

Comprehensive Driver Assessment

General Information

Below are answers to questions people often have about their driver assessment scheduled with Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute's Driver Assessment and Training department.

Call 612-775-2829 before your assessment with any questions or concerns.

Common Questions and Answers

Q: How long is the assessment?

A: After you check in, plan on 3 hours for the driver assessment. This includes:

- 90 minutes for the evaluator to talk with you about your medical history, driving history, and to do the clinical testing
- 5- to 10- minute break
- 45 to 60 minutes for the on-the-road driving
- 15 to 30 minutes for the evaluator to go over the results with you after you return to Courage Kenny.

During the clinical portion of the assessment, the driver rehabilitation specialist will evaluate you on many critical driving skills such as:

- your vision
- your physical abilities
- how quickly you are able to think and problem solve
- your focus and attention to details.

For the drive portion, the specialist will evaluate how:

- you operate the vehicle
- well you follow the rules of the road
- you react in a variety of traffic scenarios.

Q: Is there anything I can do to prepare for my driving assessment?

A: There is not a study guide for you to prepare for the assessment. It is a good idea to keep up-to-date on current rules of the road and defensive driving. It is important to know that the Courage Kenny driving assessment is different than the Minnesota written test.

If you have not driven in a while or if you have never driven, please tell your evaluator during the clinical part of your assessment. You do not need to practice driving before the assessment.

Q: Will I use a driving simulator?

A: No. You will use a vehicle for the on-the-road portion of your assessment.

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Q: Will I be driving my own vehicle?

A: No. You will be driving a Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute vehicle.

All vehicles are equipped with a brake pedal on the evaluator side which the staff member can use in case of an emergency.

Q: Will I receive instructions on how to use the Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute vehicle before starting my on-the-road assessment?

A: Yes. The evaluator will help you with the vehicle. He or she will:

- help you adjust the seat and mirrors
- show you where the speedometer and turn signals are located.

If needed, the evaluator can install adaptive equipment for you to try on the road.

Q: Is the driving on a closed course or on real roads?

A: You will be driving on roads in the community.

Q: I'm not from this area. How do I know where to drive?

A: Before heading out on the road, the evaluator will ask you about the roads and environments on which you typically drive. Your evaluator will give you directions on where to go during the drive.

Q: Can a family member be with me during the assessment?

A: A family member or friend may be with you **except** during the on-the-road driving. He or she can be with you when the evaluator gives you the assessment results.

Your family member or friend will need to drive you home if you don't pass the driving assessment.

Q: Who gets a copy of my assessment results?

A: You will get a full printed copy of the assessment report. The report is part of your Allina Health electronic health record.

With your permission, the report is sent to your doctor, care provider(s) or other team members involved with your care.

Q: If the assessment result is that I need to use adaptive equipment to drive, what are my next steps?

A: You would return to Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute for driving lessons using the adaptive equipment. During the lessons the service provider will:

- give you instruction on how to use the equipment and review rules of the road
- evaluate if the equipment is the best fit for you
- monitor your progress in learning to use the adaptations.

If you show the potential to use the equipment and show safe driving practices, you may take the Minnesota road test using a Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute vehicle. The road test is required by law (M.S. 171.09).

The equipment is not installed in your personal vehicle until approved by the driver rehabilitation specialist who would give you a list of companies who modify vehicles.