



Source: http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1179.html#

Although many countries do not recognize U.S. driver's licenses, most countries accept an international driving permit (IDP). IDPs are honored in more than 150 countries outside the U.S. (See [AAA's application form](#) for the list of countries. They function as an official translation of a U.S. driver's license into 10 foreign languages. These licenses *are not intended to replace* valid U.S. state licenses and should only be used as a supplement to a valid license. *IDPs are not valid in an individual's country of residence.* Before departure, you can obtain one from an automobile association authorized by the U.S. Department of State to issue IDPs. Article 24 of the United Nations Convention on Road Traffic (1949) authorizes the U.S. Department of State to empower certain organizations to issue IDPs to those who hold valid U.S. driver's licenses. The Department has designated the American Automobile Association (AAA) and the American Automobile Touring Alliance as the only authorized distributors of IDPs.