



# Vision Guidelines (Chapter 5)



Published by  
Kuwatch Law Offices  
<http://www.dui-law.com>  
707 456 9000

(Rev. 2/99)

## **VISION CONDITIONS**

Certain visual conditions may impair an individual's ability to drive safely. The attached Vision Conditions and Actions Chart and Glossary of Terms lists and defines common vision conditions and impairments. The chart lists the range of severity, functional impairments, stability of each condition, and actions taken by the department, including restrictions that may need to be imposed on the driving privilege.

### ***Vision Standards***

The department's vision screening standard is the ability to see 20/40 with both eyes together, with or without corrective lenses. Drivers who fail the vision screening are referred to a vision specialist who must examine the driver and complete a Report of Vision Examination (form DL 62). The driver must submit the completed form DL 62 to the department. Limited term licenses, temporary licenses or extensions are not issued to drivers with low vision who have failed the vision screening until a completed DL 62 has been reviewed and it is determined that the vision condition does not impair the person's ability to drive safely. Individuals with extremely poor vision (visual acuity of 20/200 or worse), may not be scheduled for a drive test.

Following review of the Report of Vision Examination, the driver may be scheduled for a Drive Test or Special Drive Test to determine whether the vision condition impairs the ability to drive or whether the driver can adequately compensate for the vision condition. If the driving test is failed and the condition is severe and the condition cannot be compensated for, a revocation is warranted.

### ***Licensing Actions:***

If the department determines from the evidence that the condition could improve and/or the examiner believes driving skills could improve with additional training, restrictions that limit driving exposure, but allow for additional training or practice, can be imposed. Drivers who want to learn to drive or retain their driving privilege may be issued a restricted license or instruction permit for a sufficient length of time suitable to their needs.

An immediate revocation is imposed pursuant to Vehicle Code Section 13953 after an examiner gives a driving test or special driving test to a low-vision driver who has performed dangerously poor and the condition renders the person unsafe to drive. The driver may request a hearing after receiving a notice of suspension or revocation.

### ***Vision Conditions and Actions Chart***

The Vision Conditions and Actions chart describes the procedures the department follows when evaluating drivers with possible vision-related driving disabilities. The chart applies to noncommercial Class C and Class M drivers. The Vision Conditions and Actions chart identifies, where appropriate, one or more of the following seven vision functions that may be impaired by the vision condition:

### ***Central Vision/Visual Acuity:***

When a driver notices something that may be important to his/her driving such as a road sign, hazard, or change in the traffic flow, central vision is used to discern detail, identify, and/or recognize what the driver is looking at. Visual acuity is the finest spatial detail which may be perceived.

The department uses Snellen wall charts to screen driver license applicants for a far visual acuity of no worse than 20/40 in Snellen notation. Snellen wall charts are based on the fact that impaired visual acuity makes it harder to discriminate the fine differences that distinguish one letter from another. Passing this test means that the applicant can read the letters at 20 feet or more that are large enough for a young and healthy observer to read at 40 feet.

Visual acuity impaired by one or more vision conditions can result in the driver failing to read signs and/or recognize hazards in a timely manner.

***Peripheral Vision:***

Normally when you look at something, you center the visual image in the central portion of your visual field. Peripheral or side vision is the field of view that surrounds the central portion of the vision field. In driving, peripheral vision is used in part to detect information that may be important for safe driving. This kind of information includes road signs, appearances of hazards, and changes in the flow of traffic. When the healthy driver notices something important, head and eye movements are used to move the visual image into the central portion of the visual field. In other words, the driver moves his or her head and eyes to look at the object or event of interest.

Peripheral vision is also used in controlling the vehicle. When the driver looks in the rear view mirror, peripheral vision is used to monitor traffic in front of the vehicle. In keeping the vehicle centered in the lane, peripheral vision is used to monitor the lane boundaries.

Peripheral vision impaired by one or more vision conditions can result in the driver failing to react to a hazard coming from the driver's far left or far right, failing to heed a stop light suspended over an intersection, weaving while negotiating a curve, and/or driving too close to parked cars.

***Night Vision:***

The visual ability of two drivers may be about the same during the daylight hours and be markedly different at night. Driving safely at night requires seeing well not only under low illumination, it also requires one to see low contrast objects. Someone wearing dark clothes and crossing the street in front of the driver is much harder to detect at night than during the day because there is much less contrast at night between darkly clothed pedestrians and a dark background.

Night vision impaired by one or more vision conditions can result in the driver at night failing to react to hazards located directly in front of the vehicle, tailgating, and/or failing to steer when necessary because the driver is unable to see low contrast features of the roadway such as its edges and irregularities in the road surface.

***Glare Resistance and Glare Recovery:***

Glare is the disruption of vision due to a veiling luminance (such as the light from the headlights of oncoming traffic at night) being superimposed on the visual image (such as the outline of the car ahead of you).

Glare resistance is the extent to which the driver can still see critical objects and events while facing a steady source of glare such as the setting sun or the light from the headlights on a steady stream of oncoming traffic at night.

Glare recovery is the rapidity with which the driver's vision functioning returns to what it was before the glare was encountered.

Glare resistance/glare recovery impaired by one or more vision conditions can result in the driver being blinded by a glare source and consequently missing curves in the road, striking unobserved pedestrians, and/or crashing into the rear of slow-moving, stalled, or stopped vehicles.

***Judgment of Distance:***

Judgment of distance impaired by one or more vision conditions can result in the driver stopping too short of the limit line or inside the intersection, turning too wide or too short, and/or failing to maintain speed and/or following distance appropriate for prevailing driving conditions.

***Eye Movements:***

Eye movements impaired by one or more vision conditions can result in visual scanning deficiencies. There may be uncontrolled up and down or random scanning rather than side-to-side scanning. There could also be a tendency to look at a specific object too long or continuously look straight ahead. Consequently, the driver may fail to react to hazards and fail to heed traffic signs and signals. Changing lanes could be especially hazardous if the driver spends an excessive amount of time looking to the rear of the vehicle.

***Visual Perception:***

Visual perception is the processing of incoming visual information. Visual perception impaired by one or more vision conditions can result in difficulties with performing several visual tasks at the same time. The driver may have impaired ability to:

- switch attention to important events without interference from distracters or clutter in the visual environment,
- distinguish foreground from background,
- determine the position of other vehicles, signs, and pedestrians relative to self and to each other.

Consequently, the driver may brake and/or stop unexpectedly, maintain inordinately long following distance (to keep from having to react quickly), fail to react to hazards, and/or fail to heed traffic signs and signals.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>AMBLYOPIA</b> (Lazy Eye)	A reduction in the acuteness of vision without apparent eye disease. This condition cannot be entirely corrected by lenses.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Can usually pass screening test. Visual acuity is no worse than 20/70.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Moderate degree of distortion and degraded central vision, most often in one eye. Visual acuity is 20/70 - 20/200.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Minimal central and peripheral vision with reduction of perceived brightness in affected eye. Visual acuity is worse than 20/200.</p>	<p>This condition generally affects only one eye and is STABLE.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision (in very severe cases)</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	the condition is mild or this stable condition was previously identified	N/A
Driving Test	the visual acuity in one eye is 20/70 or worse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if the driver just needs more training or practice. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	
Special Driving Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the visual acuity is 20/100 or worse in both eyes, or</li> <li>• the Driving Test is failed and it is determined the person may show improvement on the Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license if the test is satisfactory. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
Immediate Revocation	the Driving Test or Special Driving Test is failed and the condition is so severe that improvement will never be made or compensated for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to have the driving record immediately updated.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add only if the driver passes the driving test or special driving test and they are not already coded on the record.)

- Corrective lenses
- Add a sunrise to sunset if the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62.
- Additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>APHAKIA</b>  Also see Cataract and Pseudophakia	Absence of the crystalline lens of the eye; usually the result of cataract removal surgery.	<u>Mild</u> : Corrected by contact lenses.  <u>Moderate</u> : Corrected by glasses or contact lenses and glasses.  <u>Severe</u> : Uncorrectable condition, rarely seen.	This condition is <b>STABLE</b> . The quality of near and far vision is dependent upon the correctability of visual acuity with contact lenses and/or glasses.  <u>Moderate</u> : Partial peripheral field loss (ring scotoma) due to thick glasses.  <u>Severe</u> : Inability to focus  Vision functions that may be impaired: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	this stable condition was previously identified and the driver has continued to demonstrate compensation.	N/A
Driving Test	the condition is moderate and is coming to the department's attention for the first time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if the driver just needs more training or practice. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed,</li> </ul>	
Special Driving Test	the condition is severe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to have the driving record immediately updated.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add only if the driver passes the driving test or special driving test and they are not already coded on the record.)

- Corrective lenses
- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>ASTIGMATISM</b>  Also see Keratoconus	A condition in which the visual image is poorly focused. Generally correctable by lenses.	<u>Mild</u> : Correctable by lenses.  <u>Moderate</u> : Correctable by lenses.  <u>Severe</u> : Uncorrectable.	This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. The person’s vision will be double or blurred without corrective lenses.  Vision functions that may be impaired: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	the condition is mild or moderate and the screening standards have been met.	N/A
Driving Test	the condition is mild or moderate but the screening standards cannot be met. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if the driver just needs more training or practice. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the condition is severe. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the test is unsatisfactory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to have the driving record immediately updated.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if not already coded on the record.)

- Corrective lenses

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<p><b>BRAIN TUMOR OR LESION</b> causing vision disorders</p> <p>Also see Head Trauma and Hemianopia</p>	<p>A tumor may be in the brain or skull. It may be a primary tumor or part of another tumor.</p> <p>A brain lesion refers to a portion of the brain that has been damaged. The tumor or lesion may cause:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• swelling</li> <li>• inflammation of the optic nerve.</li> <li>• inflammation of the visual center of the brain.</li> </ul> <p>Any of these disturbances may result in a disruption of the processing of vital information.</p>	<p><u>Mild:</u> Slow growing tumor or lesion.</p> <p><u>Moderate:</u> Tumor or lesion increases the chances of perceptual and motor deficits.</p> <p><u>Severe:</u> Tumor or lesion may cause inability to identify objects see; may cause blindness.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. It may cause a lack of awareness of visual stimuli on one side of the visual field (spatial neglect).</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> </ul>

**EXAMINER**

Action Needed	When	Then
Refer to Driver Safety.	Always refer to Driver Safety regardless of the level of severity.	N/A

**DRIVER SAFETY SPECIALIST**

Action Needed	To	Then
1. Evaluate the DL 62 and the DS 326	determine if it is safe to schedule a Special Driving Test.	If the medical documentation indicates it is safe to place the driver in a vehicle with an examiner, schedule a Special Driving Test. If it is not safe, impose revocation.
2. Schedule a Special Driving Test	evaluate driving skills and compensating abilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consult the DL 62 (prognosis) and the DS 326 (levels of functional impairments) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Appropriate actions include calendar reexamination, limited term license, or Medical Probation II, with appropriate restrictions..</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory, and the condition is severe but correctable,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impose suspension.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory, and the condition is sever and uncorrectable,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impose suspension.</li> </ul>

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS** (Add only if the driver passes the driving test or special driving test and they are not already coded on the record.)

- Corrective lenses
- Advise driver to scan often.
- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.
- Impose a sunrise to sunset restriction, if the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62.
- May need an area or no freeway restrictions due to spatial neglect.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>CATARACT</b>  Also see Pseudophakia.	Opacity or clouding of the crystalline lens. Usually correctable by surgery. May be associated with a diabetic condition or other metabolic diseases. May also be caused by age, eye injury, or heredity.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Cataract is just beginning to show (incipient). No significant vision loss. Lens absorbs fluids and swells (immature).</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Lens shrinks and becomes opaque causing loss of vision (mature).</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Nucleus is solid and shrunken, or soft and liquid (hypermaturation). Vision loss is severe, sometimes leading to blindness.</p>	This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE.  Vision functions that may be impaired: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	the condition is mild, there is no significant vision loss, and the screening standards have been met.	Issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions.
Driving Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the condition is mild but vision does not meet the screening standard, or the condition is moderate.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given. Consider whether the driver may be able to show improvement if given a longer test, or if tested in areas that may be accommodated by restrictions.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the condition is severe.</li> <li>• the Driving Test is failed but improvement in driving may be demonstrated on a longer test.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the test is unsatisfactory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to have the driving record immediately updated.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- Impose a sunrise to sunset restriction if the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62.
- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mount.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>CEREBRAL PALSY</b>	Paralysis resulting from developmental defects in the brain or brain trauma at birth.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Minimal impairment.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Difficulty with involuntary eye movement.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Can include degeneration of the optic nerve. The person will experience increased difficulties with unpredictable changes.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> </ul>

**EXAMINER**

Action Needed	When	Then
Refer to Driver Safety.	Always refer to Driver Safety regardless of the level of severity.	N/A

**DRIVER SAFETY SPECIALIST**

Action Needed	To	Then
1. Evaluate the DL 62 and the DS 326	determine if it is safe to schedule a Special Driving Test.	If the medical documentation indicates it is safe to place the driver in a vehicle with an examiner, schedule a Special Driving Test. If it is not safe, impose revocation.
2. Schedule a Special Driving Test	<p>evaluate driving skills and compensating abilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consult the DL 62 (prognosis) and the DS 326 (levels of functional impairments) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Appropriate actions include calendar reexamination, limited term license, or Medical Probation II, with appropriate restrictions..</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory, ,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impose suspension.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS**

- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

**VISION CONDITION**

<b>COLOR VISION DEFICIENCY</b>	A hereditary condition that produces a reduced ability to distinguish certain shades of color.	<p><u>Mild</u>: No functional impairment.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Potential for confusion of some colors under certain lighting conditions.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Inability to distinguish certain shades of color.</p>	This condition is STABLE. It frequently involves red and green colors. In rare cases, all colors are perceived as gray (monochromacy). Color deficiency is large inconsequential unless visual acuity is involved.
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**NO ACTION IS REQUIRED BY EITHER THE EXAMINER OR DRIVER SAFETY SPECIALIST FOR COLOR VISION DEFICIENCY.**

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>DIABETIC RETINOPATHY</b>	<p>A disorder of the retina resulting from diabetes. This condition damages the receptor cells in the eyes.</p> <p>Retinopathy results from blood leaking into the clear fluid (vitreous) inside the eye. This can cause the retina to detach.</p>	<p><u>Mild</u>: Reduced central and peripheral vision. Usually seen in the early stages of development. Nonproliferative retinopathy occurs when new blood vessels grow on the surface of the retina and rupture.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Blind spots in visual fields and reduced peripheral and central vision are usually seen in the advanced stages of development. Macular edema is a condition that results when tissues swell within the macula.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Proliferative retinopathy is a severe condition that results when abnormal blood vessels begin growing on the surface of the retina causing retinal detachment.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE.</p> <p><u>Mild</u>: Blurred vision for days at a time with no significant damage to the retina. Nonproliferative retinopathy causes bleeding into the vitreous resulting in clouded vision</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Ongoing blurring and distorted vision. Reduced night vision and possible glare sensitivity. Macular edema results in blurred central vision.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Loss in peripheral vision or blindness if not surgically corrected.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> </ul>

**EXAMINER**

Action Needed	If	Then
Driving Test	the condition is in the mild stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed,</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if the driver should be referred to Driver Safety to have the whole diabetic condition evaluated.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the Driving Test is failed and it is determined the person may show improvement of the Special Driving Test.	Refer the results to Driver Safety so that the entire diabetic condition can be evaluated fully.
Refer to Driver Safety	the condition is in the moderate or severe stages.	N/A

**DRIVER SAFETY SPECIALIST**

If	Then
the Special Driving Test was satisfactory,	impose a Calendar Reexamination or Medical Probation Type II. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) and the DS 326 to determine when the driver should return/report to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions.
the Special Driving Test was unsatisfactory, or the diabetic condition is not controlled,	impose suspension.

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>DIPLOPIA</b>	Double vision. (This condition is rarely reported to DMV.)	<p><u>Mild</u>: Occasional overlapping images.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Constant overlapping images.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Constant double vision.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. The person sees one object as two; not a blur but separate images of the same object.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> </ul>

Action Needed	When	Then
Driving Test	The condition is mild.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given. Consider whether the driver may be able to show improvement in driving if given a longer test, or tested in areas that may be accommodated by restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed,</li> </ul>	
Special Driving Test	The condition is moderate or severe, or the Driving Test was failed and improvement may be shown on the Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the Special Driving Test was satisfactory,</li> <li>• If the Special Driving Test was unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS**

- The driver may need to close one eye or use a patch if the condition is bothersome or affects driving.
- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>GLAUCOMA</b>  Also see Peripheral Vision, Decreased	Damages the optic nerve. Characterized by excessive pressure within the eyeball. Treatable by eye drops and/or surgery to prevent further damage. May be associated with a diabetic condition, high blood pressure, or hardening of the arteries.	<u>Mild</u> : May have blind spots in visual field.  <u>Moderate</u> : Large areas of blind spots in visual field.  <u>Severe</u> : Tunnel vision develops into blindness.	This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE.  Vision functions that may be impaired:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
Driving Test	the condition is in the mild or moderate stages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if revocation should be imposed if improvement or compensation will never be made. See below for revocation procedure.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the Driving Test was failed and it is determined the person might show improvement on a Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the results are satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license if the test is satisfactory. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the results are unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impose revocation. See below.</li> </ul>
Immediate Revocation	the Driving Test or Special Driving Test is failed and the condition is so severe that improvement will never be made or compensated for	issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the Driver Safety office to request the driving record to be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add only if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- If the condition is severe, or the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- The driver may need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>HEAD TRAUMA</b>  Also see Hemianopsia and Brain Tumor	Focusing difficulties and multiple vision conditions are caused by injuries to the head.	Not applicable.	Visual impairments resulting from a head injury are potentially PROGRESSIVE.  Vision functions that may be impaired: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> </ul>

**EXAMINER**

Action Needed	When	Then
Refer to Driver Safety.	Always refer to Driver Safety regardless of the level of severity.	N/A

**DRIVER SAFETY SPECIALIST**

Action Needed	To	Then
1. Evaluate the DL 62 and the DS 326	determine if it is safe to schedule a Special Driving Test.	If the medical documentation indicates it is safe to place the driver in a vehicle with an examiner, schedule a Special Driving Test.
2. Schedule a Special Driving Test	evaluate driving skills and compensating abilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consult the DL 62 (prognosis) and the DS 326 (levels of functional impairments) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Appropriate actions include calendar reexamination, limited term license, or Medical Probation II, with appropriate restrictions..</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impose revocation.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS**

- The driver may need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.
- Additional restrictions, not related to vision, may also need to be imposed by the driver safety specialist.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>HEMIANOPSIA</b> or <b>HEMIANOPIA</b>  Also see Peripheral Vision, Decreased	A disconnection between the eye and brain.  Loss of vision for the entire left or right side of the visual field in one or both eyes.	Not applicable.	This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. The driver may not be able to see objects or events on one side of the visual field. The driver may not be aware of his/her vision loss, and therefore, not compensate for what is not seen.  Vision functions that may be impaired: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> </ul>

Action Needed	When	Then
Special Drive Test	Always.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the results are satisfactory,</li> <li>• If the results are unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety office to have the driving record immediately updated.</li> </ul>

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- The driver may need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.
- Advise the driver to frequently scan.
- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>HYPEROPIA</b> or <b>HYPERMETROPIA</b>	Farsightedness.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Generally correctable by lenses such as reading glasses and bifocals.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Partially correctable by lenses.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Significant loss of vision with lenses. Peripheral vision loss with thick lenses (ring scotoma).</p>	<p>This condition is STABLE. There will be a loss of visual acuity for near objects such as the letters on this page. There is little or no impairment unless corrective lenses obstruct peripheral vision.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision, if lenses in glasses are very thick.</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	the condition is mild or moderate and the screening standards have been met, or this stable condition was previously identified and the driver has consistently demonstrated compensation.	N/A
Driving Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the condition is moderate but the screening standards cannot be met, or</li> <li>• the condition is severe.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given if additional training or practice is needed. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the Driving Test is failed and it is determined the person may show improvement on the Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the results are satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license if the test is satisfactory. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the results are unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- The driver may need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.
- May need corrective lenses

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>KERATOCONUS</b>	Cone-shaped deformity of the cornea.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Contact lenses can correct visual acuity.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Contact lenses may correct visual acuity to some extent.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Contact lenses cannot be fitted. Cornea transplant may be required or other corrective surgery.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	the condition is mild and contact lenses are worn.	N/A
Driving Test	the condition is moderate and contact lenses are worn. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if additional training or practice is needed. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Driving Test is failed and it is determined the person may show improvement on the Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test.</li> <li>• the condition is severe.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to have the driving record immediately updated.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- May need a sunrise to sunset restriction when the condition is severe and the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62.
- Corrective lenses

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>MACULAR DEGENERATION</b>	Degeneration of the portion of the retina (macula) responsible for central vision and color perception. This condition is more common in older adults.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Mild loss of visual acuity.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Significant acuity loss in one or both eyes.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Severe loss of central vision in one or both eyes (blindness).</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. It will cause reduction in color vision, inability to see fine detail, read road signs, and identify objects. The person will also have difficulty in judging closing speeds.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: Individuals with macular degeneration may be prescribed a bioptic telescopic lens.</p>

Action Needed	If	Then
Driving Test	the condition is mild, but the screening standards cannot be met.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if the driver just needs more training or practice. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the condition is in the moderate or severe stage.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- Bioptic telescopic lens may be needed.
- An area restriction may be needed when the condition is moderate or severe.
- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, and the driver does not use a bioptic lens, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- If the driver wears a bioptic lens, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>MONOCULAR</b>	Vision in one eye only.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Visual acuity is no worse than 20/40 in the sighted eye, corrected or uncorrected.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Visual acuity is correctable by glasses or a contact lens in the sighted eye.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Visual acuity in the sighted eye is worse than 20/200 and is uncorrectable.</p>	<p>This condition is STABLE for the unsighted eye.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	this stable condition was previously identified and the driver continues to demonstrate compensation.	N/A
Driving Test	the person is applying for an original license or if the person developed the loss of vision in one eye since the last renewal.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test is needed or just additional training and practice is needed. Retesting after training or practice can be done with a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the Driving Test is failed, and it is determined the person may show improvement on a Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Suspension, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the suspension.</li> </ul>

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- May need corrective lenses.
- Additional mirrors may be needed. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.
- Advise to scan often.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS</b>	Inflammatory disease of the Central Nervous System. Can cause nystagmus, diplopia, and/or optic nerve damage.	<p><u>Mild</u>: The person usually recovers from a single episode.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: N/A</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Affects every category of visual function.</p>	<p>This condition is usually PROGRESSIVE. Fatigue and/or heat may affect stamina which reduces the ability to drive safely. The condition may be worse in the afternoon due to fatigue.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> </ul>

**EXAMINER**

Action Needed	When	Then
Refer to Driver Safety.	Always refer to Driver Safety regardless of the level of severity.	N/A

**DRIVER SAFETY SPECIALIST**

Action Needed	To	Then
1. Evaluate the DL 62 and the DS 326	determine if it is safe to schedule a Special Driving Test.	If the medical documentation indicates it is safe to place the driver in a vehicle with an examiner, schedule a Special Driving Test.
2. Schedule a Special Driving Test	<p>determine driving skills and compensating abilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consult the DL 62 (prognosis) and the DS 326 (levels of functional impairments) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Appropriate actions include calendar reexamination, limited term license, or Medical Probation II, with appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impose revocation.</li> </ul>

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS**

- May need an area restriction
- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>MYOPIA</b>	Nearsightedness	<p><u>Mild</u>: Generally correctable by lenses.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: N/A</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Not fully correctable by lenses.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. Loss of visual acuity for distant objects such as the letters on a highway sign is experienced unless corrected by lenses.</p> <p>Mild: No visual problems while wearing corrective lenses.</p> <p>Severe: Visual field reduction.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> </ul> <p>Peripheral Vision</p>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	the condition is mild and corrected by lenses	N/A
Driving Test	the condition is not corrected by lenses or is severe. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if additional training is needed. Retesting after training or practice can be done with a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the person failed the Driving Test and it is determined that the person may be able to show improvement on a Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the suspension.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- May need corrective lenses.
- May need a bioptic telescopic lens.
- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>NYSTAGMUS</b>	Repetitive involuntary eye movements.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Minimal visual acuity loss.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Moderate visual acuity loss.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Significant visual acuity loss.</p>	<p>This condition is STABLE. When the condition is severe, the person will have a tendency to look at objects from the side by turning the head.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: Individuals with severe nystagmus may be prescribed a bioptic telescopic lens.</p>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	this stable condition was previously identified and the driver continues to demonstrate compensation.	N/A
Driving Test	the vision standards have not been met and the DL 62 indicates the best possible correction cannot improve the visual acuity to 20/40 or better.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test is needed or just additional training or practice is needed. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the person failed the Driving Test and it is determined that the person could probably show improvement on a Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add only if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.
- May need corrective lenses.
- May need a bioptic telescopic lens.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>PERIPHERAL VISION, Decreased</b>  (Tunnel Vision)	A reduction, or blind spots, in the field of vision.	<u>Mild</u> : Loss of small portions of peripheral (side) vision.  <u>Moderate</u> : Reduced ability to see to the side without moving head.  <u>Severe</u> : Very small field of view (20° or less) AKA tunnel vision.	This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. When the condition is severe, the person will be unable to compensate even with head movements.  Vision functions that may be impaired: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Night Vision</li> <li>Peripheral Vision</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
Evaluate to determine if it is safe to give a Special Driving Test. Refer to the DL 62 to see how severely obstructed the field of view is. Minimal impairment will probably render the driver safer than someone with a field of view of 20° or less.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it is safe to take this person out on the road, give a Special Driving Test.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the results are satisfactory,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the results are unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>impose a revocation. See below for revocation procedures.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it is not safe to take this person out on the road,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS**

- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.
- If the condition is severe, may need a no freeway restriction.
- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, or the condition is severe, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- Advise the driver to scan often.

**VISION CONDITION**

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>PRESBYOPIA</b>	Reduced ability to focus close objects without glasses.	Correctable by reading glasses or bifocals.	Not applicable.

**NO ACTION IS REQUIRED BY EITHER THE EXAMINER OR DRIVER SAFETY SPECIALIST FOR PRESBYOPIA.**

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>PSEUDOPHAKIA</b> Also see Cataract.	Replacement of the natural lens with a plastic lens called an Intra-Ocular Lens (IOL).	Visual acuity can be corrected with glasses and/or contacts to varying degrees.	This condition is <b>STABLE</b> . Quality of near and far vision is dependent upon correctability of visual acuity with contact lens and/or glasses.  Vision functions that may be impaired: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	this stable condition was previously identified and the driver continues to demonstrate compensation.	N/A
Driving Test	the person is applying for an original license or the IOL was implanted since the last renewal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test is needed or just additional training or practice is needed. Retesting after training or practice can be either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the person failed the Driving Test and it is determined that the person could probably show improvement on a Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and it is not already coded on the record.)

- May need corrective lenses

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>RETINAL DETACHMENT, Tear, or Hole</b>	<p>Small holes or tears in the retina which can lead to retinal detachment. Portion(s) of the retina lift away from the wall of the eye. Detachment, tears, and holes can usually be repaired.</p> <p>This condition may be associated with a diabetic condition or eye injury.</p>	<p><u>Mild</u>: No significant visual symptoms.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Peripheral and/or central vision loss is experienced.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Blindness.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE. It may cause additional peripheral field loss.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
Driving Test	the condition is mild.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> <li>• If the test is failed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a license. Add appropriate restrictions.</li> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test is needed or just additional training or practice is needed. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the condition is moderate</li> <li>• the person failed the Driving Test and it is determined the person could probably show improvement on a Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license if the test. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>
Revocation	the condition is severe.	Same as above.

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- If the condition is mild, and the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- If the condition is moderate, the driver may need an area restriction, no freeway driving, and sunrise to sunset restrictions.
- Advise driver to scan often.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<b>RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA</b>	Degeneration of the retina. It almost always affects both eyes.	<p><u>Mild</u>: Small areas of peripheral field loss.</p> <p><u>Moderate</u>: Multiple areas of peripheral field loss.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Peripheral and central vision loss. May eventually lead to blindness.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
Special Driving Test	the condition is mild, moderate or severe. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>

**ADVICE AND RESTRICTIONS** (Add if the driving test or special driving test is passed and they are not already coded on the record.)

- If the doctor advised no night driving as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- Impose an area restriction when the condition is severe.
- Advise driver to scan often
- Additional mirrors may be needed. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
STRABISMUS	Misalignment of the eyes.	<p><u>Mild</u> to <u>Moderate</u>: Occasional eye turning. Often has amblyopia in the deviating eye. In some cases the person may have diplopia.</p> <p><u>Severe</u>: Constant turning of one eye. Eyes cannot be kept aligned.</p>	<p>This condition is STABLE.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> </ul>

Action Needed	If	Then
No Action	this stable condition was previously identified and the driver continues to demonstrate compensation.	N/A
Driving Test	the person is applying for an original license or the condition has developed since the last renewal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is passed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is failed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine if a Special Driving Test should be given or if more training is needed to compensate for vision loss. Retesting after training or practice can be done either by a Driving Test or Special Driving Test.</li> </ul>
Special Driving Test	the person failed the Driving Test and it is determined the person may show improvement on a Special Driving Test but not on another Driving Test. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue a limited term license. Consult the DL 62 (prognosis) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Impose appropriate restrictions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issue the driver an Order of Revocation, under the authority of Vehicle Code Section 13953, before the driver leaves the field office. Call the local Driver Safety Office to request the driving record be updated immediately to reflect the revocation.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS** (Add only if the driving test or special driving test is passed and it is not already coded on the record.)

- May need corrective lenses

Condition	Definition	Range of Severity	Stability and Functional Impairments
<p><b>STROKE and other Vascular Lesions</b></p> <p>AKA Cerebral Vascular Accident (CVA) and Apoplexy.</p> <p>Also see Brain Tumor, Head Trauma, and Hemianopsia.</p>	<p>Bleeding into the brain caused by a rupture or occlusion of an artery which may lead to sudden loss of consciousness followed by paralysis.</p>	<p>A stroke affects every category of visual functions. It is important to consider the overall general health of the person.</p>	<p>This condition is potentially PROGRESSIVE.</p> <p>Vision functions that may be impaired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Vision/Vision Acuity</li> <li>• Visual Perception</li> <li>• Night Vision</li> <li>• Judgment of Distance</li> <li>• Peripheral Vision</li> <li>• Eye Movements</li> <li>• Glare Resistance/Glare Recovery</li> </ul>

**EXAMINER**

Option	When	Then
Refer to Driver Safety.	Always refer to Driver Safety so that all manifestations of this condition can be evaluated together.	N/A

**HEARING OFFICER**

Step	To	Then
1. Evaluate the DL 62 and the DS 326	determine if it is safe to schedule a Special Driving Test.	If the medical documentation indicates it is safe to place the driver in a vehicle with an examiner, schedule a Special Driving Test.
2. Schedule a Special Driving Test	<p>evaluate driving skills and compensating abilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is satisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consult the DL 62 (prognosis) and the DS 326 (levels of functional impairments) to determine when the driver should return to DMV. Appropriate actions include calendar reexamination, limited term license, or Medical Probation II, with appropriate restrictions..</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the test is unsatisfactory,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impose revocation.</li> </ul>

**RESTRICTIONS**

- If the doctor advised the driver not to drive at night, as indicated on the DL 62, impose a sunrise to sunset restriction.
- May need an area restriction.
- May need additional mirrors. Consider right side, wide angle, panoramic, rear view, right or left fender mounted mirrors.

## **GLOSSARY OF VISION-RELATED WORDS AND TERMS**

<b>Acuity</b>	Clearness, sharpness. The ability to recognize small detail. This is not the same as the ability to detect objects.
<b>Alternating Attention</b>	The ability to focus attention between different types of tasks. For example, reading a map while driving.
<b>Binocular Vision</b>	Vision from both eyes simultaneously.
<b>Contrast Sensitivity</b>	The ability to detect object of low contrast (objects similar in color or shape). For example, detecting an oncoming car on a foggy day or recognizing a street sign parallel to a fence.
<b>Cornea</b>	The clear, transparent coating over the lens and iris.
<b>Decreased Acuity</b>	Inability to see clearly. This can cause a delay in responding to the environment. For example, a person with decreased acuity may be slow to recognize signs at a distance. The ability to see clearly decreases as light levels decrease.
<b>Depth Perception</b>	The ability to see three dimensions. If depth perception is impaired, the person may have difficulty judging distances.
<b>Divided Attention</b>	The ability to respond simultaneously to multiple tasks. For example, maintaining the path of travel while turning the head to check blind spots.
<b>Focused Attention</b>	The ability to respond to specific visual, auditory, or tactile stimuli.
<b>Glare Disability</b>	Glare refers to the disruption of vision which results from the presence of a veiling light source. Problems of glare are typically greater under low light conditions.
<b>Heterotropia</b>	Deviation of the eyes due to the absence of binocular equilibrium. In other words, the vision in one eye is not balanced with the other. This can cause double vision; seeing two of the same object.
<b>Impaired Figure Ground</b>	Unable to distinguish foreground from background. A person affected by this impairment will have difficulty finding the “stop” sign among other stimuli in the environment. The driver may have difficulty finding dashboard controls quickly.
<b>Iris</b>	The colored membrane between the cornea and the lens. The iris is a muscle surrounding the pupil.
<b>Lens</b>	A transparent, colorless structure within the eye which focuses images and rays of light on the retina.
<b>Macula</b>	The most central part of the retina.
<b>Optic Atrophy</b>	Deterioration of the optic nerve.

<b>Optic Nerve</b>	The nerve that carries the impulses for the sense of sight from the eye to the brain.
<b>Optic Neuritis</b>	Inflammation of the optic nerve.
<b>Peripheral Awareness</b>	A person may have limited peripheral vision but can have peripheral awareness if eye scanning movements are increased to compensate for the vision deficit.
<b>Pupil</b>	The opening at the center of the iris. It dilates in low light levels and constricts in bright light. The pupil regulates the light flow on the retina.
<b>Refractive Errors</b>	Conditions in which the lens system of the eye is not properly focused.
<b>Retina</b>	The inside light sensitive lining of the eye which receives the image from the lens.
<b>Selective Attention</b>	The ability to maintain a focused attention among distracting or competing stimuli. For example, driving downtown in rush-hour traffic.
<b>Snellen</b>	<p>Hermann Snellen (1834-1908) was a Dutch ophthalmologist who introduced a method of measuring and recording visual acuity. A fraction is used to compare a person's vision to standard vision.</p> <p>Vision = <math>\frac{\text{distance at which the subject recognizes an object}}{\text{distance at which a standard eye recognizes an object}}</math></p> <p>20/40 means a person must be twice as close to an object to see its detail compared to the standard eye.</p> <p>20/100 means a person must be five times as close to an object to see its detail compared to the standard eye.</p>
<b>Spatial Neglect</b>	The person does not acknowledge one side of the environment. This driver may drift to one side in his/her lane with little or no improvement when cued. This driver may also make unsafe lane changes or turns through crosswalks.
<b>Spatial Relationships Deficit</b>	The person will be unable to determine their position in relationship to two or more objects in the road or their relationship to each other. This person may be able to drive in light traffic or in residential areas. However, as the complexity of the driving environment increases, the driver will have problems knowing what to do. This may result in the person slowing down in traffic to determine what to do next.
<b>Stereoscopic Vision</b>	Binocular depth perception.
<b>Sustained Attention</b>	The ability to maintain consistent attention during a continuous and repetitive activity such as driving on an interstate freeway for long periods of time.