

# Louisiana OMV

## Permit Practice Test 2026

40-question test with answer key · [permitpractice.us](https://permitpractice.us)

### Louisiana permit test: quick facts

|                            |                                                                                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Questions on the real test | 40                                                                                     |
| Passing score              | 80% (32 of 40 correct)                                                                 |
| Wrong answers allowed      | 8                                                                                      |
| Minimum age                | 15                                                                                     |
| Testing agency             | Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV)                                                         |
| Official permit name       | Class E Learner's Permit                                                               |
| Permit fee                 | \$32.25 (+ up to \$6.00 service fee)                                                   |
| Online testing             | No - the knowledge test must be taken in person.                                       |
| Driver's education         | Required for applicants under 18.                                                      |
| Supervised practice        | 50 hours incl. 15 at night                                                             |
| Permit holding period      | 180 days (age 15: minimum 180 days AND until age 16; age 16: 180 days OR until age 17) |
| Under-21 alcohol limit     | 0.02% BAC or higher                                                                    |

### How to use this PDF

1. This test has 40 questions, the same number as the real Louisiana OMV knowledge test.
2. Answer every question before you look at the answer key. To pass you need 80% (32 of 40 correct).
3. Time: We found no published time limit for the Louisiana knowledge test.
4. Take it online, with every answer explained, at <https://permitpractice.us/louisiana/> - the mock test there marks your answers only at the end, like the real test.

Questions are original study questions written from the Louisiana driver's handbook and general traffic law. They are not copies of actual OMV exam questions. State facts last reviewed 2026-09-28. Free for personal study; do not resell. © 2026 permitpractice.us

# Louisiana Permit Practice Test: 40 Questions

Circle your answer. Answer key with explanations starts on the last pages.

**1. What is the purpose of an anti-lock braking system (ABS)?**

- A) To let you pump the brakes faster in a skid
- B) To brake for you when a car ahead stops
- C) To keep wheels from locking so you can steer
- D) To stop your vehicle faster by automatically pumping brakes

**2. A center lane has a solid yellow line and a broken yellow line on each side, plus two-way turn arrows. Who may use it?**

- A) Drivers from either direction about to turn left
- B) Drivers waiting to merge into the right lane
- C) Drivers who need to pass a slow vehicle ahead
- D) Only buses and cars carrying two or more people

**3. Your brake pedal suddenly sinks to the floor. Which action may build up brake pressure again?**

- A) Turning the engine off at once
- B) Pumping the brake pedal quickly
- C) Shifting the car into neutral
- D) Holding the pedal on the floor

**4. Which of these will sober up a person who has been drinking?**

- A) Eating a big meal
- B) Taking a cold shower
- C) Drinking strong coffee
- D) Only time

**5. Alcohol affects driving by:**

- A) Mainly causing drowsiness, which coffee can fix
- B) Slowing reactions only once you reach 0.08%
- C) Affecting judgment, but not reaction time
- D) Impairing reaction time, judgment, and vision

**6. A yellow sign with a black arrow bending at a 90-degree angle indicates:**

- A) A lane shift ahead
- B) A side road ahead
- C) A gentle curve
- D) A sharp turn ahead

**7. A sign reading 'SPEED LIMIT 55' is what type of sign?**

- A) Informational
- B) Warning
- C) Regulatory
- D) Guide

**8. When passing a bicyclist in Louisiana, you must leave at least how much space?**

- A) 1 foot
- B) 3 feet
- C) 2 feet
- D) 5 feet

**9. Louisiana law forbids passing when you are within how many feet of an intersection, railroad crossing, bridge or tunnel?**

- A) 200 feet
- B) 100 feet
- C) 50 feet
- D) 500 feet

**10. Who must yield when a pedestrian is crossing at a marked crosswalk?**

- A) The pedestrian, since cars cannot stop quickly
- B) The driver must yield to the pedestrian
- C) The driver, but only at a traffic signal
- D) Whoever reached the crosswalk first

**11. When are you required to use headlights?**

- A) Only at night on roads without streetlights
- B) At night and when visibility is reduced
- C) Only on highways at night, not on city streets
- D) Only when it is fully dark, not in bad weather

**12. A 'STOP' sign at a railroad crossing with no gates means you must:**

- A) Slow down and look, then roll across
- B) Stop fully, then cross when it is safe
- C) Stop only if the lights are flashing
- D) Stop only if a train is in sight

**13. What does a sign showing a car with curved skid marks indicate?**

- A) Loose gravel ahead
- B) Winding road
- C) Sharp curve
- D) Slippery when wet

**14. A warning sign showing an arrow splitting into two directions around a vertical line indicates:**

- A) A fork where you must choose a route
- B) A divided highway begins ahead
- C) A passing lane opens ahead
- D) Two-way traffic begins ahead

**15. A yellow sign showing a traffic signal symbol means:**

- A) An emergency vehicle signal
- B) A traffic light is ahead
- C) The signal ahead is broken
- D) A railroad signal ahead

**16. Your brake lights are not working. Which hand signal tells drivers behind you that you are slowing or stopping?**

- A) Left arm held straight out
- B) Right arm waved out the window
- C) Left arm out and bent downward
- D) Left arm out and bent upward

**17. For adult drivers (21+), what Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) is the legal limit in most states?**

- A) 0.05%
- B) 0.02%
- C) 0.08%
- D) 0.04%

**18. You are driving at 60 mph on a highway. How many feet does your vehicle travel per second?**

- A) 100 feet
- B) 88 feet
- C) 44 feet
- D) 66 feet

**19. If your vehicle's engine catches fire, you should:**

- A) Open the hood to reach the fire quickly
- B) Stop, shut off the engine, and get everyone away
- C) Drive on to the nearest fire station
- D) Stay in the car with the windows up until help comes

**20. What does a triangular sign with a red border mean?**

- A) No entry
- B) Yield the right of way
- C) Stop for all cross traffic
- D) Merging traffic ahead

**21. What does an orange-colored sign indicate?**

- A) A work zone ahead
- B) A railroad crossing ahead
- C) A hospital zone ahead
- D) A school zone ahead

**22. On an undivided two-lane road, a school bus stops with its red lights flashing and stop arm out. What must drivers do?**

- A) Stop, then pass slowly if no children are seen
- B) Slow down and pass on the left with caution
- C) Stop in both directions until the lights stop
- D) Wait until children reach the curb, then pass

**23. A Louisiana learner's permit holder may be supervised by a licensed sibling who is at least:**

- A) 16 years old
- B) 21 years old
- C) 18 years old
- D) 25 years old

**24. What happens to traffic fines in a Louisiana construction zone?**

- A) They are doubled
- B) They are unchanged
- C) They are tripled
- D) They rise by \$50

**25. Which of the following is NOT a legal reason to use your horn?**

- A) To warn a driver drifting into your lane
- B) To warn others on a blind mountain curve
- C) To alert a child about to run into the road
- D) To express frustration at another driver

**26. In Louisiana, you may not park within how many feet of a stop sign or traffic signal at the side of the road?**

- A) 30 feet
- B) 10 feet
- C) 15 feet
- D) 20 feet

- 27. An angry driver is tailgating you, honking and making rude gestures. What is the best response?**
- A) Speed up to stay ahead of the angry driver
  - B) Avoid eye contact and let the driver get by
  - C) Tap your brakes to make the driver back off
  - D) Gesture back so the driver knows you are upset
- 28. A railroad crossing signal is flashing and a train is approaching. Where must you stop?**
- A) 10 to 25 feet from the nearest rail
  - B) 5 to 10 feet from the nearest rail
  - C) 50 to 100 feet from the nearest rail
  - D) 15 to 50 feet from the nearest rail
- 29. You are stopped at a steady red light and no sign prohibits turning. What must you do before you turn right?**
- A) Stop fully, then yield to people and cross traffic
  - B) Honk to warn others, then turn ahead of them
  - C) Wait for the light to turn green before turning
  - D) Slow to a crawl, then turn if the way looks clear
- 30. What is the most effective way to stay alert on a long drive?**
- A) Drink coffee or an energy drink each hour
  - B) Take breaks every 2 hours or 100 miles
  - C) Keep the window open and the air cold
  - D) Turn up the radio and sing along
- 31. At what times are deer and other wildlife most active near roads?**
- A) Around midday
  - B) During the late morning
  - C) Around dawn and dusk
  - D) In the early afternoon
- 32. What is the danger zone around a large truck where the truck driver cannot see you?**
- A) Large trucks have no blind spots with modern mirrors
  - B) In front, behind, and along both sides
  - C) Only beside the cab on the driver's side
  - D) Only behind the trailer and on its right
- 33. Aggressive driving behaviors such as tailgating, weaving, and excessive speeding:**
- A) Are only illegal when they cause a crash
  - B) Are safe for skilled drivers in light traffic
  - C) Raise crash risk and can lead to reckless charges
  - D) Save enough time to make up for the added risk
- 34. When does the Louisiana driver's guide allow you to pass another vehicle on the right?**
- A) When two or more lanes go in your direction
  - B) When the driver ahead is going under the limit
  - C) When traffic is light and no one is behind you
  - D) When the shoulder is paved and wide enough
- 35. What does a red traffic light mean?**
- A) Stop, then go straight if the way is clear
  - B) Prepare to stop - the light will change soon
  - C) Stop completely before the intersection
  - D) Slow down and yield to cross traffic

**36. A Louisiana learner's permit holder may drive only when accompanied by:**

- A) A licensed friend who is at least 18
- B) Any licensed driver who is 16 or older
- C) A licensed parent, adult 21+, or sibling 18+
- D) No one, after passing the knowledge test

**37. Unless a different limit is posted, what is the maximum speed on a Louisiana interstate?**

- A) 70 mph
- B) 65 mph
- C) 60 mph
- D) 55 mph

**38. You are on a freeway on-ramp and the ramp meter signal shows red. What should you do?**

- A) Merge carefully if the freeway looks clear
- B) Use the shoulder to go around the signal
- C) Slow down but keep rolling onto the freeway
- D) Stop at the line and wait for green

**39. A traffic signal at an intersection is completely dark because it is not working. How should you treat it?**

- A) As if the light were green
- B) As a yield for all lanes
- C) As an all-way stop
- D) As if it were flashing yellow

**40. A yellow pennant-shaped sign (a long triangle pointing sideways) posted on the left side of the road means:**

- A) No passing zone begins
- B) Divided highway ahead
- C) Passing lane ahead
- D) Road narrows ahead

# Answer Key & Explanations

## 1. C - To keep wheels from locking so you can steer

ABS prevents wheels from locking during hard braking, allowing you to maintain steering control. When ABS activates, you may feel pulsing in the brake pedal - this is normal. Press firmly and steer.

Source: assets.dps.mn.gov - MN handbook - Anti-lock brakes

## 2. A - Drivers from either direction about to turn left

This is a two-way left-turn lane. Drivers from both directions share it, entering it only just before they turn left. It is not a travel or passing lane.

Source: publicsafety.ohio.gov - Section 4 - Rules of the Road, Two-way Left Turn Only Lane

## 3. B - Pumping the brake pedal quickly

Pumping the pedal can restore enough pressure for the brakes to work. If it does not, shift to a lower gear and apply the parking brake slowly.

Source: oregon.gov - p.85 (PDF p.93), Brakes Fail

## 4. D - Only time

Only time removes alcohol from the body. Coffee, food and a cold shower do not lower blood alcohol, so the person is still impaired.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Myths about Drinking Alcohol

## 5. D - Impairing reaction time, judgment, and vision

Alcohol impairs all the skills needed to drive safely: reaction time slows, judgment and decision-making deteriorate, coordination suffers, and vision (especially peripheral) is reduced.

Source: flhsmv.gov - FL handbook - Alcohol

## 6. D - A sharp turn ahead

A sharp-angle arrow warns of a sharp turn (not a gentle curve) ahead. Slow down significantly before the turn - the recommended speed is often posted below.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.07 Paragraph 02

## 7. C - Regulatory

Speed limit signs are regulatory - they state the maximum legal speed under ideal conditions, which you are legally required to obey.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2B.21 Paragraph 13

## 8. B - 3 feet

Louisiana law (R.S. 32:76.1) requires at least three feet between your car and a slower bicyclist you are passing. Give more room if you can.

Source: public.powerdms.com - p.80 (PDF p.85), Sharing the Road with Bicycles

## 9. B - 100 feet

Passing is illegal within 100 feet of an intersection, railroad crossing, bridge or tunnel. Vehicles and trains can appear suddenly at these places.

Source: public.powerdms.com - p.71 (PDF p.76), Passing on the Left

## 10. B - The driver must yield to the pedestrian

Drivers must always yield to pedestrians who are crossing in a marked or unmarked crosswalk. Pedestrian safety is the highest priority.

Source: dmv.ca.gov - CA handbook - Pedestrians / Crosswalks

## 11. B - At night and when visibility is reduced

Every state requires headlights at night and when visibility is reduced. The exact period varies: some states say sunset to sunrise, many say 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise. Many states also require headlights whenever your wipers are on or you cannot see a set distance (often 500 or 1,000 feet) ahead.

Source: dps.texas.gov - TX handbook - Chapter 9, Headlights

## 12. B - Stop fully, then cross when it is safe

A stop sign at a railroad crossing requires a complete stop. Look and listen carefully in both directions, and cross only when you are sure no train is coming.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 8B.04 Paragraph 06

## 13. D - Slippery when wet

A yellow warning sign with a car and curved skid lines means the road is slippery when wet. Slow down and increase following distance in rain or snow.

Source: mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.30

#### **14. B - A divided highway begins ahead**

This sign warns that a divided highway begins ahead - a median or barrier will separate the opposing lanes. Keep right of the divider.

Source: [mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov](https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov) - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.20

#### **15. B - A traffic light is ahead**

A signal-ahead warning sign tells you a traffic light is coming up, often where it may be hard to see in time. Be prepared to slow and stop.

Source: [mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov](https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov) - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 2C.35

#### **16. C - Left arm out and bent downward**

An arm extended out and bent down signals slowing or stopping. Arm bent up is a right turn and arm straight out is a left turn.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.93 (PDF p.98), Hand signals

#### **17. C - 0.08%**

In most US states, a BAC of 0.08% or higher is legally considered driving under the influence (DUI) for drivers 21 and older. Always check your state's specific laws.

Source: [dmv.ca.gov](https://dmv.ca.gov) - California Driver Handbook - Alcohol and drug limits

#### **18. B - 88 feet**

At 60 mph, a vehicle travels about 88 feet per second ( $60 \times 5,280 / 3,600 = 88$ ). Understanding stopping distances is critical - at 60 mph you need approximately 300 feet to stop.

Source: [nj.gov](https://nj.gov) - NJ handbook - Stopping distance

#### **19. B - Stop, shut off the engine, and get everyone away**

If your engine catches fire, pull off the road, shut off the engine, and get all occupants out and well away from the vehicle. Do NOT open the hood - adding oxygen can intensify the fire. Call 911.

Source: [nj.gov](https://nj.gov) - NJ handbook - Car Fires

#### **20. B - Yield the right of way**

A yield sign is triangular with a red border and white background. It means slow down and give the right of way to traffic or pedestrians. Only stop if necessary.

Source: [dps.texas.gov](https://dps.texas.gov) - TX handbook - Chapter 5, Table 17: Signs by Shape

#### **21. A - A work zone ahead**

Orange signs indicate construction and maintenance work zones. Reduce speed, watch for workers and equipment, and be prepared for changed traffic patterns. Fines are often doubled.

Source: [mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov](https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov) - MUTCD 11th ed. (Dec 2023) 1D.05 Color Code

#### **22. C - Stop in both directions until the lights stop**

On an undivided road, traffic in both directions must stop for a school bus showing flashing red lights and a stop arm, and stay stopped until the lights stop. Rules for the opposite side of a divided highway differ by state (New York requires you to stop even then), so check your handbook.

Source: [dmv.ny.gov](https://dmv.ny.gov) - NY handbook - School buses

#### **23. C - 18 years old**

Louisiana allows a licensed sibling who is at least 18 years old to supervise a learner's permit holder.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.7, Stage 1: Learner's Permit

#### **24. A - They are doubled**

Louisiana doubles traffic fines in construction zones. Slow down and be ready to stop to protect workers and other drivers.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.31 (PDF p.36), Highway Work Zones

#### **25. D - To express frustration at another driver**

Horns are safety devices used to warn others of danger. Using your horn out of frustration or anger is not a legal use and can be considered aggressive driving in many states.

Source: [assets.dps.mn.gov](https://assets.dps.mn.gov) - MN handbook - Horn

#### **26. D - 20 feet**

Louisiana bans parking within 20 feet of a roadside stop sign, yield sign, flashing beacon or traffic signal. A parked car there could hide the sign from other drivers.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.70 (PDF p.75), Parking

### **27. B - Avoid eye contact and let the driver get by**

Do not challenge an aggressive driver. Stay calm, avoid eye contact, and move out of the way so the situation does not get worse.

Source: [assets.dps.mn.gov](https://assets.dps.mn.gov) - p.79 (PDF p.82), Aggressive driving

### **28. D - 15 to 50 feet from the nearest rail**

Louisiana law (R.S. 32:171) says to stop within 50 feet but no closer than 15 feet from the nearest rail. Do not cross until it is safe.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.94 (PDF p.99), Railroad Grade Crossing

### **29. A - Stop fully, then yield to people and cross traffic**

A right turn on red is allowed only after a complete stop and only after yielding to pedestrians and all crossing traffic. A NO TURN ON RED sign takes this option away.

Source: [publicsafety.ohio.gov](https://publicsafety.ohio.gov) - Section 5 - Learning to Drive, A driver must stop

### **30. B - Take breaks every 2 hours or 100 miles**

The only real cure for drowsiness while driving is sleep. Take breaks at least every 2 hours or 100 miles. Coffee provides temporary relief but is not a substitute for rest.

Source: [dps.texas.gov](https://dps.texas.gov) - TX handbook - Drowsy driving

### **31. C - Around dawn and dusk**

Wildlife moves most at dawn and dusk, when light is also poor for your eyes. Scan both sides of the road and watch for eyes reflecting your headlights.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.104 (PDF p.109), Animals

### **32. B - In front, behind, and along both sides**

Large trucks have significant blind spots (no-zones): directly in front (20 feet), directly behind (30 feet), to the right (2 lanes wide), and to the left (1 lane). If you cannot see the driver's face in their mirror, they cannot see you.

Source: [dmv.ca.gov](https://dmv.ca.gov) - CA handbook - Blind Spots (the No Zone)

### **33. C - Raise crash risk and can lead to reckless charges**

Aggressive driving dramatically increases the risk of a crash and can lead to reckless driving citations, points, and higher insurance. The time saved is minimal compared to the danger created.

Source: [assets.dps.mn.gov](https://assets.dps.mn.gov) - MN handbook - Aggressive driving

### **34. A - When two or more lanes go in your direction**

You may pass on the right only when there are two or more lanes moving in your direction. Driving onto the shoulder to pass is never allowed, paved or not.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.72 (PDF p.77), Passing on the Right

### **35. C - Stop completely before the intersection**

A red light means you must stop completely before the stop line, crosswalk, or before entering the intersection. You must remain stopped until the light turns green.

Source: [dmv.ca.gov](https://dmv.ca.gov) - CA handbook - Traffic Signals, Solid Red Light

### **36. C - A licensed parent, adult 21+, or sibling 18+**

A Louisiana learner's permit holder must drive with a licensed parent or guardian, a licensed adult at least 21, or a licensed sibling at least 18.

Source: [legis.la.gov](https://legis.la.gov) - R.S. 32:407(A)(2)(a)

### **37. A - 70 mph**

The Louisiana driver's guide sets 70 mph as the interstate maximum unless signs show otherwise. Slow down below it when weather or traffic require.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.100 (PDF p.105), Entering

### **38. D - Stop at the line and wait for green**

A ramp meter works like a traffic light. Stop at the stop line on red and go when it turns green, then speed up to merge.

Source: [dol.wa.gov](https://dol.wa.gov) - (PDF p.113), Freeway ramp meters

### **39. C - As an all-way stop**

When a traffic signal is not functioning, Louisiana treats the intersection as an all-way stop. Stop, then follow the usual four-way stop right-of-way rules.

Source: [public.powerdms.com](https://public.powerdms.com) - p.86 (PDF p.91), Traffic Control

#### **40. A - No passing zone begins**

The no-passing zone sign is the only pennant-shaped sign: a yellow, sideways triangle pointing to the right. It is posted on the left side of the road at the start of a no-passing zone, where a solid yellow line also appears on your side of the centerline.

Source: [ksrevenue.gov](http://ksrevenue.gov) - Kansas Driving Handbook (Rev. Feb 2022), Passing - No Passing Zone sign; MUTCD 11th ed. Table 2A-1 (W14-3)

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<https://permitpractice.us/louisiana/>

Official OMV website: <https://www.expresslane.org/>

Official Louisiana driver's handbook: <https://public.powerdms.com/LADPSC/documents/347039>





















