

Purpose

This guidance document assists community case monitors in developing well-supported modification requests for driving authorization for individuals under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB). Driving involves independent decision-making, adherence to laws, and real-time risk management. Because of the potential impact on community safety, requests for driving authorization require a thorough, individualized assessment of risk, stability, and readiness.

This guidance outlines the key considerations necessary to support a clear, clinically grounded request that demonstrates how driving can be safely monitored in a manner consistent with the PSRB's mission to protect the public while supporting individual recovery and responsible community integration. This document is intended to support the development of a complete and individualized modification request. Requests should be submitted on the “Board Modification Request” template.

Considerations for Submitting a Modification Request for Driving

Requests for driving authorization should reflect a comprehensive and individualized assessment of the client's history, current functioning, and risk factors, along with the supports in place to ensure safe participation in the community. The information provided should demonstrate how driving can be safely integrated into the client's supervision and treatment plan while maintaining a balance between public safety, accountability, and the client's progress toward greater independence. Please include the following:

- Current risk assessment**
A current START must accompany any request for driving authorization.
- History of behavior involving vehicles**
Identify and analyze any history of unsafe or high-risk behavior involving vehicles, including the instant offense and relevant information in the PSRB Exhibit File.
- Relationship to risk factors**
Assess whether access to a vehicle or driving is associated with known risk factors or past destabilizing behaviors.
- Ability to follow laws and expectations**
Evaluate the client's demonstrated ability to comply with laws, supervision conditions, and treatment expectations.
- Legal and financial responsibility**
Assess the client's ability to manage the responsibilities associated with driving, including licensure, registration, insurance, maintenance, and related costs.
- DMV record review**
Confirm that the client's DMV Certified Court Print has been reviewed, including any barriers to license reinstatement. Requests may be denied if this analysis is not included.

- Driving history and experience**
Summarize the client’s prior driving experience, including duration, time since last drove, and awareness of their driving record.
- Clinical input from the treatment team**
Include recommendations, concerns, and clinical impressions from the prescriber and other relevant providers (e.g., primary care, neurology, residential staff).
- Structured or incremental approach**
Consider a phased approach to driving authorization to allow for monitoring, skill development, and early identification of concerns.
- Purpose and clinical benefit**
Clearly identify the purpose of driving (e.g., employment, treatment access, daily living needs). Explain why driving is necessary to achieve that purpose and how it supports the client’s recovery and stability.
- Driving safety plan**
Provide a detailed plan that includes:
 - When and why the client will drive;
 - How the treatment team will monitor use; and
 - Any proposed conditions (e.g., passenger limits, geographic boundaries, time-of-day restrictions, required logs).

For questions or assistance, contact your assigned PSRB Case Monitor, email psrb@psrb.oregon.gov, or call 503-229-5596.