

761—602.9(321) Special minor's restricted license.**602.9(1) Validity.**

a. A special minor's restricted license is a restricted, noncommercial Class C or Class M driver's license.

b. The type of motor vehicle that may be operated is controlled by the class of driver's license issued. A Class C special minor's restricted license is valid for operating a motorcycle only if the license has a motorcycle endorsement. A special minor's restricted license is valid for operating a motorized bicycle.

c. The license is valid for four years or until the licensee attains age 18, whichever is sooner.

602.9(2) Requirements. An applicant who qualifies under Iowa Code section 321.194(1) and 321.194(3) must submit the following to the department:

a. Form 430021, containing the required certification under Iowa Code section 321.194(6).

b. Proof of successful completion of an Iowa-approved driver's education course.

c. For a Class M special minor's restricted license or a motorcycle endorsement, proof of successful completion of an Iowa-approved course in motorcycle rider education.

602.9(3) Exemption.

a. An applicant is not required to have completed an approved driver education course if the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that completion of the course would impose a hardship upon the applicant; however, the applicant must meet all other requirements for a special minor's restricted license. "Hardship" means the applicant's parent, guardian or custodian does not qualify as a teaching parent as defined in Iowa Code section 321.178A(2)"c" and the applicant meets one of the following criteria:

(1) If the applicant is 14 years old, that a driver education course will not begin at the applicant's school(s) of enrollment or at a public school in the applicant's district of residence within one year following the applicant's fourteenth birthday.

(2) If the applicant is 15 years old, that a driver education course will not begin at the applicant's school(s) of enrollment or at a public school in the applicant's district of residence within six months following the applicant's fifteenth birthday.

(3) If the applicant is between 16 and 18 years old, that a driver education course is not offered at the applicant's school(s) of enrollment or at a public school in the applicant's district of residence at the time the request for hardship status is submitted to the department.

(4) That the applicant is a person with a disability. In this rule, "person with a disability" means that, because of a disability or impairment, the applicant is unable to walk in excess of 200 feet unassisted or cannot walk without causing serious detriment or injury to the applicant's health.

b. "Demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department" means the applicant has provided the department written proof that a hardship exists signed by the applicant's parent, guardian or custodian and the applicable school authority authorized to sign the certification form for a special minor's restricted license pursuant to Iowa Code section 321.194(6).

c. The department reserves the right to verify any assertion made in the application for hardship exemption under this subrule.

602.9(4) Multiple residences.

a. A special minor's restricted license approved for travel to and from up to three residences pursuant to Iowa Code section 321.194(9)"d" is not valid for travel directly between each residence unless the licensee is accompanied in accordance with Iowa Code section 321.180B(1) or unless the travel is for the purposes set forth in and subject to the limitations of Iowa Code section 321.194(4) or 321.194(5).

b. The primary residential address listed on Form 430021 will appear on the face of the license.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 321.177, 321.180B, 321.189, 321.194 and 321.196.

[ARC 9577C, IAB 10/1/25, effective 11/5/25]