

On-Road Driving Assessment (ORDA) Information

National Office for Traffic Medicine RCPI/RSA

December 2020

This document is for information purposes only. The intention is to enhance public access to information about On-Road Driving Assessment Services currently operating in Ireland. On-Road Driving Assessment Services and Assessors who operate within these services are currently not regulated in Ireland and therefore we cannot at this stage provide any guarantee as to the quality of the services offered or to the competencies of those offering them. Any reliance you place on such information is therefore strictly at your own risk.

The information on services available is not exhaustive and therefore there may be other providers not mentioned but also providing On-Road Driving Assessment Services. This document does not endorse, recommend or favour any specific service(s) and therefore you are under no obligation to use any of the service providers referenced.

This information document contains links to service provider websites but has no control over the content of the linked sites or the changes that may occur to the content on those sites. It is the responsibility of the user to make their own decisions about the accuracy, currency, reliability and correctness of information contained in linked external web sites.

Table of contents
Driving Assessment Information1
SERVICES NATIONWIDE OR MULTIPLE REGIONS
Driving Assessments Ireland
Geographical regions covered by service: Nationwide4
Disabled Drivers Association Ireland
Geographical regions covered by service: Mayo, Galway, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, Clare, and nationwide5
Gills Driving School
Geographical regions covered by service: Connaught, Ulster and will travel nationwide
Irish Wheelchair Association MAATS
Geographical regions covered by service: Dublin North , Dublin South , Athlone, Navan7
National_Rehabilitation_Hospital_DAS
Geographical regions covered by service: In-patient and out-patients of NRH Nationwide
Rower Driver Rick Management Convises
Power Driver Risk Management Services Geographical regions covered by service: Monaghan, Louth, Cavan, Dublin, Wicklow,
Kildare, Meath, Westmeath, Offaly, Longford, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal
St. Patrick's Mental Health Services
Geographical regions covered by service: Nationwide10
South East Mobility
Geographical regions covered by service: Wexford, Kilkenny, Carlow - Leinster, Waterford, Tipperary – Munster11
Transport and Mobility Consultants – Ireland (TMC-I)
Geographical regions covered by service: Nationwide12
SERVICES IN LEINSTER
Alert Driving
Geographical regions covered by service: South CountyDublin14
Colm Caren ADI Geographical regions covered by service: South Dublin and North Wicklow
Driving Assessment inTuition Dublin Geographical regions covered by service: Dublin City and Greater Dublin area16
Dublin Mobility
Geographical regions covered by service: Dublin and surrounding counties17
Ian Bangham Geographical regions covered by service: South Dublin and Co Wicklow

Irish School of Motoring (ISM) – Franchise Instructor
Geographical regions covered by service Dublin City and Dublin North County19
Motor_Ed_Driving_School_Ltd
Geographical regions covered by service: Louth, Meath, Cavan Monaghan and Dublin
OC Cars & Mobility
Geographical regions covered by service Dublin
SERVICES IN MUNSTER
Cú-Chulainn Driving Assessments Cork
Geographical regions covered by service Munster
Results Driving Assessment Services
Geographical regions covered by service Limerick, Clare, Tipperary24
Southern Mobility
Geographical regions covered by service Cork and Kerry25
Southwest_Mobility
Geographical regions covered by service Kerry and West Cork26
SERVICES IN THE NORTH WEST
Ds School of Motoring
Geographical regions covered by service Donegal, Sligo and Leitrim
North West TMCI Ltd
Geographical regions covered by service: Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo

Please note: This document is for information purposes only

Driving Assessment Information

To help assess the impact of a new or changing medical condition (s) your doctor may refer you for:

- A. off-road driving assessment and/ or
- B. on- road driving assessment

Note: A medical driving assessment

- is not a driver licence test.
- the services are not formally regulated.

This information aims to support the standards in the *Sláinte agus Tiomáint* Medical Fitness to Drive Guidelines available at <u>www.ndls.ie.</u> All referrals for driving assessments should be made by your doctor or other treating medical professional. This document is for information purposes only and does not endorse any particular services mentioned. There is no obligation on referrals to use any of the service providers referenced.

When would I need a Driving assessment?

You may require an on-road assessment for many reasons particularly the presence or change of any medical condition(s) or functional impairment which may impact on your driving ability. This may follow as a result of a head injury, stroke, spinal injury, amputation, or Parkinson's disease or another degenerative condition. Currently, the law provides for an exception to allow the renewal of a Group 1 driving licence (cars, motorcycles, tractors) for drivers who satisfies both clinical and on-road driving assessments despite not meeting the visual field criteria (Refer to the *Sláinte agus Tiomáint* Medical Fitness to Drive Guidelines Visual Disorders Chapter 7, Appendix for full criteria/standard).

Most occupational therapy and driving assessment services collaborate to offer both off and on-road assessments. Ask the provider to confirm what service they offer.

A) off-road driving assessment.

This assessment is conducted by an Occupational Therapist (OT) who will check that your physical, thinking and decision-making abilities are compatible with safe driving. They may recommend that you take an on-road driving assessment, they may further recommend where appropriate that the car for the assessment be functionally adapted to support you in driving safely.



B) on-road driving assessment

You doctor or OT may refer you to a person or organisation with experience in on-road driving assessment. This assessment will check that you can handle your vehicle, drive safely in traffic, plan your journeys and generally respond to the demands and unpredictability of driving on a public road.

Do all drivers who require a Medical Report D501 to be signed by their doctor require a driving assessment?

No. In Ireland drivers from age 70 are medically assessed for re-licensing every 1- 3 years by providing the NDLS with a D501 form, this can ordinarily be done by the driver's GP without any need for specialist or other

Stakeholder involvement. Similarly, drivers who are required to self-declare an emerging medical condition midlicence or at licence renewal will need to provide the NDLS with a D501 form completed by their doctor. In most cases your doctor will be able to complete this form without the need for specialist or other stakeholder involvement. If your case is one where the doctor requires input, you should remember that this is to ensure you safety, the safety of your passengers and of other road users.

Before an On-Road Assessment: the provider will check:

- that your driving licence is current and valid*.
- that you have valid insurance to drive the car in which you are being assessed
- that the NCT on the car is current and valid.
- that the car's tax is current and valid.
- the doctors or OTs referral
- ask questions to help evaluate your difficulties in relation to driving and evaluate your needs in relation to car type or adaptation(s) required.

* On the request of the driver's/patient's doctor, the NDLS/RSA may issue a temporary license (90 days duration) for the specified purpose of allowing the driver to complete an on-road assessment/rehabilitation. The doctor's request must be accompanied by D501 and or letter indicating a temporary licence is required. This request should be sent to medicalfitness@rsa.ie

What should I expect from an on-road driving assessment?

This assessment includes a range of driving situations such as high and low speed zones, controlled and uncontrolled intersections, parking and manoeuvring. An on-road assessment should last for 45 minutes (or longer if required). The on-road assessment may be shorter if the assessor considers it unsafe to continue. The drive will include situations that you would normally face when driving in your local area but if relevant to you may also include motorway or dual carriageway driving.

Who pays for the driving assessment?

You will be required to pay the cost of your driving assessment. As the price of each service may vary, we advise you to ask the provider for details on cost before your assessment. Some organisations are subsidised by government funding, while other services are completely privately owned. Each service is different so you should be comfortable that the service you have chosen is compatible with your needs.

Ways to seek help

Your Doctor, nurse or Occupational Therapist will advise you on the next steps and direct you on how to seek help. If you have more questions on this please Email: <u>medicalfitness@rsa.ie</u> or Telephone: 1890 40 60 40.

SERVICES NATIONWIDE or MULTIPLE REGIONS

The information on services available is not exhaustive and therefore there may be other providers not mentioned but also providing On-Road Assessment Services. This document does not endorse, recommend or favour any specific service(s) and therefore you are under no obligation to use any of the service providers featured in this document.

ssessments	
VSSASSMANTS	

Geographical regions covered by service:	Nationwide
Contact Telephone Email Web	Driver Assessments Ireland (086) 0422535 <u>info@dai.ie</u> <u>www.dai.ie</u>
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Client's own car ✓ Assessor's car ✓



An on-road Assessment may be required when a person with a Disability, Medical or Age-related medical condition wishes to begin, return to or continue driving. On the evaluation of a Health Care Professional (HCP) an on-road Driving Assessment may be recommended. Driver Assessments Ireland (*DAI*) provide these assessments.

A HCP may recommend an assessment for those including with but not limited to the following conditions; Dementia, Brain Injury, Stroke, Neurological disorders, Congenital disorders, Cardiovascular disorders, Psychiatric disorders, Learning difficulties, Mobility issues, Respiratory and Sleep disorders, Auditory or Visual sensory loss, Renal disorders.

- This Assessment is an assessment of a realistic driving situation.
- The Assessment is carried out by a trained and fully qualified Driving Instructor.
- Upon completion of the Assessment a report is formulated and sent to the HCP.
- Recommendations are discussed.

Our Assessors will travel to the client's home and assessments are performed in the client's own car in their local area. The objective of the assessment is to provide a professional, independent evaluation to help ensure the safety of all road users. Our goal is not to take people off the road but to help clients remain independent and remain driving safely for as long as possible.

On our website <u>www.dai.ie</u> you will find a secure and encrypted referral page where we can take referrals from all Health Care Professionals. A family member with concerns about a loved one can also use this referral form.

Our fee for an on-road driving assessment is €165

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

<u>www.dai.ie</u>

Disabled Drivers Association Ireland	
Geographical regions covered by service:	In general, Mayo, Galway, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, Clare, in practice, clients come from nationwide
Contact Telephone Email Web	Margaret Cunningham, Breege Kelly 094 936 4054 drive@ddai.ie <u>www.ddai.ie</u>
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	1 Automatic Transmission Car 1 Manual Transmission Car 1 Dual Auto/Manual Transmission Car Adaptations Include • Push pull hand controls • Left and right foot accelerator • Secondary controls on steering wheel • Electric Handbrake • Quick release handbrake • Various steering wheel spindles
Other Assessment Tools	All cars Duel controlled Static Assessment Unit
The Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland (DDAI) is an organisation working for	



The Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland (DDAI) is an organisation working for disabled people, promoting independence and equal opportunity through mobility, education and training. The members of the organisation are people with disabilities themselves.

From its foundation, driving was identified as a key component in people achieving independence, access to employment and social interaction. The association has been providing support to people on ability to drive, information on adaptations and providing tuition since the mid-1970's. Our driving services are no longer restricted to physical disability and include all drivers whose abilities are challenged.

Our static assessment unit assesses the motor ability of upper and lower limbs in terms of strength, mobility and motor reaction time in a car cockpit context. Mental reactions and decision-making ability are also tested. The unit also assesses the client's visual field. This assessment can be a valuable component in evaluating what car adaptations, if any, are required by the prospective driver. This information is particularly useful for those beginning to drive or returning following a traumatic injury. The unit is also useful where a driving license has lapsed, and an-road assessment is not possible.

On road assessment with an experienced ADI instructor is the preferred assessment. An in-car on-road assessment may be requested to ascertain if any cognitive/perceptual or motor deficits affect one's ability to drive. Cars are available, which offer a range of adaptations to meet the needs of the majority of clients.

The on-road assessment allows for a fair assessment in a more realistic driving situation and has proved to be a better environment for experienced drivers. Medical referrals are requested for on-road assessments. Assessment reports are completed and issued for all assessments

The DDAI centre is located just off the N17 in Ballindine, Co Mayo. Collection can be arranged from Claremorris Rail Station, 10 minutes away. Residential driving tuition or rehabilitation courses are available.

Gills Driving School		
Geographical regions covered by service:	Connaught & Ulster (but willing to travel nationwide)	
Contact Telephone Email Web	Tiernan Gill 096-73030 <u>Tiernan@gillgroup.ie</u> <u>www.gillsdrivingschool.ie</u>	
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual & Dual control fleet car \checkmark Client's own vehicle \checkmark Manual or Automatic \checkmark	



Gills Driving School, part of the Gill Group provides mobility driving assessments for a wide range of users for physical and cognitive assessment.

- Gills have been working in the driver education business for over 40 years catering for every category of vehicle training and continuing to be to the forefront for driver safety.
- Tiernan Gill is an ADI (Approved Driving Instructor) with the Road Safety Authority, for all category of vehicle and is also a Diploma Holder in Advanced Driving Teaching & Training. He is a Diamond Advanced trainer and tester which is very unique in Ireland.
- Tiernan has won many awards for his Driving School for Health & Safety including being the only certified IRU training Academy in the British Isles.

Tiernan is a member of IAM, (Institute of Advanced Motorists & RoSPA Gold (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) who has 20 years of experience qualified him to ascertain the quality of driving and the level of risk for both the driver of the car and for the general public.

Our on-road practical driving assessment ascertains one's ability to driver safely in live traffic situations. This is followed up by a detailed written report. The on-road assessment follows the guidelines of the Road Safety Authority (RSA) 2015 Traffic Medicine Competency Framework. With Gills Driving School, you can be guaranteed a confidential, objective, and independent assessment with ultimate peace of mind for all involved. This is where Tiernan Gill and his team at Gills Driving School gives you peace of mind by providing a high quality, professional and confidential driving assessment service, where the drivers is our absolute number one priority. Recommendations are given in a manner in which the Client has an input so that they feel part of the process and have some dignity in the outcome if they need to stop driving.

GROUP 1 Driving Assessments (Cars)

Some drivers may require on On-Road assessment for multitude of reasons particularly the presence or change of any medical conditions(s) or functional impairment which may impact on driving ability.

This change may follow as a result of any of the following and a driving assessment is required for patients with a wide range of medical conditions such as: Dementia, Psychiatric Disorders, Stroke, Brain Injury, Sensory Loss (visual, auditory), Learning Difficulties, Congenital Disorders etc.

Group 2 Driving Assessments HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicle)

Group 2 Categories C, CE, C1, C1E, D, DE, D1 or D1E i.e. truck and bus (with or without trailer) The vehicles in Group 2 are regarded as higher-risk vehicles which require a higher standard of physical and mental fitness on the part of the driver.

Irish Wheelchair Association MAATS Service		
Geographical regions covered by service:	Nationwide	
Contact Telephone Email Web	Irish Wheelchair Association 045 893094 <u>maats.admin@iwa.ie</u> <u>www.iwa.ie</u>	
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Automatic ✓ Client's Own Car ✓	

The Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) has been providing services to motorists with disabilities since the 1960's. Over the years many thousands of motorists with medical conditions or disabilities have availed of our service. In 2000 we established the National Mobility Centre in Clane Co Kildare to co-ordinate our nationwide driving and tuition and assessment service. This centre also provides advice on all relevant motoring issues e.g. vehicle adaptations, VRT/VAT relief scheme. Currently we have 10 driving school cars and driving instructors providing nationwide coverage with the exception of Cork. Each vehicle is automatic and fitted with an extensive variety of adaptations. One vehicle is specifically designed for drivers who can only drive from their wheelchair and cannot transfer to a car seat. We cater for all motorists with physical and cognitive difficulties and can provide services for those wishing to;

- Learn to drive
- Return to driving.
- Continue to drive

Depending on the medical condition, the initial assessment may be carried out by an

- Occupational Therapist (OT) and a Driving Instructor
- Solely by the Driving Instructor.

In order to avail of the service, clients are requested to complete an application form and be referred by a medical professional e.g. GP, Consultant or OT. IWA also provide a tuition and assessment service at the NRH in Dun Laoghaire and Naas Hospital and work closely with many health professionals throughout the country.

Adaptations on our automatic cars include

- Push/Pull Hand controls
- Left/Right foot accelerator
- Infra-red secondary controls fitted on steering wheel e.g. wipers, horn, lights etc.
- Quick release handbrake
- Cross over bars for indicators
- Electronic seat risers
- All cars dual controlled

Currently the cost of an assessment with the IWA is €100 and the cost of a driving lesson is €30

Further details on the service and the application form are available on our website www.iwa.ie

National Rehabilitation Hospital Driver Assessment Service	
Geographical regions covered by service:	Inpatients and out-patients of NRH (National Service)
Contact Telephone Web	Occupational Therapy Department, NRH 01 2355000 www.nrh.ie
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Automatic ✓ Client's Own Car ✓



The Occupational Therapy Department coordinate the driving service for patients in the National Rehabilitation Hospital in conjunction with the IWA (Irish Wheelchair Association). This service provision is for in-patients, out-patients and RTU (Rehabilitative Training Unit) attendees. The service is offered to patients across all programmes e.g. brain injury programme, spinal injury programme, amputee programme and age appropriate teenagers in the paediatric programme. There is no fee for the provision of the service to the NRH.

GP's can refer previous NRH patients for a driving assessment.

The OT is responsible for completing the pre-driving assessment which includes cognitive and visual perceptual assessments. The OT refers patients for the on-road driving assessment once medical clearance is given.

The on-road assessment is completed by the IWA driving instructor (two and a half days a week). The OT will attend the on-road driving assessment when required. Patients are provided with a letter indicating the outcome of the driving assessment and any recommendations. The consultant/GP is responsible for providing the final clearance for return to driving.

Power Driver Risk Management Services		
Geographical regions covered by service:	Monaghan, Louth, Cavan, Dublin, Wicklow, Kildare, Meath, Westmeath, Offaly, Longford, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal	
Contact Telephone Email Web	Paddy Power 0872750387 / 047-71022. paddy@powerdriverriskmanagementservices.ie www.powerdriverriskmanagementservices.ie	
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Automatic ✓ Client's own vehicle ✓	



Power Driver Risk Management S

Anagement Services

We are a family run business with over 32 years' experience in driver education and driver assessments in both Group 1 and Group 2 Vehicles nationwide.

We are a professional indemnity insured business and provide a confidential, professional and friendly service.

- Qualifications:
- Approved Driving Instructor by the Road Safety Authority (RSA).
- Approved CPC Trainer by the Road Safety Authority (RSA).
- Diploma in Advanced Driving Instruction (ROSPA)
- Certified Driving Assessor (ROSPA)
- International Trainer (ROSPA)
- International Examiner (ROSPA)
- We provide the following services:
- On-road driver assessments (including Group 1 & Group 2 licence holders)
- Vehicle adaptations for drivers
- Driving tuition & driver assessment using:
- Manual Vehicle
- Automatic Vehicle
- Client's own Vehicle
 - Driver rehabilitation course: (Driving tuition to restore confidence after Illness or accident)
 - Older driver refresher courses. (To update skills and knowledge)
 - \circ $\;$ Information and advice on licensing, adaptations, primary medical certificate etc.
 - \circ $\;$ Driver Improvement Programme: (To expand their existing driving skills)
 - Advanced Driving Course

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For any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 087 2750387 or Email: paddy@powerdriverriskmanagementsevices.ie



St. Patrick's Mental Health Services		
Geographical regions covered by service:	Nationwide catchment area	
Contact Telephone Email Web	Sherrie Buckley, Occupational Therapy Manager 01 2493 426 <u>sebuckley@stpatsmail.com</u> www.stpatricks.ie	
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Dual-controlled ✓ Manual ✓ Automatic ✓	



The comprehensive Driving Assessment Service was developed in line with international best international practice to assist Consultant Psychiatrists and the multidisciplinary teams to address the driving needs of their service users. The comprehensive driving assessment service includes both an off-road or clinical assessment and an on-road or behind the wheel assessment. St. Patrick's Mental Health Service also has a driving simulator to assist with the off-road assessment and the rehabilitation needs of our service users. The on-road assessment is considered by many as the gold standard for concluding the pass or fail of the assessment (Dickerson et al, 2009). The comprehensive driving assessment takes approximately 3.5-4 hours to complete.

The off-road or clinical driving evaluation is performed by an occupational therapist with specialist knowledge in driving assessment and includes a visual screen, cognitive & perceptual assessments and a motor component. In line with best practice the on-road assessment is conducted in a dual controlled car with an Approved Driving Instructor in the front seat and an occupational therapist with post graduate training in driving assessment in the back seat. Both manual transmission and automatic transmission cars are available for the assessment.

The on-road driving assessment is not like the driving test conducted when you get a driving licence, in which driving skills are tested, rather the on-road assessment focuses on competency to drive and strategic thinking required for fitness to drive. According to the Sláinte agus Tiomáint guidelines, a medical practitioner must make the final recommendation regarding medical fitness to drive. Therefore, this service was developed to assist the Consultant Psychiatrist and/or General Practitioners to make the best possible decision for the service user. Referrals are accepted from external organizations such as the HSE as long as the individual is under a medical practitioner's care.

Sherrie E. Buckley, MSc, MOT, OTR/L Occupational Therapy Manager St. Patrick's Mental Health Service

South East Mobility	
Geographical regions covered by service:	Wexford, Kilkenny, Carlow – Leinster, Waterford, Tipperary, Munster
Contact Telephone Email Web	Michelle O'Loughlin 087-9908115 / 051-397952 <u>info@southeastdrivingassessment.ie</u> www.southeastdrivingassessment.ie
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Automatic ✓ Client's Own Car√ Adaptive vehicle with push / pull hand control & left foot accelerator.



My name is Michelle O'Loughlin. I established South East Mobility Assessment & Tuition Specialists in 2012. I am based in Waterford and I cover the Waterford, Wexford, Carlow, Tipperary and Kilkenny area.

I acquired The Road Safety Authority's Approved Driving Instructor qualification, in 2008. In 2009 I completed an ADI training course for teaching people with disabilities to drive. In November 2015 I completed the Intercommunication & Skills Acquisition for On-Road Driving Assessors. In November 2016 I completed the Road Safety Authorities/ National Office for Traffic Medicine certificate in Road Safety, Mobility and Health. I completed the Road Safety Authority Deaf Awareness Training course in July 2018.

As per the guidelines of Sláinte agus Tiomáint, anyone with a medical condition, or anyone experiencing age related changes that may affect their ability to drive safely should follow the advice of their GP. Following a medical health professional's evaluation, an on-road driving assessment may also be recommended. An on-road assessment can assist in determining a person's fitness to begin, return or continue driving. I provide a comprehensive driving and assessment programme to various, General Practitioners, Occupational Therapists and other Health Professionals.

Within my fleet I have the following vehicles:

- Manual Car
- Automatic Car
- Adapted Vehicle

I provide a professional, comprehensive, specialist service in the area of transport and mobility including:

- Driver Assessments: An on-road drive, in live traffic situation to determine a
- Person's suitability for returning or continuing to drive.
- Driving Tuition: In an Automatic, Manual or Adapted Car.
- Driver Rehabilitation: For those wishing to return to driving following an illness or disability. Or for anyone learning to use driving adaptations.

Older Drivers: To provide advice and information to the mature driver. Driving tuition to restore confidence, possibly expand their existing driving routes, or increase their driving skills to manage on today's busy roads.

I strive to improve the availability and standard of driving tuition for people with disabilities and older drivers while also providing professionalism, friendliness, and confidentially. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at michelle_sheeh@yahoo.ie or on 087-9908115.

Transport and Mobility Consultants – Ireland (TMC-I)	
Geographical regions covered by service:	Nationwide
Contact	David Delamere or Tony Regan
Telephone	0404 43854 / 087 263 5025
Email	tony@transportandmobility.ie
Web	www.transportandmobility.ie
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual 🗸
	Automatic 🗸
	Client's Own Car ✓



At TMC-I Limited Driving Assessments are carried out in clients' own car and in their own areas, so that they will be familiar to the vehicle and the routes they typically use. This is for people who are living with a mild disability, or who have no disability and are maybe recovering from a stroke, or for clients

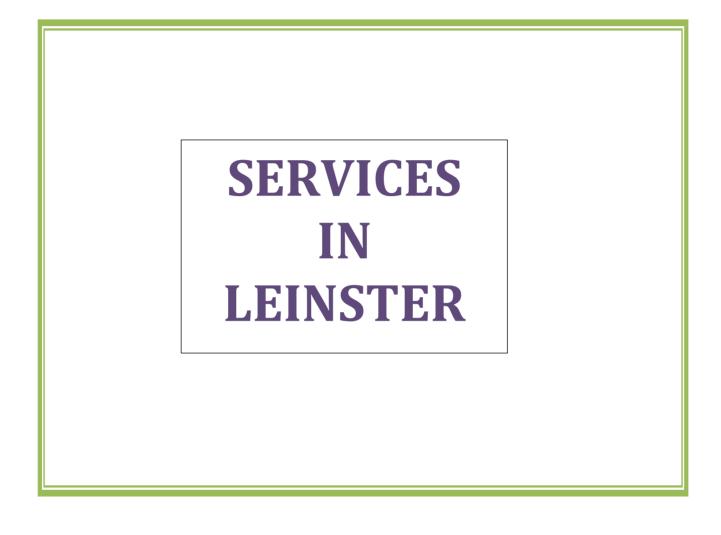
who are recently diagnosed with a mild cognitive impairment, a dementia and who want to continue driving. We also provide this service to clients who have Parkinson's Disease, M.S. MND, or for clients who have no specific diagnosis but whose Doctors are unsure if they should complete the Medical Fitness to Drive for a Driver Licence renewal.

Almost all clients come to TMC-I Ltd direct through their family Doctors, or their Hospital Consultants and Occupational Therapist, or through a community OT Service. We don't provide OT service direct, other than at our Cavan and Monaghan assessments, but depend on the referring source to provide relevant information on someone's cognitive status. All TMC-I on-road assessors are trained to administer the MoCA cognitive screening if necessary.

We have a number of on-road assessors working through-out Ireland:

- Tony Regan, has been providing on-road driving assessments for over forty years, at the N.I. mobility centre in the early 1980's, in the UK at the Dept. of Transports Mobility Centre, in the USA at both an adaptation firm in Boston and at a Hospital Programme in Ohio, and with the Irish Disabled Drivers Association and the Irish Wheelchair Association in the 1990's. He set-up TMC-I in 2000 and has certification in teaching disabled people to drive from Banstead Mobility Centre in 1983, A Dip Ed in Driver Education for Disabled Drivers from the University of Toledo, Ohio, is a Certified Driver Evaluator at the USA ADED, and has a PGDip in On-Road assessments from the University of Chester & Driving Mobility (UK). He has a Certificate in Health and Safety Management, a Graduate Diploma in Business Management and is currently working towards a MSc in Driver Assessment & Outdoor Mobility with Chester University. He is a Member of the UK's Driving Mobility and has participated in a number of EU Projects on disabled and elderly driver assessment, including CONSENSUS, Leonardo, TASIS, etc. He is a member of the Faculty in Traffic Medicine at RCPI & the RSA.
- David Delamere joined the team in 2017 as an On-Road Assessor. He is an ADI and has a Certificate in On-Road Assessments from TMC-I and the Charter Institute of Transport in Ireland, (CILT). David has a PGDip in Business Management and in 2020 took the role of Managing Director of TMC-I Limited.
- Andrew Swain is an ADI, with a PGDip in On-Road Assessments from Chester University and Driving Mobility (UK). He is completing an MSc in Driving for older and disabled people. Andrew joined the team at TMC-I Ltd in 2019 and provides assessments in the North West, covering Donegal, Sligo & Leitrim, as well as in Meath and Louth. Andrews works as an assessor and driving instructor in Northern Ireland at Disability Action.

Julie Grey, BA Occupational Therapist and Roisin Mulligan, BA Occupational Therapist are OT's working in the Cavan and Monaghan areas, and both have completed a certificate in On-Road Assessments with TMC-I and CILT. Both work part-time as on-road assessors for TMC-I Ltd.



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	Alert Driving
Geographical regions covered by	South County Dublin
Contact Telephone Email Web	Bill Cody 087 2725895 hello@alertdriving.ie <u>www.alertdriving.ie</u>
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Client's Own Car ✓

AlertDriving.ie is an established driver training and driving assessment provider. We are registered with the Road Safety Authority [RSA.ie] to provide driving tuition and driving assessments for both able bodied and those who may have particular challenges which might impact their driving safety.

What is a Medical Fitness to Drive assessment?

It is an On-Road assessment of a person's driving abilities. It is conducted under supervision by an experienced On-Road Driving Assessor [ORDA] and starts and finishes at the applicant's home. The Assessor is also a qualified Approved Driving Instructor [ADI] and registered with the Road Safety Authority.

What to expect

When you choose to have a driving assessment with AlertDriving.ie, either of your own volition, or because your GP or other health care professional or family member has advised it, you can be assured of a professional and stress-free experience.

The objective of the assessment is simply to determine that you are driving in a safe and competent manner and you are not a danger to yourself or other road users. The primary objective for all concerned is to keep you driving and independent. Remember, this is not a driving test but rather a general overview of your driving.

Who might need a Medical Fitness to Drive [MFTD] assessment?

A driver may require a MFTD assessment for a multitude of reasons particularly the presence of any medical condition(s) or functional impairment which may impact on driving ability. Additionally, the need for a MFTD assessment may be indicated through a concern raised by family regarding observed deterioration in the persons driving ability.

- Newly acquired disability
- Deteriorating or progressive medical condition
- Age related change
- Congenital disabilities
- 70 Years of age and over when applying for or renewing Driver Licence
- Peace of mind

We accept appointments through referral from your GP or other health care professional or if you wish to make an appointment directly with us just call us on 087 2725895 or e mail: hello@alertdriving.ie

Colm Caren ADI		
Geographical regions covered by service:	South Dublin and North Wicklow	
Contact Telephone Email Web	Colm Caren 086 8177424	
Vehicles(s) used for Assessments		

My Name is Colm Caren and I am currently a driving instructor and assessor for both the National Rehabilitation Hospital and the Irish Wheelchair Association.

I have been working in this capacity since 1999 using automatic cars with multiple adaptations, my manual cars and the client's car where appropriate.

The area I cover is South Dublin and North Wicklow. A large amount of my work is in the National Rehabilitation Hospital where I meet people with disabilities from all over the country, indeed all over the world! The array of disabilities presenting means I have daily contact with Occupational Therapists, Consultants and other medical professionals. A significant feature in this context is the number of reports and documentation produced. This has also necessitated having contacts with an extensive network of ADIs and suppliers in Ireland and the near continent.

I have assessed or trained over 2000 clients dealing from young clients heading for the initial driving test to those with great experience and sometimes with extensively adapted cars. I have designed and commissioned some of the adaptations to the cars involved.

Apart from many years' experience, I have received training for specialized ADIs in the Queen Elizabeth Foundation for disabled people in the U.K.

If further information is required contact Colm at the above details.

Driving Assessment inTuition Dublin	
Geographical regions covered by service	Dublin city (North and South) and the greater Dublin area
Contact Telephone Email	Fionnbarr McDaid 086 8557755 <u>info@DAID.ie</u>
Web	www.DAID.ie
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Dual-control manual car ✓Dual-control automatic car ✓Adapted car ✓Motorcycle✓Client's Own Car/van ✓✓



We are a Dublin-based mobility consultants' company. We provide a fully insured, confidential service offering our expertise to clients, referring GP's, consultants and OT's.

Our core mission is to promote people's independence where possible by offering our assessment services, our bespoke tuition

services and using our extensive range of adaptations and vehicle types to overcome any deficits. We offer our services to the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Dun Laoghaire and to the Irish Wheelchair Association in Clontarf, having years of experience in this field.

Our service includes;

- 1. On-road driving assessments
- 2. Driving tuition services (the majority of which being centred on the utilisation of car adaptations via driving lessons)
- 3. Provision of adapted car for rental
- 4. On-road riding assessments (motorcycle)
- 5. Riding tuition services (motorcycle)

Appointments may be conducted from

(a) the clients place of residence

(b) our Dublin based offices

We have an extensive range of adaptations installed in our cars including;

- Push/pull hand controls with integrated indicator switch
- Steering wheel spinner, tripod / tuning fork steering wheel aids
- Left/right foot accelerator
- Infra-red controller
- Ring accelerator
- Mirror adaptations, Rail extensions
- Handibar, pedal guards, Easy release handbrake

We have established a close working relationship with the Road Safety Authority (RSA) holding the accreditation for Approved Driving Instruction in both Category A (Motorcycles) & Category B (Cars). We are also Garda Vetted. Our business caters for a range of clients from first time drivers who require an assessment of their suitability to driving, to clients wishing to return to driving following a serious injury or illness to finally, current or elderly drivers who have been referred on medical grounds who wish to continue driving.

We also provide advice on vehicle adaptations, parking permits, vehicle insurance, primary medical certs and the tax relief scheme (vehicles purchased/acquired for use by people with disabilities)

At DAID, we truly value and recognise the importance of driving to a person's daily life and wellbeing which serves as a 'lifeline'. We strive to empower the privilege of driving to promote independence for everyone, to the best of our ability.

Dublin Mobility	
Geographical regions covered by service:	South Dublin
Contact Telephone Email Web	Sue Kernan 087 2494249 <u>sue.kernan62@gmail.com</u>
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Client's Own Car ✓

The service which is provided by this company is predominantly for older drivers who have cognitive issues, to support General Practitioners when signing off for a patient's Driver's Licence Renewal, or where family members are worried about the client's driving skills and wish to have them assessed.

As a Registered ADI (Approved Driving Instructor) for 26 years and primary carer for my father who had Alzheimer's disease, the Assessments are provided at the highest level and with great sensitivity so as to ensure that our Roads remain a Safe place and that the Recommendations are given in a manner in which the Client has an input so that they feel part of the process and have some dignity in the outcome if they need to stop driving.

The assessment is usually done in the Client's Own Car but if necessary, a Manual Car can be provided.

Of course, we would try to keep drivers on the road for as long as possible, safety for all being paramount.

IAN BANGHAM

Geographical regions covered by service:

Contact Telephone Email Web Vehicle(s) used for Assessments South Dublin and Wicklow

lan Bangham 087 236 0617 iandrivertrainer@gmail.com

Client's Own Vehicle ✓

Qualifications

Former Driver Tester, Approved Driving Instructor (ADI 36110), Emergency Services Driver Standards Trainer (up to Blue Lights standard), CPC Trainer, RCPI/RSA Certificate in Road Safety, Mobility and Health, RoSPA Gold 3 Award in Advanced Driving, IAM Roadsmart Master Driver with Distinction

Services Provided

I have worked with various organisations providing Advanced Driver Training and Risk Assessments including An Post, ESB, Eircom, and the HSA. I presently provide driver retraining for older drivers and drivers who may be returning to driving having been off the road for a period of time. Referrals can be from the drivers themselves or family members.

For many drivers who passed their test many years ago, the improvement to the to the road network, an increase in the motorway network, can be off putting especially as our population has grown recent years with more pedestrians, cyclists, vehicles big and small, which is increasing the demands for all drivers.

I offer the drivers an opportunity to refresh their defensive style of driving with greater AWARENESS and ANTICIPATION to enable the driver to better assess their driving decisions. The ultimate aim is to instill clients with the confidence to continue to drive confidently and safely for as long as they wish to do so.

Please call or send an email regarding the Cost of Assessments as these depend on the requirements of the client

Irish School of Motoring (ISM) Franchise Instructor

Geographical regions covered by service:

Contact Telephone Email Web

Vehicle(s) used for Assessments

Dublin City and Dublin North County

Udo Sap (ADI) 01 8641790 / 01 4413303 / 087 7822888 <u>info@ism.ie</u> or <u>driveyrself@gmail.com</u> <u>www.ISM.ie</u>

Automatic* ✓ Manual ✓ Clients Own Car ✓ (subject to assessment) *Adapted automatic car, hand adaptations steering wheel spindle and left and right flip foot accelerator





Irish School of Motoring (ISM) is Irelands largest and longest established Driving School. At the present time, we provide assessments and training in specially adapted cars and provide an Off-Road Training Ground at our Training Centre in Finglas, Dublin 11. We provide an excellent service and a free door-to-door collection service at no extra cost. For further information, please view our website: <u>http://www.ism.ie/driving-lessons/</u> cardisabled-driving-lessons

We also work with other medical professionals, such as Occupational Therapists, when carrying out driving assessments on people with any possible cognitive or perceptual difficulties. Contact ISM at 01 8641790 for further information.

MOTOR ED DRIVING SCHOOL LTD

Geographical regions covered by service:

Contact Telephone Email Web Vehicle(s) used for Assessments

Louth, Meath, Cavan, Monaghan and Dublin

Martin/Phelim 0877874448 <u>motoreddrivingschool@gmail.com</u> <u>www.motor-ed.com</u> Manual/ Automatic ✓

Client's Car ✓ Bus ✓ Truck ✓



Driving school based in the North East since 2007.

Cover all categories from car to commercial.

Returning to work assessments or returning to social driving following an illness.

On road courses to improve or restore abilities.

Assistance with changes to environment or coping with new road infrastructure.

Assessments based in your local area or your work area.

OC Cars & Mobility

Geographical regions covered by	Dublin
Contact	Tanya Bruen (Mobility Advisor, Sales & Finance
Telephone	Consultant) 01 8332301 / 01 8054000
Email	sales@occars.ie / mobility@occars.ie
Web	http://www.occars.ie/
	http://www.ocmobilitysolutions.ie
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual 🗸
	Automatic 🗸
	Client's Own Car 🗸



OC Cars & Mobility provide a free information & advice service Driver & Passenger (NSAI Approved Workshop), we can advise on a range of issues including.

- Mobility Scheme Disabled Driver & Passenger Scheme.
- Advice on the right Wheelchair Accessible vehicle
- Driving Assessment
- Driver tuition
- Elderly Driving Assessment
- Vehicle Adaptation, a range of new & used Manual & Automatic vehicles Saloons, Hatchbacks
 & Estates. Large Selection of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles. (Full EU Type Approval)
- Process paperwork for Disabled Drivers/Passengers Scheme
- A review of your physical ability and range of movement
- Advice on which car adaptations are best suited to meet your needs if any
- An opportunity to trial different car adaptations in our dual-controlled vehicles
- A range of new and used manual or automatic vehicles.

Reasons for contacting the service -

- To determine your ability to drive a motor vehicle
- For current impartial information and advice on vehicle choice and adaptation
- People of all ages with mobility problems
- Families with disabled relatives who require advice on vehicles and equipment to travel in comfort and safety
- People experiencing any age-related difficulties
- Diagnosed with a disability / illness
- Driving Assessment

Or If you experience any difficulty with the following:

- Safe control of a vehicle
- Physical or Cognitive Fatigue
- Vehicle entry and exit
- Stowage of equipment, such as wheelchairs, scooters etc.
- Lack of confidence following a period of abstinence from driving

Adaptations Include – Dual controls, Push/Pull hand controls with indicator Toggle. Various Steering wheel Spinners. Infra-Red Secondary controls with Lollipop Grip. Quick release Handbrake. Easy Release Gear Select. Left Foot Flip Accelerator. Driver/Passenger Transfer Plate. Passenger Swivel Seat. 150KG Boot Hoist.

SERVICES IN MUNSTER

The information on services available is not exhaustive and therefore there may be other providers not mentioned but also providing On-Road Assessment Services. This document does not endorse, recommend or favour any specific service(s) and therefore you are under no obligation to use any of the service providers featured in this document.

Cú-Chulainn Driving Assessments Cork	
Geographical regions covered by service	Munster
Contact Telephone Email Web	Caoimhghin Whyte 087-7811409 <u>info@drivinglessonscork.ie</u> <u>www.drivinglessonscork.ie</u>
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Automatic ✓ Client's Own Car ✓
Cú-Chulainn Driving Assessments	

Cú-Chulainn Driving Assessments Cork has since 2002 been carrying out in-car practical on road driving assessments on people with mobility issues, caused by Spinal injuries, Stroke, Head Injuries, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, Spina Bifida, Friederichs Ataxia, etc. in ascertaining peoples' fitness to drive.

Assessing since 2002

We have plenty of experience in how to deal with the sensitive personal issues and the practical driving issues involved in dealing with such people in a caring and professional manner.

We meet people where they want us to meet them and do the on road in-car practical driving assessment with them. Then a written report is sent outlining how the assessment went to the relevant person/s advising on the individual's ability to drive.

We work with other medical professionals, such as Occupational Therapists, when carrying out driving assessments on people with any possible cognitive or perceptual difficulties.

We look forward to meeting new clients all the time.

Cork

Doou	to Driving	Accoccmont	Samiago
Resul		Assessment	. Services

Geographical regions covered by service;	Limerick, Clare, Tipperary
Contact	Tim O' Donoghue
Telephone	069 61999 / 087 2633599
•	-
Email	tim@resultsdrivingassessmentservices.ie
Web	www.resultsdrivingassessmentservices.ie
	č
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual 🗸
	Automatic 🗸
	Client's Own Car ✓



Results Driving Assessment Services was established by Tim O' Donoghue in 2014. We are a family run business with more than 30 years' experience providing driver tuition and road safety education in counties Limerick, Kerry and the surrounding areas.

Tim's numerous qualifications and years of experience in the area of driver assessment include:

- Diploma in Advanced Driving Instruction (ROSPA)
- Certificate in Transport Safety (LIT)
- Approved Driving Instructor with the Road Safety Authority (RSA).
- Irish Deaf Society Deaf Awareness Training.

We are based in Newcastle West, Co. Limerick and provide driver assessment services in Limerick, Clare and Tipperary. Our services are confidential, professional and friendly.

Driving lessons/assessments are provided in the client's own car; additionally, our fleet includes:

- A manual car (dual controlled)
- An automatic car (dual controlled)
- An automatic adapted car (includes push/pull mechanical hand controls, left foot accelerator, various steering wheel spinners, Bluetooth secondary controls, pedal guards, and pedal extensions). This vehicle is dual controlled.
- Group 2 licence assessments (HGV, trucks, passenger vehicles including mini-buses and coaches)

For any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Tim O' Donoghue (details above).

Southern Mobility	
Geographical regions covered by service;	Cork City & County
Contact Telephone Email Web	Tomás O' Callaghan 087 9304 335 / 021 4355 411 <u>info@southernmobility.ie</u> <u>www.southernmobility.ie</u>
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Adapted ✓ Automatic ✓ Client's Own



Southern Mobility is a family operated business and was established in 1997. We are a driver assessment, driver education & vehicle adaptation company.

We provide comprehensive driving programmes and driver assessment services to various hospitals, general practitioners, consultants, psychiatrists, occupational therapists and other health professionals. Additionally, we assist in various driving research programmes.

We are a professional indemnity insured company and provide a confidential, professional and friendly service.

Driver assessments and tuition services are carried out from our centre in Little Island or from a person's home in the Cork area. We also provide driving assessments servicing the West Cork area from Bandon Town.

We provide the following services:

- On-road driver assessments (including Group 1 & Group 2 licence holders)
- Passenger assessments
- Vehicle adaptations for passengers or drivers (NSAI approved)
- Driving tuition & driver assessment using:
 - ✓ Automatic car
 - ✓ Adapted car (Radial or push/pull mechanical hand controls, left foot accelerator, various steering wheel spinners, Bluetooth secondary controls, pedal guards, pedal extensions, etc.)
 - ✓ Client's own car
- Driver rehabilitation courses
- Older driver refresher courses
- Driving instructor training for ADI's who wish to advance their knowledge and skills to teach people with disabilities to drive
- Seminars, adapted vehicle demonstrations and a consultancy service
- Information and advice on licensing, adaptations, primary medical certificate etc.



Geographical regions covered by service:	Kerry and West Cork.
Contact Telephone Email Web	Joanie O'Donoghue 087 258391 <u>odonoghuejoanie@gmail.com</u>
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Client's Own Car√



With over a decade of driver training experience Southwest Mobility provide a qualified, professional service in Driver Training and Assessment. We are a family run business based in Killarney Co. Kerry.

Driver Assessments are carried out in the greater Kerry area, and from Bantry and Macroom areas and may be carried out from a person's home.

Our Services include....

Driver Assessment.

In Car / On road assessment to ascertain a person's ability to drive safely following any mobility difficulties, medical diagnosis or age-related changes.

Driver Rehabilitation.

> For anyone wishing to continue or return to driving following an accident / illness.

Older Drivers.

> For the senior driver who wishes to upskill and improve their confidence.

Driving Tuition.

> For learner drivers, people with disabilities and the able bodied.

SERVICES IN THE NORTH-WEST

The information on services available is not exhaustive and therefore there may be other providers not mentioned but also providing On-Road Assessment Services. This document does not endorse, recommend or favour any specific service(s) and therefore you are under no obligation to use any of the service providers featured in this document.

D's School of Motoring & Training		
Geographical regions covered by service:	Donegal, Sligo and Leitrim	
Contact Telephone Email Web	Diane Harvey 087 6556050 diane.b.harvey@gmail.com www.dsschoolofmotoring.ie	
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Automatic ✓ Adapted vehicle ✓	

Diane Harvey has been operating D's School of Motoring & Training in Donegal for 10 years. Based in Killybegs, Co. Donegal, Diane acquired The Road Safety Authority's Approved Driving Instructor qualification in 2010. Diane is an experienced, professional driving instructor with a strong track record in providing tuition to drivers with a diverse range of conditions or disabilities.

On-road driving assessments are frequently advised by medical practitioners for people following an illness, a medical diagnosis, or age-related changes – they can assist in determining a person's fitness to begin, return or continue driving. D's School of Motoring in Donegal provides a comprehensive driving and assessment programme to various general practitioners, occupational therapists, and other health professionals across the northwest.

In an ageing population, on-road driving assessments are increasingly important, and D's School of Motoring is the only instructor in Co Donegal offering this service. Diane provides the assessments in a respectful and sensitive manner, with the aim of keeping people independent and driving safely for as long as possible, while ensuring the roads remain safe for everyone.

D's School of Motoring also provides a driving tuition service for drivers with disabilities; the service is aimed at people who wish to learn to drive and people who are returning to drive. The D's School of Motoring fleet contains a manual car, an automatic car and an adapted vehicle to help provide a professional, comprehensive and specialist service in transport and mobility

Throughout her career, Diane has received many local and national awards in recognition of her dedication to her profession. Her qualifications include a Gold Medal Award in Advanced Driving from the UK-based Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) and a Certificate in Road Safety, Mobility & Health from the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI).

Diane is also a representative of the Approved Driving Instructors (ADIs) from the North West Region on the Road Safety Authority Stakeholders' Forum.

For more information contact Diane Harvey, D's School of Motoring & Training, Killybegs, on 087-655 6050 or email diane.b.harvey@gmail.com

North West TMC-I Limited

Geographical regions covered by service	North West Ireland including Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo
Contact Telephone Email Web	David Delamere / Tony Regan 0404 43853 / 087 263 5025 David@transportandmobility.ie tony@transportandmobility.ie www.transportandmobility.ie
Vehicle(s) used for Assessments	Manual ✓ Automatic ✓ Client's Own Car



At Transport & Mobility Consultants Ireland Ltd (TMC-I Ltd) we provide a direct on-road assessment service for people in the North-West region, covering Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo.

Our assessor Andrew Swain is an ADI and has a PGDip in On-Road Assessments from the University of Chester and Driving Mobility (UK).

He is currently completing an MSc in Driving for older and disabled people at Chester University.

Andrew joined the team at TMC-I Ltd in 2019 and provides assessments in the North West, covering Donegal, Sligo & Leitrim.

Andrew has over twenty years as a driving instructor and has worked in disability and driving for over ten years.