driver's licences. In addition, all other important aspects of the Driver's Licence Act and the Driver's Licence Ordinance apply to foreign driver's licences.

Exemptions

According to the Driver's Licence Ordinance, in certain cases the Swedish Transport Agency may make exemptions, if this does not pose a risk to road safety.