

Frequently Asked Questions About the Driving Program:

What if I'm apprehensive about the test?

The Occupational Therapists performing the evaluations are skilled at providing a comfortable environment and strive to build a friendly and professional rapport with the client and family.

Do I need a prescription for the testing?

EMBRACE Mobility's policy is to have a doctor's prescription, indicating a diagnosis for all those requiring driver rehabilitation services. The client may choose the most appropriate physician, NP, or PA to complete the prescription. It is helpful to have your medical provider know what you are seeking and be part of your team. This keeps them informed and aware if any medical forms for driving are required for them to complete.

The referral should state:

"Occupational Therapy Driver Evaluation, on road assessment, and training as indicated"

How long is the Comprehensive Evaluation?

The client and family should plan for 2.5 hours.

What is done during the Comprehensive Evaluation?

Using research-based testing, you will have a thorough interview, a review of your medical conditions, testing of your visual skills, thinking skills (such as memory, attention, processing speed), and physical testing to determine overall medical appropriateness to drive. If applicable the on road is provided the same day. The performance in both determines fitness to drive.

What if I already did the clinical evaluation?

An On Road may be scheduled at an adjusted fee if the clinical driving evaluation has been completed by an occupational therapist/driving rehabilitation specialist and provided to EMBRACE Mobility Services. It must have been completed within the last three months.

Is it a written test?

The Clinical Evaluation is comprised of visual screening tests, cognitive tests both written and computer based using a mouse (assistance using the mouse will be provided as needed). You do not need to know how to use a computer for this test.

Will I be able to drive the day of the appointment, do I need to have a driver?

Please have a licensed friend or family member bring you to your appointment. Please do NOT drive to your appointment. This appointment includes an evaluation of your driving behaviors. Therefore, we request that clients have a ride to/from the appointment. If a client is found to have driven and the results indicate they should not drive, alternative transportation home will be arranged at the expense of the client. If the client chooses not to follow this request EMBRACE Mobility has the right to cancel the appointment. Cancellation fee may apply.

How long do I have to wait for my appointment to be scheduled?

The average wait time is 2-4 weeks

How long is the On-Road Evaluation?

The client and family should plan for a 2-hour appointment. The results determine medical fitness to drive and it is required the family member be available for this discussion. This is only done if the clinical has been done by a referring occupational therapist.

What occurs during the on the road evaluation?

The on the road evaluation takes place in EMBRACE Mobility's vehicle which is equipped with an instructor brake. This car is a Subaru Outback. This is an assessment of driving behaviors and impact of any medically related performance skills on driving safety. We also use the on-road evaluation to determine need for further driving rehabilitation sessions.

Can someone come with me on the road?

The therapist often allows family to ride along in the back seat to observe and learn rehabilitation strategies if the client gives permission.

Who will be getting this report?

The referring doctor will receive the report. A copy will be emailed to the client. At the start of the evaluation, they will be offered the opportunity to sign a medical release for others to receive a copy.

Can you take away my license?

While the therapists do not grant or rescind licenses, they do have an ethical responsibility to inform the RMV if there is a serious threat to the client's or the public's safety based on the results of their testing.

Does insurance cover it?

This is a self-pay program. Please discuss fees based on the specific services you need by calling. At this time driving assessments are not covered by insurance.

Will I get the results the day of the appointment?

In most cases the therapist reviews the results and recommendations on the same day. In some cases, further follow up with the referring MD or other parties may be necessary to help round out the client's profile and medical needs to determine the results and recommendations. We understand the gravity of this decision and desire to ensure we have all the information available to support the decision. It is encouraged, that any records you feel are relevant may be brought to the appointment for the clinician to review.

Can I do both appointments in the same day?

Appointments for the Clinical and On-Road are on the same day. They may be done on separate days for several reasons: client fatigue after taking the Clinical Testing; further follow up before planning the on-road; changes in weather conditions.

Will I have to take a Registry Test?

Only if communication from the RMV directs the client or contacts the client to do so. This test does not replace the RMV road test if it has been asked of the client by the RMV directly.

I am a new driver and don't have my permit yet can I still take the test?

Yes! EMBRACE Mobility offers a Readiness to Drive evaluation to help assess learning style, strengths, areas of challenge, development of independent and community living skills, visual skills, neurocognitive skills, and physical skills such as coordination and balance to help support the unique needs of the individual's journey to access and utilize their highest level of community mobility. This includes developing a plan for mobility skill development. This can help you know if you should start driver's education, what type of learning needs you have, if you are ready now or need to achieve specific goals before being ready to drive.

I want to learn to drive but my parents have concerns? I want to learn to drive but we don't know where to start?

EMBRACE Mobility's Readiness to Drive evaluation will provide a clear mobility plan, determine when and if you are ready, what resources would benefit you. This can be an asset to your mobility transition plan on an IEP from 16-22 yrs of age. We can also provide executive functioning coaching for mobility transitions, working with you to develop the pre driving skills, pedestrian skills, learn hazard awareness techniques and develop problem solving plans to reduce anxiety and keep you on your path to achieve realistic personal goals.

I am over 25 and have not driven yet. I feel ready now. Does this assessment apply to me?
Yes!



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I have a medical condition in which I think I need adaptive equipment to drive?

If you have a medical condition that impacts your ability to use the current gas and brake system or effects steering wheel access, requires additional mirrors, or needs support to access the secondary controls (turn signal, wipers, horn, windows, etc) then YES! We can help you. Many conditions such as neuropathy, amputation, spinal cord injury, stroke, brain injury, multiple sclerosis, etc can impact access to the car. Start with a referral and an evaluation to determine what type of adaptive equipment you may need and get the chance to try it. Envision what alternate mobility and access to the car can look like.

If I do need adaptive equipment what does that process look like?

If you are an appropriate candidate for adaptive equipment, EMBRACE Mobility will support you along the entire process. Training will be provided based on the client's learning curve to master the equipment. Massachusetts requires you complete a road test at the RMV with the adaptive equipment. EMBRACE will sponsor you through this process. Once complete, a mobility prescription will be provided to you by your EMBRACE driving rehab specialist so you may arrange with a NMEDA certified QAP mobility equipment dealer to have the same equipment set up in your car.

Contact EMBRACE Mobility today if you have further questions or wish to speak with a Driving Rehab Specialist.

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