Temporary Foreign Worker Program

Moving from outside Canada

Welcome to B.C.! After moving here, you have 90 days to switch your valid licence to a B.C. driver’s licence.

The 90-day rule does not apply if you:
- Are visiting as a tourist for up to six months
- Have a valid student exemption due to full-time enrollment at a designated educational institution in B.C.
- Are temporary foreign worker with a federal work permit designating that you are in the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program (SAWP). Workers in the SAWP may drive for up to 12 months on a valid licence from their home jurisdiction. If you’re staying longer than 12 months under SAWP and want to continue driving then you will need to get a B.C. driver’s licence.

Driving experience requirement

If you don't have two years' driving experience (with a full-privilege, non-learner licence) or can't prove it, you can still get a Class 7 or Class 8 licence with graduated licensing restrictions.

How to apply for a B.C. licence

To apply for a B.C. driver's licence, go to any driver licensing office in B.C. Bring the following to apply for your licence:
- required ID
- your current driver's licence
- fee for your licence
- proof of driving experience

Giving up your previous licence

If you qualify for a new B.C. driver's licence, you will need to surrender your previous licence to ICBC.

B.C. law requires that you only have one driver's licence. This includes surrendering your previous licence if you are required to take a road test with us. If you do not pass the road test, you will be issued a B.C. Learners licence, and your previous licence will not be returned to you.

Taken from ICBC:
https://www.icbc.com/driver-licensing/moving-bc/Pages/Moving-from-another-country.aspx

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