

Medical Assessment to drive in the United States

Holders of Class 1, 2, 3 or 4B licence



Do you want to drive a vehicle that requires a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4B driver's licence in the United States?

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

- Class 1** Articulated heavy vehicle
- Class 2** Bus with a seating capacity for more than 24 passengers
- Class 3** Non-articulated heavy vehicle
- Class 4B** Minibus or bus with a seating capacity for 24 passengers or less

Frequency of medical assessments

If you drive these vehicles in the United States:

- Your medical condition must meet standards.
- You must submit a medical examination report:
 - when applying for a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4B licence;
 - at age 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45;
 - at age 48, 51, 54, 55*, 57, 60 and 63;
 - every year as of age 65 and older.

If you do not drive these vehicles in the United States:

- Your medical condition must meet standards.
- You must submit a medical examination report:
 - when applying for a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4B licence;
 - at age 45, 55, 60 and 65;
 - every two years thereafter.

Depending on your medical condition, these assessments could become more frequent if the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) deems it necessary.

* A medical assessment is also required in Québec at age 55 for holders of Class 1, 2, 3, 4A, 4B and 4C licences.

Condition W

This condition means that you are not authorized to drive a vehicle that requires a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4B licence in the United States since your medical condition does not meet American medical standards. You may however drive these vehicles in Canada.

Under what circumstances will condition W be recorded on your medical file?

- If you renounce your privilege to drive these vehicles in the United States.

OR

- If you have one of the following illnesses:
 - insulin-treated diabetes;
 - epilepsy;
 - moderate or total hearing loss*.

OR

- If you hold a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4B licence under the discretionary power of the SAAQ.

* You have a sense of hearing adequate to drive a vehicle if you:

- are able to first perceive a forced whispered voice in the better ear at not less than 1.52 m (5 feet) with or without the use of a hearing aid;

OR

- do not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz and 2,000 Hz, with or without a hearing aid, when tested by use of an audiometric device calibrated to the American National Standards Institute Z24.5-1951 standard.



The choice is yours

Do you want to renounce your privilege to drive a vehicle that requires a Class 1, 2, 3 or 4B licence in the United States?

You can inform the SAAQ in writing. Condition W will be recorded on your file.

Do you want to have condition W removed from your file?

Your medical condition must meet standards to be authorized to drive in the United States. You must submit the medical report(s) required to the SAAQ. Upon receipt of the necessary medical information, the SAAQ will study your file and advise you in writing of its decision.

Change in health condition

Any illness or impairment must be declared to the SAAQ within 30 days of the change in health condition. To do so, please fill out a medical declaration form, which you can obtain at an SAAQ service centre.

Service de l'évaluation médicale

Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec
Case postale 19500, succursale Terminus
Québec (Québec) G1K 8J5

Call centre

Québec (city and vicinity): 418 643-5506

From elsewhere (toll free): 1 800 561-2858
(Québec, Canada, United States)

www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca

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