
Chapter 5

Qualification and Licensing of Track Combat Vehicle Drivers



Mechanical Knowledge Test

The mechanical knowledge test (app B) verifies the student's knowledge of the vehicle on which he trained.

Section I Qualification

1. Four vehicles designated as stations are arranged at extended intervals in an area free from congestion and distraction.
2. There is one examiner per vehicle, with the appropriate questionnaire for that vehicle and a station score card.
3. The student must identify all major components of the vehicle and explain or demonstrate the services and adjustments required of the driver.
4. The standards for this type of test are high. Therefore, examination procedure must be impartial and thorough to achieve the desired results.
5. Each student is tested individually.
6. A score of 80 percent is satisfactory.

Driver Information Test

The driver information test (app C) verifies the student's knowledge of track vehicle driving principles and practices.

1. This is a written test and can be given to students as a group.
2. A copy of the test is given each student.
3. The student records his answers on a locally reproduced or preprinted answer sheet.
4. A score of 80 percent is satisfactory.

Field Driving Proficiency Test

The field driving proficiency test (app D) is the final examination for the student. It is designed to determine his ability to drive the vehicle over difficult cross-country terrain and in convoys. Driving should clearly indicate the student's self-confidence.

When designing a field driving proficiency course, keep the following considerations in mind:

1. Response to verbal orders and hand and arm signals should be prompt.
2. The proficiency course should include as many of the features used in training as possible but should not duplicate the training course.
3. The student must drive the course half way with his hatch open and return with it closed, using indirect-vision devices. (If possible, the course should cover 3 to 5 miles.)
4. As a preliminary to the record run and to become accustomed to the testing vehicle, the student must drive a short familiarization course on which he must:
 - a. Use indirect-vision devices to judge the distance to a post.
 - b. Drive vehicle toward the post.
 - c. Try to stop 2 feet from the post (3 lines should be marked off on the ground at 1-, 2-, and 3-foot distances in front of the post). If the student stops within 1 foot on either side of the 2 footmark, he passes the exercise. Four attempts to pass are allowed.
5. Use a checklist (app D) to record the student's performance and carefully note any evidence of vehicle abuse or uncertainty on the student's part.
6. A score of 80 percent is satisfactory.

Depth perception is measured by requiring the examinee to pull up and stop his vehicle so that its bumper is within one foot from a stanchion, without hitting it or knocking it over. The stanchion should be located just before the point where the scored part of the road test begins. A line should be marked off on the ground at a distance of one foot from the stanchion. If the individual stops the vehicle so that its bumper is within one foot of the stanchion (but not touching it), he has passed the test. The examinee will be allowed three additional tries if he does not pass the first one.

Section II

Licensing

Standard Form 46

A Standard Form 46 (SF 46) is a standard, non-limited, or full driver's permit. Specific information is found in paragraph 12, AR 600-55.

A ledger of all Standard Forms 46 issued is maintained by the unit or organization issuing the licenses. This ledger must include the name of the person to whom issued, date, type of permit, and authority or

certification. SF 46 is valid as indicated in AR 600-55 until revoked or suspended for cause. Renewal procedure is followed when a licensed driver qualifies on an additional type of vehicle. This procedure reevaluates the driver's qualifications.

The official block of the SF 46 is signed by the commanding officer or the authorized supervisor—civilian or commissioned officer.

Classification of Standard Form 46

Army Learner Permit —Issued to students at the beginning of the driving training program (p 12), with “ARMY LEARNER” stamped on the front side.

Standard Driver Permit —Issued to students who successfully complete driver training (see appendix G for flow chart of testing procedure). Specific nomenclature of the vehicle is entered on SF 46.

For example: Tank, M60A3
 Recovery Vehicle, M88A1

The word “ARMY” is stamped on the front of SF 46 and “HEAVY” is stamped on the back. (In classifying operator's permits, all track vehicles are regarded as heavy; some wheel vehicles are regarded as heavy; others as light.)

Expert Driver Permit —Issued to Army motor vehicle operators with exceptionally good driving performance and safety records of one year or more. These individuals are eligible for safety awards under the provisions of AR 672-5-1 and, in recognition of merit, “ARMY—EXPERT” is stamped on their SF 46 permits.