Please call the hospital with any questions at (801) 536-3500. If you are unable to reach the hospital and you feel it is an emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest Emergency Room.

Questions about Transition? Contact your Care Coordinator:


Shriners Hospitals for Children
Intermountain
Fairfax Road at Virginia Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84103
801 – 536 – 3500
http://www.shrinershq.org/Hospitals/Salt_Lake_City/

Tips for Getting a Driver License for Teens and Young Adults with Disabilities
I would like to get a driver license, where should I start?

- Start by talking to your parents about your desire to get a driver license. You will need their permission and possibly their financial assistance to get your license. Have an open discussion about how your disability or medical condition may affect your ability to drive. Develop a plan for getting your license.

- Talk with your primary care provider and specialists about your desire to get a driver license. Ask for their feedback about how your disability or medical condition may affect your ability to drive safely. Ask your primary care provider ahead of time for his willingness to complete medical forms if necessary.

- Contact your local Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to find out your state’s rules and regulations for getting a driver license.

- If you are in high school, contact your school regarding driver education courses. If you are out of high school, check into private driving schools in your community.

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**Independent Living Center (ILC)**

Provides various services to increase the independence of individuals with disabilities and the accessibility of the communities in which they live.


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**Health South Rehabilitation Center**

8074 South 1300 East  
Sandy, UT 84094  
(801) 561-3400  
Provides on-the-road driving evaluations and specialized driver’s training sessions.

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**LDS Hospital**

8th Avenue and C Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84143  
(801) 408-1100  
Provides specialized driver training and rehabilitation. Program is temporary on hold. Call for updated information.
How do I get a driver license in the state of Utah?

- If you are under the age of 18, you will be required to hold a learner permit for 6 months before being able to apply for a license. If you are over the age of 18, you will not be required to hold the learner permit for the 6 month time period prior to applying for a license.

- To apply for a learner permit, you must be at least 15 years of age, pass a 50 question closed book knowledge test, pay a $15.00 learner permit fee, complete an application, pass all medical and vision screenings, provide 2 forms of identification, provide proof of Utah residency and have a parent or legal guardian sign the application. You do not have to be enrolled in a driver education course to qualify for a learner permit.

- Upon successful completion of the above requirements, the Driver License Division will issue you a one-year learner permit. This permit allows you to drive with an approved driving instructor, parent or legal guardian.

What resources are available in the Salt Lake Valley?

A-1 Driving School
Various locations throughout the valley.
All locations call (801) 943-2525
www.a-1drivingschool.com
Private driving school that can provide driver’s training in a vehicle adapted with hand controls or in the student’s own adapted vehicle.

Community Rehabilitation Services
Sugar House Health Center
1138 East Wilmington Avenue
Salt Lake City, Utah 84106
(801) 581-2221
http://uuhsc.utah.edu/REHABSVC/crs_mn.htm
Provides on-the-road driving evaluations and specialized driver’s training sessions.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
Provides various services to assist individuals with disabilities in obtaining employment and increasing their independence.
http://www.jan.wvu.edu/SBSES/VOC

Driver License Division (Utah)
(801) 965-4437
http://driverlicense.utah.gov
To apply for a driver license, you must be at least 16 years of age, must provide verification that you have completed an approved driver education course, verify that you have completed 40 hours of driving a motor vehicle, including at least 10 hours during night hours (if under age 18), complete vision, written and road tests, turn in completed medical questionnaire (if applicable), provide positive identification and pay applicable licensing fees.

If you are younger than 17 years of age, your driver license will carry some restrictions. Restrictions include not driving between the hours of 12:00am and 5:00am and not driving with any passenger who is not an immediate family member for the first 6 months. There are exceptions to these rules. Check with the Driver License Division for more information.

If you do not feel that your high school is providing reasonable accommodations, you may contact your State Department of Education for assistance.

Some private driving programs offer specialized services to people with disabilities. Some programs have access to a vehicle with hand controls and/or may provide instruction to you in your own adapted vehicle.

Some hospital and community based rehabilitation programs provide driver training sessions to individuals who need to learn to drive using adapted equipment. They may also offer driver training sessions to individuals who need more time on-the-road than a basic driver education course can provide.
What if I need adaptive equipment, such as hand controls, or specialized driver’s training in order to drive?

- Adaptive driving equipment can range from simple, fairly inexpensive hand controls to very sophisticated, costly computerized equipment. A driving evaluation can assess your need for such equipment and make recommendations on the type of equipment you should use.

- Contact your local Independent Living Center (ILC) or Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) regarding assistance with funding adaptive driving equipment. ILCs are sometimes able to fund adaptive equipment that helps an individual to be more independent. VR may fund adaptive driving equipment if it assists the individual in obtaining or maintaining employment.

- A public high school that offers driver education courses to the general student body must provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. Most schools have access to a vehicle with basic hand controls.

What is a “Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report” and how does it affect getting my license?

- All applicants for driver permits and licenses must complete a health questionnaire to show their functional ability to drive. If you have a significant health problem, you must have your healthcare professional complete a “Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report.”

- The Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report is a medical form describing your disability or medical condition and any limitations or restrictions it may impose on your ability to drive safely.

- Your primary care provider should complete the Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report. If you do not have a primary care provider, you will need to select one and meet with him about completing the evaluation. You should not ask your healthcare specialists to complete the evaluation, as they will likely only have information about one specific part of your condition and will not be able to complete the form in its entirety.
Some primary care providers may feel uncomfortable and refuse to complete the Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report. Oftentimes this is due to a misunderstanding of what the form implies. You may want to explain that this form does not grant you permission to drive, it simply gives the Driver License Division information about your disability or medical condition and how it may affect your ability to drive safely. The Driver License Division has the final responsibility for issuing the driver license.

If your primary care provider still feels uncomfortable completing the Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report, you may want to suggest that you undergo a driving evaluation. Your primary care provider can then utilize the information from the driving evaluation to assist him in completing the Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report.

Based upon a completed Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report, the Driver License Division may issue a license with or without limitations. The Driver License Division will also determine how often your medical condition needs to be reevaluated via an updated Functional Ability Evaluation Medical Report.

What is a driving evaluation and how do I obtain one?

- A driving evaluation is an assessment by an occupational therapist (or other healthcare professional) that assesses an individual’s reflexes, hand-eye coordination, comprehension of traffic rules and signals and overall ability to drive safely.

- A basic driving evaluation can be done before an individual obtains a driver permit or license to assess his capability to participate safely in a driver education course.

- A more thorough on-the-road driving evaluation can be done anytime after an individual has obtained a driver license. This evaluation assesses an individual’s ability to safely execute the driving skills they have already learned. This type of evaluation is often done after an individual has suffered an injury and wants to know whether or not he can still drive safely. This type of evaluation is also useful in easing the concerns of parents worried about their young adults’ ability to drive safely, even though they have passed their driving exam.

- Driving evaluations may be offered by hospital or community based rehabilitation programs. The cost for a driving evaluation can range from $125 - $200. Make sure you specify the type of driving evaluation you are in need of, as the cost of the two types of evaluations may differ.