

# Iowa DMV Permit Cheat Sheet

Generated by [dmvpermit.com](https://dmvpermit.com) — a free resource. Printable, one page.

---

## Top 10 Most-Missed Topics

- Right-of-way at 4-way stops (first to arrive goes first; tie ' vehicle on the right)
- Who yields at an uncontrolled intersection (vehicle on the left yields to the right)
- Safe following distance (3-4 second rule in good weather; double in rain)
- Road sign shapes (octagon = stop, inverted triangle = yield, diamond = warning, pentagon = school zone)
- School zone speed limit and how to interpret flashing yellow lights
- When you must stop for a school bus (almost always, both directions, unless divided highway)
- Parking distance from fire hydrants (typically 15 feet)
- Parking distance from crosswalks / stop signs (typically 20 feet)
- BAC limits (0.08% adult, 0.02% under 21, 0.04% commercial)
- Hand signals for turning and stopping (left arm: up=right, straight=left, down=stop)

## Iowa-Specific Gotchas

- Iowa-specific cell-phone laws are heavily tested — know your state's hands-free rule
- Iowa DUI thresholds are on almost every test — memorize adult, minor, and commercial BACs
- Iowa speed limits in residential vs business districts differ from highway limits — expect 1-2 questions

## Test Day Tips

- Arrive 15 minutes early — some DMVs stop accepting walk-ins before the posted close time
- Read every question fully before looking at answer choices — the DMV writes tricky distractors
- Skip and return — most DMV testing software lets you flag and come back to hard questions
- If you're stuck between two answers, pick the safer / more conservative driving behavior
- Don't guess on the first pass; use elimination. Guess only after you've gone through once

## What to Bring

- Primary ID (birth certificate, passport, or permanent resident card)
- Proof of Social Security number (card, W-2, or pay stub)
- Two proofs of residency (utility bill, lease, school records, bank statement)
- Parent or legal guardian if under 18 (Iowa requires parental consent for minors)
- Payment for the permit fee (check your state's current fee)
- Driver education certificate if required by your state

### Ready to actually pass?

DMVPermit gives you the full Iowa question bank, AI explanations for every answer, and spaced repetition that surfaces your weak spots. One payment, \$39.99.

[dmvpermit.com](https://dmvpermit.com) ' [Get DMVPermit](#)