June 8, 2020

NOTICE OF INSTRUCTION PERMIT EXTENSIONS

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the closure of Washington state driver licensing offices, the Department of Licensing (DOL) is automatically extending the expiration dates of valid Washington state instruction permits. This automatic extension applies to Washington permit holders with expiration dates on or after March 1, 2020, through September 30, 2020. This will allow permit holders affected by DOL office closures to continue to practice driving without penalty or incurring any late fees.

Instruction permit expiration dates will be automatically updated in the Department of Licensing computer system:

- Permits with an expiration date between March 1, 2020, and June 30, 2020, will be extended for an additional 180 days. This means these driver licenses will expire six months after the date printed on the license.
- Permits with an expiration date between July 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020, will be extended for 90 days. This means these driver licenses will expire three months after the date printed on the license.

Permit holders will not receive a new card with the new expiration date under this extension. DOL recommends carrying this letter while operating a vehicle and presenting it with an expired permit if asked to present it by law enforcement.

In addition to extending instruction permits, individuals also will be allowed to renew their permits online for a limited time. Visit our website at DOL.WA.GOV to renew an instruction permit online during this period of expanded eligibility.

Drivers or businesses that need to validate an expiration date for a permit holder can do so on the DOL website: https://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/checkstatus.html