

Illinois Secretary of State permit practice test 11

From the Illinois Rules of the Road 2026 (DSD A 112). Free at permitpracticetestdmv.com/illinois/

25 questions. Circle one answer for each. Answer key on the last page. Name: _____ Score: _____ / 25

1. What does the Illinois Rules of the Road say causes most rear-end crashes?

- A. Bad brakes
- B. Speeding on curves
- C. Following too closely (tailgating)
- D. Wet roads

2. What following-distance rule does Illinois recommend in good conditions?

- A. Five-second rule
- B. One-second rule
- C. Three-second rule
- D. Two-second rule

3. Someone is tailgating you. What should you do?

- A. Wave them back
- B. Move to another lane or slowly pull off the road and let them pass
- C. Speed up
- D. Brake hard to warn them

4. At 55 mph, about how far back does the three-second rule put you, according to the Illinois table?

- A. 111 feet
- B. 198 feet
- C. 243 feet
- D. 309 feet

5. What happens to stopping distance when you double your speed?

- A. It doubles
- B. It triples
- C. It quadruples
- D. It stays the same

6. How can a strong tailwind affect your driving?

- A. It can make it very difficult to stop
- B. It makes stopping easier
- C. It improves steering
- D. It has no effect

7. Driving in fog, which lights should you use?

- A. Low beams (dim) or fog lights
- B. Hazard lights only while moving
- C. Parking lights only
- D. High beams

8. If the fog becomes too dense to see, the Illinois Rules of the Road says you should:

- A. Pull off the roadway and stop
- B. Follow the taillights ahead closely
- C. Drive at 5-10 mph with flashers
- D. Use high beams

9. Illinois law requires your headlights to be on when:

- A. You drive on an expressway
- B. Your windshield wipers are in use
- C. You carry passengers
- D. You drive in a school zone

10. Your vehicle starts to hydroplane and you can't regain control. What should you do?

- A. Turn the wheel sharply
- B. Brake hard
- C. Accelerate
- D. Release the accelerator and ride out the skid

11. You come to a flooded viaduct after heavy rain. What should you do?

- A. Drive through slowly
- B. Turn around and find another route
- C. Follow a larger vehicle through
- D. Drive through quickly to avoid stalling

12. Which parts of the road may stay icy after the rest of the road is clear?

- A. Parking lots
- B. Straight roads in the sun
- C. Bridges, overpasses, shaded spots and turns
- D. Toll plazas

13. If you become stranded in winter weather, what should you do?

- A. Run the engine continuously with windows closed
- B. Walk to find help
- C. Leave the car and flag down traffic
- D. Stay in your vehicle, run the engine only briefly with a window open, and keep the tailpipe clear

14. How should you brake on snow or ice?

- A. Not at all
- B. Only with the parking brake
- C. Hard and fast
- D. Gently, in slow, steady strokes, starting early

15. What is the speed-change lane at an expressway entrance used for?

- A. Gaining speed to match traffic before merging
- B. Parking
- C. Emergency stops
- D. Passing

16. You miss your exit on the expressway. What should you do?

- A. Make a U-turn through the median
- B. Back up on the shoulder
- C. Stop and wait for a gap to reverse
- D. Continue to the next exit

17. Your car has a problem on the expressway. What should you do?

- A. Walk along the expressway to an exit
- B. Pull off the road, lift the hood and turn on hazard flashers
- C. Keep driving slowly in the left lane
- D. Stop in your lane

18. How far ahead of an oncoming vehicle must you dim your high beams?

- A. 200 feet
- B. 300 feet
- C. 500 feet
- D. 1,000 feet

19. At night you come up behind a vehicle you intend to pass. How far before passing it must you dim your high beams?

- A. 100 feet
- B. 300 feet
- C. 500 feet
- D. 1,000 feet

20. Headlights must be on from sunset to sunrise and when you need your wipers. When else does the handbook say headlights should be used?

- A. Only on expressways
- B. Only in parking lots
- C. Only in tunnels
- D. When objects 1,000 feet away cannot be seen

21. A vehicle is coming head-on toward you in your lane. What should you do?

- A. Speed up
- B. Slow down, pull to the right and sound your horn
- C. Stop in your lane
- D. Swerve left into the other lane

22. Your vehicle starts to skid. What should you do?

- A. Ease off the gas or brakes and steer in the direction of the skid until you regain traction
- B. Steer opposite the skid
- C. Accelerate hard
- D. Slam on the brakes

23. Your right wheels drift off the pavement onto the shoulder. What should you do?

- A. Grip the wheel, ease off the gas, brake gently, then steer gently back after checking traffic
- B. Accelerate back onto the road
- C. Brake hard
- D. Jerk the wheel left right away

24. Your car runs into water and is sinking. Where does an air pocket usually form?

- A. Front seat footwell
- B. Under the dashboard
- C. The trunk
- D. The back seat area

25. Power lines fall on your car after a crash and there is no fire. What should you do?

- A. Touch the car and the ground to ground yourself
- B. Get out immediately
- C. Stay in the vehicle until help arrives
- D. Move the wires yourself

Answer key: Illinois practice test 11

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1. C: Following too closely (tailgating)

Following too closely, or tailgating, causes most rear-end crashes. (Following Distances, page 83)

2. C: Three-second rule

Use the three-second rule: you should not reach a fixed object before counting 'one-thousand-three' after the car ahead passes it. Increase the distance in poor conditions. (Following Distances, page 83)

3. B: Move to another lane or slowly pull off the road and let them pass

If you are tailgated, move to another lane or slowly pull off the road to let the vehicle pass. (Following Distances, page 83)

4. C: 243 feet

At 55 mph a vehicle travels about 81 feet per second, so three seconds is about 243 feet. (Following Distances, page 83)

5. C: It quadruples

Doubling your speed quadruples your vehicle's stopping distance. (Vehicle Speed, page 84)

6. A: It can make it very difficult to stop

A strong tailwind can make it very difficult to stop, so consider wind when choosing your speed. (Vehicle Speed, page 84)

7. A: Low beams (dim) or fog lights

In fog, drive with your headlights set on dim (low beams) or use fog lights, not high beams. (Fog, page 84)

8. A: Pull off the roadway and stop

If fog is too dense, pull off the roadway and stop. The handbook warns against creeping along at 5-10 mph. (Fog, page 84)

9. B: Your windshield wipers are in use

Illinois law requires headlights whenever you are using your windshield wipers. (Rain, page 85)

10. D: Release the accelerator and ride out the skid

Slow down to avoid hydroplaning. If you skid and can't regain control, release the accelerator and ride out the skid. (Rain, page 85)

11. B: Turn around and find another route

Don't drive through flooded areas; you can't judge the depth or current. Turn around and find another route. (Rain, page 85)

12. C: Bridges, overpasses, shaded spots and turns

Bridges, shaded spots, overpasses and turns may stay icy after the rest of the road is clear and dry. (Winter Driving, page 85)

13. D: Stay in your vehicle, run the engine only briefly with a window open, and keep the tailpipe clear

Stay in the vehicle, run the engine only for brief periods with a window open to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, and keep the tailpipe clear. (Winter Driving, page 85)

14. D: Gently, in slow, steady strokes, starting early

Apply brakes gently in slow, steady strokes to judge traction, and start braking early. (Winter Driving, page 85)

15. A: Gaining speed to match traffic before merging

The speed-change lane lets you reach traffic speed before merging. Signal, find an opening, match speed and merge when safe. (Expressway Driving, page 86)

16. D: Continue to the next exit

Go to the next exit. Backing up on an expressway is against the law. (Expressway Driving, page 86)

17. B: Pull off the road, lift the hood and turn on hazard flashers

Don't stop on the expressway. Pull off, lift the hood, turn on your flashers, and never walk along the expressway. (Expressway Driving, page 86)

18. C: 500 feet

Dim bright lights 500 feet before meeting an oncoming vehicle and 300 feet before passing a vehicle you are following. (Night Driving, page 87)

19. B: 300 feet

Bright lights must be dimmed 300 feet before passing a vehicle, and 500 feet before meeting an oncoming one. (Night Driving, page 87)

20. D: When objects 1,000 feet away cannot be seen

Besides sunset to sunrise and whenever rain, snow or fog require wipers, headlights should also be used when you cannot see objects 1,000 feet away. (Required Equipment, page 92)

21. B: Slow down, pull to the right and sound your horn

Slow down, pull over to the right, and sound the horn. (Head-on Approaches, page 87)

22. A: Ease off the gas or brakes and steer in the direction of the skid until you regain traction

Ease off the gas or brakes, steer into the direction of the skid until you regain traction, then straighten the vehicle. (Skidding, page 87)

23. A: Grip the wheel, ease off the gas, brake gently, then steer gently back after checking traffic

Grip the wheel firmly, ease off the gas and brake gently. After checking traffic behind you, steer gently back. Jerking the wheel can send you into oncoming traffic. (Driving Off the Pavement, page 87)

24. D: The back seat area

If the vehicle sinks, move to the back seat area where an air pocket usually forms, take a breath and exit through a rear window if possible. (Water Crashes, page 88)

25. C: Stay in the vehicle until help arrives

Stay in the vehicle until help arrives. Only if fire is an immediate danger should you jump clear without touching the car and ground at the same time. (Electricity, page 88)