

Q: What is the Enhanced Road Assessment (ERA)?

A: The ERA is a driving assessment that evaluates a driver's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. It consists of tasks designed to assess driving skills and behaviours in situations of increasing complexity. The ERA is administered by the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) on behalf of RoadSafetyBC. The results of the ERA are reviewed by RoadSafetyBC along with any other relevant information on file in order to make a licensing decision.

Q: Who may be referred for an ERA?

A: As part of the process of making a Driver Medical Fitness determination, Class 5 or 7 drivers with a medical condition that may affect the motor, cognitive or sensory functions required for driving may be referred to the ERA by RoadSafetyBC. Referrals to the ERA are not made on the basis of a driver's age, and drivers of any age may be referred to the ERA.

Q: How is the ERA different from an ICBC road test?

A: An ICBC road test collects data on whether a driver can demonstrate specific driving skills when guided by a driver examiner in a structured environment. The components of the ERA are designed to assess driving skills and behaviours in a real-world environment, where a driver must be able to self-navigate and react to changing driving conditions. The ERA includes a feedback component, which gives the driver an opportunity to improve their driving for the remainder of the assessment. While an ICBC road test has a "pass or fail" model based on the number of demerits a driver receives, the ERA is an assessment that provides important information for RoadSafetyBC to review and consider, along with all other relevant information on file, to make a licensing decision.

Q: What number of demerits will result in a driver being unsuccessful on the ERA?

A: There is no set number of demerits that determines whether a driver is successful or unsuccessful on the ERA. While the quantitative demerit scoring is considered by RoadSafetyBC, the licensing decision is made considering all of the information related to a driver's medical fitness to drive. This includes the driver examiner's narrative description of the assessment, the individual's driving record, and any reports from medical professionals, police, or family members.

Q: What are the outcomes for the driver after the ERA?

A: After a driver takes an ERA, the results are forwarded to RoadSafetyBC where they are reviewed, along with all other information related to the driver's medical fitness to drive, to make a licensing decision. In the meantime, the driver may retain their driver's licence or be issued a learner's driver's licence. A learner's driver's licence may be issued if there were traffic violations or Dangerous Action during the ERA. The driver will be advised in writing of the licensing decision, or whether an additional ERA or other medical information is required.

Q: Will drivers be able to take three ERAs, as was previously available for an ICBC re-exam?

A: The ERA is an assessment that provides important information for RoadSafetyBC to consider when making a licensing decision. Once a driver has taken an ERA, RoadSafetyBC will review the results, along with all other relevant information in the driver's file, to determine if the driver will maintain their licence or if the licence will be cancelled. In some cases, RoadSafetyBC may decide that another ERA is required in order to make the licensing decision. However, additional ERAs are at the discretion of RoadSafetyBC, based on all of the relevant information in a driver's file.

Q: Why can't the driver book a second attempt immediately after the ERA?

A: All additional ERAs are at the discretion of RoadSafetyBC. Drivers must wait to receive a letter from RoadSafetyBC to be notified of the licensing decision and any next steps, including whether another ERA is required.

Q: Have you considered the needs of seniors in creating the ERA?

A: In developing the ERA, we have consulted various seniors' advocates and support groups, as well as the University of Victoria Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health to gain insight on the challenges seniors may face during the assessment process. We have considered that road rules and expectations of driving skills have evolved since many seniors learned to drive. When a driver is referred to the ERA, they are provided with information on what to expect from the assessment and how to prepare. Drivers are able to use their own vehicle for the ERA and there is no computer component during the assessment.



Q: Will there be an in-office computer based screening?

A: No. There is no in-office computer based screening during the ERA. The ERA consists of a pre-trip vehicle orientation, on-road drive, and post-trip review of the results.

Q: Will the driver's ability to remember multiple step directions be considered when RoadSafetyBC makes a licensing decision?

A: The focus of the ERA results is on functional driving skills, rather than on the ability to complete tasks. The results will indicate whether driving errors were made during particular tasks, including the multiple step direction task, but the ability to recall multiple-step directions is not given a score. However, if there are safety concerns, this may be noted in the ERA results and considered by RoadSafetyBC in the overall decision making process. The ERA results are considered along with all other relevant information on the driver's file, which may include information from medical professionals, police, family members, and the individual's driving record.

Q: Will drivers still be required to complete a Driver Medical Examination Report (DMER) at age 80 and every two years thereafter?

A: Yes. When a driver reaches age 80 and every 2 years thereafter, they will continue to be required to have a DMER completed by their physician and submitted to RoadSafetyBC. However, this does not mean they will be required to take an ERA, or other assessment. RoadSafetyBC will review the information provided in the DMER, along with all other relevant information on file, and determine whether further information or assessment is required. Referrals to the ERA will be made based on the entirety of the information on a driver's file, which may include information from medical professionals, police, and the individual's driving record.

Further enquiries regarding the ERA may be emailed to:
RoadSafetyBC@gov.bc.ca