

Segment I helpful hints –

(These are common areas of content you may see on the state test.)

Sharing the Road with other vehicles

- Passing laws and best practices - Passing zones -
- Returning to your lane after passing - see the vehicles headlights
- passing on the right - prohibited - only allowable in passing lane
- passing parked cars - Vehicles on right be to the left portion of your lane - Vehicles on the Left - drive to the right

White Cane Law / Pedestrians - yield the right of way to visually impaired persons and any pedestrian in the road.

Semis - tractor trailers -

- blind zones - in front, sides, and to the rear of the tractor trailer
- space needed in front of large trucks - for vehicles to stop
- space needed in front of your vehicle when following so you can see around them; leave more room.
- right lane squeeze - trucks track tight to the right, need as much room as possible to turn right.
- trucks turning left cut across the lane - they need both lanes.

Motorcycles

They take less time to stop and are more maneuverable, so leave them more room. They often change lanes more quickly, but they still have the use of the full lane as any other vehicle. They are also harder to see and can easily be hidden in your blind spot.

Emergency Vehicles

- State law states you must pull off to the right. If you can't move to the right, go to the right side of your lane and stop.
- Move Over Law - officer pulled a vehicle over on the side of the road. Change lanes to the left and slow down. If you can't slow down.

School busses -

- If the yellow lights are flashing, prepare to stop.
- If a bus is stopped on the opposite side of a two lane road with a median or barrier, you do not have to stop if you are going the opposite direction.
- Know the distance state law requires you stop behind.

Intersections

- Always yield to pedestrians
- Know rules of the road at a 4 way stop
- Know when you can and cant turn Right at a red light at intersections.
- When turning left at a solid green light, oncoming traffic has the right of way. You **MUST** yield to oncoming traffic before turning left.
- When waiting for oncoming traffic to clear the intersection before you turn left, pull into the intersection partially, with your wheels straight.
- A green arrow gives you the right of way - A Protected Left - a solid green light is An Unprotected Left.
- Two vehicles at an intersection at the same time - vehicle on left yields to vehicle on right.
- Michigan rolling stops are only legal at YIELD signs.
- When the light turns yellow - STOP - do **NOT** run the light.
- When the light turns green at an intersection you should check in all directions before proceeding. A good rule of thumb is to wait 2 seconds before proceeding.
- When scanning an intersection look left, center, right then left again.
- An officer overrules all signals at an intersection
- FALL - First Available Legal Lane
- When changing lanes you must put on your signal at least 100 ft. ahead.
- Check traffic signals in the city at least one block ahead.

Driving at night

- Remember not to overdrive your headlights. Your low beams should be used at speeds of 55 mph or lower.
- When blinded by oncoming traffic, look to the right side of your lane toward the fog line.
- Change from high beams to low beams - within 500 feet of oncoming vehicles; also, use your headlights when you can't see clearly within 500 feet.
- MI state law requires you to have headlights on 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise.
- When driving in fog, use your low beams
- Use your low beams when your windshield wipers are on.

Forces / Traction -

- Loss of traction are caused by sudden, quick maneuvers, or reactions.
- Hydroplaning occurs when a layer of water forms between the road surface and the tires. You can tell if conditions are right when you see the water splashes on the pavement from the vehicle in front of you.
- Front wheel and rear wheel skids
- Electronic Stability Control determines where your intended path of travel is and brakes alternate wheel front and back to twist the car around its center and return it to a straight line.
- On frozen roads, bridges freeze first before the road surface.
 - Anti-lock brakes
 - If you don't have ABS and need to make an emergency stop - brake softly - pump your brakes - if the vehicle is skidding, turn the wheels in the direction you want the vehicle to go.
 - Front wheel skids - your vehicle moves in a straight line regardless of your steering input.
 - Rear wheel skid - the rear wants to pass you
 - You can get better traction on wet and snowy roads by driving in the tracks of vehicles ahead.
 - Hydroplaning is very dangerous and hard to tell if it's happening until it happens. It is hard to predict.
- Inertia - objects at rest stay at rest - objects in motion stay in motion - reason for seatbelts.
- If you double the speed of your vehicle you quadruple the energy in a crash.
- The speed of the vehicle is the most important factor in determining how hard you will hit an object in a crash.
- If you have to hit an object, pick one that will "give."

Speed limits

Kinetic Energy

Alcohol Laws in Michigan

Aggressive Driving

rail road crossing - stop no closer than 15 feet.

Freeway driving - on ramps - acceleration and deceleration lanes - types of exit ramps - merge lanes - weave lanes

distracted driving -