### What is an occupational license?

An occupational license is a restricted license that allows a person to drive to and from work, school, church, and to meet the requirements of a driver safety plan.

### Who qualifies for an occupational license?

An occupational license is not an authorization to drive for recreational purposes.

A person whose license is suspended or revoked may qualify for an occupational license unless he or she was previously suspended or revoked within the preceding 12 months. A waiting period is usually required. Depending upon the offense, the waiting period can be 15 days to two years. Some offenses allow the person to get an occupational license immediately.

As of 09/30/2005, a commercial driver whose license is suspended or revoked for offenses committed in a non-commercial vehicle may not get an occupational license to drive commercial vehicles. Also, a commercial driver who is disqualified from holding a commercial driver license, cannot get an occupational license.

### How to check for eligibility?

You can check to see if you are eligible for an occupational license online at [http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/revoke/occlic.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/revoke/occlic.htm).

### How are they issued?

A person applies for an occupational license at a DMV Service Center, excluding DMV Express offices. Individuals revoked as a habitual traffic offender must petition the circuit court in their county of residence. The judge of the court may order DMV to issue an occupational license if the person’s livelihood depends on driving.

A $40 application fee is required for every application, including those that change the restrictions on an occupational license.

A driver must prove financial responsibility. This proof is usually in the form of an SR22 insurance certificate. Other methods of proof include bond or cash deposited with the DMV.

### What restrictions apply?

Occupational licenses restrict a person to driving no more than 12 hours per day/60 hours per week. The approved hours, vehicles, routes of travel and reasons for driving are specified on the license.

### How long is an occupational license valid?

An occupational license is valid from the date it is issued through the second working day after the last day of the suspension/revocation.

### For more information contact:

Bureau of Driver Services  
Driver Information Section  
(608) 266-2261  
Email: information.dmv@dot.state.wi.us

Occupational License

**Occupational Licenses Issued by Reason Revoked/Suspended**

- **OWI, 11,618, 53.2%**
- **BAC, 7,653, 35.0%**
- **UAL, 187, 0.9%**
- **DR, 1,297, 5.9%**
- **IC, 411, 1.9%**
- **D, 31, 0.1%**
- **All Others, 642, 2.9%**

**BAC** - Administrative Suspension  
**D** - Drug Conviction, 17 years old or older on date of conviction  
**DR** - Driver Record, Accumulation of Points  
**IC** - Implied Consent  
**OWI** - Operating under the influence of Intoxicant or Controlled Substance  
**UAL** - Underage Alcohol

Source: Bureau of Driver Services, Driver Information Section, Monthly Workload Reports

**Total* Occupational Licenses Issued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Licenses Issued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>25,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>24,806</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>22,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>21,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>21,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>21,839</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Total includes Original, Duplicate, Reissued and Reinstated occupational licenses

Source: Bureau of Driver Services, Driver Information Section, Monthly Workload Report