

Rhode Island Road Signs Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

— Scored questions	— Time limit	— Passing score
\$0 Exam fee	Rhode Island Division of... Governing body	— Pass rate

The Numbers to Remember

- Minimum permit age: 16; must hold the permit at least 6 months before the road test.
- Under-18 drivers need 50 hours of supervised driving, including 10 hours at night.
- Fail the exam? Wait at least 8 days before retesting.
- Permit fee: \$13.50 under 18, \$8.50 at 18+; duplicate permit \$13.50; motorcycle permit \$28.50.
- Permits renew for 2 additional one-year periods before the knowledge exam must be retaken.
- The exam is computerized, based on motor vehicle laws and rules of the road, offered in English, Spanish, and Portuguese; RI DMV does not publish a fixed question count or passing score, so treat every question in practice as real.
- Testing is by reservation only, during normal business hours — book ahead.
- Rhode Island uses a three-level graduated licensing system for under-18 drivers: instructional permit, provisional license, full license.

Sign Shapes at a Glance

- Octagon = stop, always.
- Downward triangle = yield.
- Pentagon = school zone ahead.
- Diamond = warning of a specific hazard ahead.
- Round = railroad crossing.
- Red = stop/prohibition. Yellow = general warning. Orange = construction/work zone. Green = guide/directional. White = regulatory rule (speed, turns). Blue = services.

Right-of-Way in One Breath

- No signs? First to arrive goes first; ties yield to the vehicle on the right.
- Left turns yield to oncoming traffic and to pedestrians in the crosswalk.
- Pedestrians in a crosswalk always have the right-of-way.
- Emergency vehicles with lights/siren active always get the right-of-way — pull right and stop.
- Entering a roundabout? Yield to traffic already circulating.
- Merging traffic yields to traffic already in the lane.

Top Traps

- Thinking the speed limit is a target rather than a maximum — slow further in rain, fog, snow, or heavy traffic.
- Forgetting the 3-to-4-second following-distance rule, and forgetting to double it in poor conditions or behind large vehicles/motorcycles.
- Assuming a marked crosswalk is required for pedestrian right-of-way — it isn't.
- Braking hard during a hydroplane instead of easing off the accelerator.
- Underestimating black ice risk on bridges and shaded roads near freezing.

- Treating "a little" alcohol, drowsiness, or a quick glance at a phone as safe — all three impair reaction time the exam expects you to flag as risky.
- Not giving motorcycles and bicycles a full lane width when passing or turning.

Official sources

- Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles (RI DMV) — New License Permits | RI Division of Motor Vehicles:
<https://dmv.ri.gov/licenses-permits-ids/permits-tests/new-license-permits>
- Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles (RI DMV) — Rhode Island Driver's Manual:
https://dmv.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur556/files/documents/manuals/Driver_Manual_FINAL.pdf
- Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles (RI DMV) — Permit Fees | RI Division of Motor Vehicles:
<https://dmv.ri.gov/licenses-permits-ids/permits-tests/permit-fees>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/practice/exams/driving/rhode-island-road-signs