

## What if I'm a student?

If you're a student who'll be studying in another jurisdiction, you must change the rating territory of your licence and insurance policy before you leave B.C. You should also check with the jurisdiction on their registration and licensing requirements for students.

## What insurance can I obtain if I bring my car to B.C. but don't use it here?

If you're a B.C. resident, you can buy a Vehicle in Storage Policy for a vehicle in storage off highway anywhere in Canada or the U.S., including storage at a garage where the vehicle is being sold or is on consignment.

## What can I do if I've left B.C. and forgot to cancel my insurance policy?

If you've left our province, you can write us a letter to cancel your insurance. In the letter, make sure you include:

- your signature, licence plate number, new address and new phone number,
- your Owner's Certificate of Insurance and Vehicle Licence (keep the bottom part, the "vehicle registration," because you'll need it to register your vehicle outside of B.C.),
- your B.C. licence plates or a receipt to show that you've handed them into a licensing authority outside B.C., and
- a photocopy of your new registration document if you have already registered your vehicle outside B.C.

Send the letter to:

ICBC—Cancellations  
Room 205—151 West Esplanade  
North Vancouver BC V7M 3H9

### Statement of Limitation

The information in this publication is intended to provide general information only and is not intended to provide legal or professional advice. We have used plain language to help you understand your optional policy or some of the laws related to the topic of this publication. Information in this document is subject to change without notice. You should follow the more detailed wording and requirements of current applicable statutes and regulations or policy, even if they contradict the wording and requirements set out in this publication.

# motorists moving to or from B.C.



welcome to  
British Columbia

building trust. driving confidence.



## Welcome to B.C.

At ICBC, we're working to keep auto insurance rates low and stable and provide hassle-free service.

We're here for you. Our Autoplan insurance products and services are available through more than 900 independent brokers. Our driver licensing services are available through approximately 120 offices, including driver licensing offices, expressways, Service BC centres and appointed agents' offices throughout B.C. And if you have a claim, you can report it any time through our 24-hour telephone claims line.

Find your nearest service location at [icbc.com](http://icbc.com).

## About your driver's licence

### Now that I'm in B.C., how long can I use my driver's licence from another place?

If you move to B.C., you can use your valid driver's licence from another province or country for up to 90 days.

If you're a tourist or aren't a resident, you can drive in B.C. for up to six months as long as you have a valid driver's licence from outside B.C. After that time, you need a valid B.C. driver's licence to drive here.

If you're a temporary foreign worker in the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program, you can use your valid driver's licence from another country for up to one year before needing to get a B.C. driver's licence.

### What if I am a student?

You don't need to get a B.C. driver's licence **if**:

- you have a valid driver's licence from your home jurisdiction **and**
- are registered as a student and attending one of the B.C. educational institutions listed on [icbc.com](http://icbc.com) in the Driver Licensing section.

You need to carry your valid out-of-province licence and your current school ID when driving in B.C.

## How do I apply for a B.C. driver's licence?

It's best to go to a driver licensing office and apply for your B.C. driver's licence well within 90 days of moving here.

You need to be at least 16 years old to apply.

Difficulty communicating in English? Please bring someone to help translate for you. You'll need to provide personal information and be able to understand the driving rules in B.C.

You'll need to turn in your out-of-province licence. If your current driver's licence isn't in English, you'll need to provide a translation — by an approved translator. To find a translator, check the Yellow Pages. Be sure to ask if they are approved by ICBC to do driver's licence translations. Pick up the translation forms at any driver licensing office.

You may need to complete a knowledge test, vision screening and a road test in order to get your licence. If you need a road test, you'll need to make an appointment. If you have a Canadian, American, Australian, Austrian, French, German, Japanese, Netherlands, New Zealand, Swiss, South Korean or United Kingdom licence, you can usually exchange your licence the same day. Knowledge and road testing may not be required.

If you want to find out about driver licence fees, go to [icbc.com/driver-licensing/fees](http://icbc.com/driver-licensing/fees).

### Will there be any restrictions on my B.C. licence?

We have a Graduated Licensing Program (GLP), which means it takes new drivers about three years to earn our full-privilege driver's licence. When you apply for a full-privilege driver's licence, you need to prove you've held a non-learner licence for more than 24 months.

Your out-of-province driver's licence will often be enough to prove your driving experience. We use the issue date shown on your licence to figure out the length of time you've been eligible to drive. If you renewed your licence within the last two years, you may also need to get a driving record or letter of experience from the licensing authority where your licence came from.

If your driving privileges were previously suspended, that time doesn't count as credit for driving experience.