

Unofficial translation



**Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity**

**Ministry of Communication, Transport,
Post and Construction
Department of Transport**

**No.: 907/DoT
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**GUIDELINE
on
Driving Examination Regulation**

(Annex III of the Management and Driving License Examination of
Land Transport Vehicles No.: 3416/MCTPC, dated 04 September 2002)

❖ **Lao Citizen Driving License Examination is divided into two sections:**

I. Theoretical Examination consists of 6 subjects:

Subject 1 Driver's Qualification (candidates attend a one-hour group seminar before the examination)

- Candidates are required to attend the seminar on examination rules and traffic rules at the time stipulated by a driving examination committee. Candidates who fail to attend the seminar are not eligible to take the exam on other subjects.

Subject 2 Traffic Rules

- There are five questions for motorbikes, walking tractors, and tractors.
- There are seven questions for three-wheeled motor vehicles and lightweight automobiles.
- There are ten questions for vehicles transporting goods or passengers,.

Subject 3 Traffic Signs and Signals

- There are five questions (5 signs) for motorbikes, walking tractors, and tractors.
- There are seven questions (7 signs) for three-wheeled motor vehicles and lightweight automobiles.
- There are ten questions (10 signs) for vehicles transporting goods or passengers.

Subject 4 Driving Rights (Driving Content)

- There are three questions for motorbikes, walking tractors, and tractors.
- There are five questions for motor vehicles with three or more wheels.

Subject 5 Vehicle Specifications Knowledge

- There are five questions for three-wheeled motor vehicles and lightweight automobiles.
- There are seven questions for vehicles transporting goods or passengers.

Subject 6 Driving Techniques Knowledge

- There are three questions for motorbikes, walking tractors, and tractors.
- There are five questions for three-wheeled motor vehicles and lightweight automobiles.
- There are seven questions for vehicles transporting goods or passengers, there are seven questions.

❖ **Grading Principles for Passing or Failing the Examination:**

- Answering 2 out of 3 questions correctly is deemed a pass;
- Answering 4 out of 5 questions correctly is deemed a pass;
- Answering 6 out of 7 questions correctly is deemed a pass;
- Answering 8 out of 10 questions correctly is deemed a pass.

Exceptional case:

- Where 1 out of 3, or 3 out of 5, or 5 out of 7, or 7 out of 10 questions are answered correctly, the committee ask 1 additional question and if the candidate answers it correctly, the candidate will deemed as passing; cases other than the ones specified above shall be deemed as failing.

❖ **Re-taking Theoretical Examination:**

- Candidates who fail any theoretical subjects must express their intention to retake the exam to officers who accept application or the secretarial unit and pay an additional fee in order to be eligible to retake the exam in the failed subject in the next occasion.
- If candidates fail for the second time, they will be eligible to retake the exam after a three-month period.
- If the candidates fail for the third time, they will be eligible to retake the exam after a one-year period and must attend the training once more and submit new application for retake exam in all subjects.

Remark: Candidates who fail any theoretical subjects is not eligible to take the practical driving exam.

❖ **Exemption from Theoretical and Lightweight Automobile Driving Examination**

- Candidates for motorbike, walking tractor, and tractor driving licenses will be exempted from the theoretical examination in case they already hold another type of a driving license.
- Individuals who hold driving licenses for goods-transport vehicles or pass a driving examination for goods-transport vehicles (only who have attended the training from a driving school) can request a lightweight automobile driving license without having to take any examination, but the fees and service charges for both types of driving licenses must be fully paid.
- Other than cases specified above, the theoretical and practical driving examination must be taken in accordance with regulations.

II. Practical Examination:

Practical examination consists of two subjects:

Subject 1: Practical driving along a route

- Candidates shall drive a car along a route specified by the committee. For three or more wheels motor vehicles, an examiner shall accompany a candidate, and the following eight things to be taken into account: entering the main road from minor one, turning right or left on split road, driving attitude, moving a car, stopping a car, overtaking other cars, and the engine not to stop during the exam. In case candidates underperform more than two things mentioned above or allow the engine to stop, they will be considered as failing, and will be allowed to retake the exam on the next occasion.
- For the motorbike riding exam, candidates shall ride motorbikes along the route specified by the examination committee where examiners positioned at each checkpoint while candidates wearing shirts with a number provided by the secretarial unit for convenience of monitoring.

Subject 2: Driving Examination at the Examination Area

1. **Motorbike Riding Examination (A)** see figure 1

Examination method:

- A candidate rides a motorbike entering examination area by riding two rounds in a 0 figure (big round), two rounds in an 8 figure, one round in a small 0, and exits the examination area.
- Note: candidates shall take the above exam on a continual basis.
- Prohibitions during an exam: a candidate must not stop and put their feet on the ground, ride a motorbike over or across the line, sign, or allow the engine to stop.

2. **Type A1 Examination of three-wheeled motor vehicles** (auto-rickshaw-tuk-tuk) see figure 2 and 3

Figure 2 Entering Traffic Roundabout:

- Examination method: a candidate shall enter the traffic roundabout as in figure, go once around the circle from the right side on a clockwise basis and exit the circle; after that, a candidate shall re-enter the roundabout and go once around the circle from the left side on an anticlockwise basis.

Figure 3: Snakelike:

- Examination method: a candidate shall drive a vehicle in a snakelike movement or zigzag by entering the exam area from the right side until the end and re-entering the exam area until the end and exit at the left side.
- Prohibitions during an exam: a candidate must not crash a pole, hit a traffic cone or pole, or allow the engine to stop.

3. **Type A1 Examination of lightweight automobiles** (B) See figure 4 and 5; an automobile for taking an exam shall have a four-cylinder engine of 1,000 cc or over.

Figure 4 (C)

- Examination method: a candidate shall reverse a car as the figure by using the opposite side of the steering wheel so that the tires of the other side are on the inner line. A candidate can drive forward and reverse in examination area not more than three times, and when the candidate is sure that the tires are in the inner line, the candidate shall signal the examiner.
- Prohibitions during an exam: a candidate must not crash a pole, hit a traffic cone or pole, or allow the engine to stop including exiting period.

Figure 5 (T)

- Examination method: a candidate shall enter examination area until reaching the T-junction, take the left turn and go straight until the end, then reverse and turn right till the end. After that, the candidate shall drive back in and take the right turn and reverse to the left to the starting point with straighten the car drive out.
 - Prohibitions during an exam: a candidate must not crash a pole, hit a traffic cone, or allow the engine to stop and changing gear as in figure.
4. **Examination for vehicles transporting goods (C)**. See figure 6 and 7; vehicles shall be a truck with a capacity of 3.5 tons or over.
- Examination method: to implement the same procedure as examination of lightweight automobiles.
 - Prohibitions during an exam: to implement the same as examination of lightweight automobiles.
5. **Examination for vehicles transporting passengers (D)**. See figure 8; vehicles shall be a truck with a capacity of 3.5 tons or over or a 25-seat bus or over.

Figure 8 Trapezium

- Examination method: a candidate shall enter drive as figure and turn around in the area with changing gear no more than 6 times, meaning going forward and reversing no more than 3 times each, in order to get the vehicle to be in the opposite direction and then reverse the vehicle into the designated area located at the opposite side of the entrance.
 - Prohibitions during an exam: a candidate must not crash, hit a traffic cone or post, pass over the rope, allow the engine to stop, or look back (only looking in the rear mirrors is allowed).
6. **Examination for walking tractors and tractors (A2):**
- Examination area:** a route far away from the main roads shall be designated.
- Examination method: a candidate is to drive a tractor along the road for examiner to monitor the control over turning left and right; when exiting minor road to enter the main road, a candidate shall stop to look left and right prior entering the main road; exiting the main road to enter a minor one, especially when taking a left turn, a candidate must be close to the path to observe the front and back, making sure that it is safe before turning. Proper and smooth implementation will be deemed as a pass.

❖ **Decision for passing or failing an examination:**

- If candidates duly comply with each examination figure, they will be deemed as having a pass;
- Candidates have two opportunities for each examination figure without trial. If candidates can perform examination figure on the first occasion, they shall be deemed as having a pass, but if they fail on the first occasion, they will be allowed to have a second chance and if they pass on the second occasion, they shall be deemed as having a pass. However, if they fail on both occasions, they shall be deemed as having a fail of that examination figure, but will be entitled to take the exam on remaining figures.

Remarks: if any candidates are found cheating by depending on other people's signaling during the examination, even though they can perform well on the exam, they shall be deemed as having a fail. Regarding, people giving signals, if they are also candidates,

they will be deemed as lacking qualification even if they have passed all subjects they will be marked as failed in terms of qualification in their score sheets, and they will be required to retake the exam on the next day by attending the seminar. After that, the examination committee gives a warning to those candidates before approving a pass on qualification.

❖ **Eligibility for retaking examination:**

- Candidates who fail the practical examination shall submit a driving exam appointment to officers or secretarial unit for retaking examination on the next occasion provided an additional fee of 50% of the total service charge is paid before they can obtain an entry card for the next examination for figure that they failed to perform. If they fail the second examination, they will be eligible to retake the exam after a three-month period subject to a charge of 100% of the service charge. If they continue to fail, candidates will be ineligible to retake examination. If such candidates wish to take an exam again, they must wait for six months and attend a driving training course again then submit an application for examination and take theoretical and practical driving exams, respectively.

❖ **Exemption from Practical Examination:**

- Persons taking exam for three-wheeled passenger vehicles are exempted from the practical exam provided that they hold a type A1 driving license for at least one year, but shall attend theoretical training in accordance with the curriculum stipulated by the Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction, and shall be tested in terms of knowledge regarding traffic regulations.
- For those holding a type A1 driving license who have already attended the training and obtained a certificate of completion of the driving training curriculum of a driving school in accordance with regulations, have the rights to apply for a type D1 driving license without having to attend any additional training provided that the relevant fee and service charge are fully paid at the rate stipulated for the type D driving license examination.

Director General of Department of Transport

[Signature and Seal]

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