



Department of
Transport

Becoming a professional **Taxi driver**



Is taxi driving for you?

The Perth taxi industry welcomes people who;

- enjoy working with people from a wide range of backgrounds;
- have good communication skills; and
- will provide high levels of service to all taxi customers.

To be eligible you must:

- be at least 20 years of age;
- have held a relevant driver's licence for at least three years;
- be of good character;
- be mentally and physically fit to drive a motor vehicle for the purposes of carrying passengers for reward; and
- successfully complete the training course and tests detailed below.

If this sounds like you, to become a Perth taxi driver you will need to complete a number of licensing, training and registration steps. These include:

Licensing steps

Step 1. Successfully complete the Taxi Driver Aptitude Test.

Step 2. Obtain your National Police Certificate and Traffic Infringements report.

Step 3. Apply for a metropolitan T (Taxi) extension on your driver's licence.

Step 4. Undergo a medical assessment.

Training and registration steps

Step 5. Successfully complete a taxi driver training course.

Step 6. Pass the Taxi Driver Registration Test.

Step 7. Obtain your T extension and your metropolitan taxi driver identification card.

Important: You will be required to produce photographic identification at every step.

For more information about the T extension application process, or the address of the nearest Department of Transport's (DoT) Driver and Vehicle Services Centre, visit the DoT website www.transport.wa.gov.au or call 13 11 56.

If you have any questions about the details or costs of any of these steps please contact the relevant service provider.

The licensing steps

Step 1. Successfully complete the Taxi Driver Aptitude test

The first step to becoming a Perth taxi driver is to successfully complete the Taxi Driver Aptitude Test, conducted by the Central Institute of Technology on behalf of DoT. This test is designed to assess your suitability for operating a taxi and dealing with customers.

If you are over 20 years old and have held a driver's licence for at least three years, you can arrange a suitable time for your Aptitude Test by attending the Central Institute of Technology in person and producing your Western Australian Driver's Licence as identification.

Central Institute of Technology Perth Campus
Level 6, 25 Aberdeen Street, Northbridge WA 6000

Your aptitude test results will be sent to you in the post. After receiving a letter informing you have passed the test, you may go on to complete the next steps.

Step 2. Obtain your National Police Certificate and Traffic Infringement reports

Application for your National Police Certificate (NPC) can be made at Australia Post or on-line with CVCheck. The NPC must be no older than three months.

Application for a Certified Record of your Traffic Infringements can be made in person at any police station or by post to the Information Release Centre. This record must be no older than three months at the time you apply for your T extension.

Step 3. Apply for a metropolitan T (Taxi) extension on your driver's licence

You can apply for the T extension at any of DoT's Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) centres or agencies.

To apply for the T extension you will need to provide the following documents:

- Taxi Driver Aptitude Test result letter from the Central Institute of Technology;
- National Police Certificate;
- Certified Record of your Traffic Infringements; and
- A completed Driver's Licence application form – MDL1. This form may be downloaded from the DoT website www.transport.wa.gov.au or you may obtain a copy from a DVS centre or agency or call 13 11 56.

You will also need to fulfill the following requirements:

- Provide the names and contact details of two referees who are not family members and who have known you for at least four years;
- Show your proof of identity documents;
- Complete an eyesight test; and
- Pay an application fee.

Step 4. Undergo a medical assessment

Make a driving medical assessment appointment with your doctor (these examinations may take longer than a routine consultation).

You will need to take the medical assessment certificate - fitness to drive - M107A with you. This form is available from the DoT website or any DVS centre or agency and is to be completed by your doctor, who will return it to DoT. Detailed instructions are provided on the form.

DoT will assess your application. Once you have successfully met all the requirements you will be advised in writing that you are eligible to commence the training and registration steps.

The training and registration steps

Step 5. Successfully complete the Taxi driver training course

The taxi driver training course is made up of units covering the range of skills and knowledge needed to effectively meet the needs of Perth taxi customers.

The course is completed in two stages; the self-paced learning package and in-class training. The self-paced learning package contains essential information about Perth geography and being part of the taxi industry. The in-class training covers all other aspects of operating a taxi, such as driving and customer service skills.

Training benefits for taxi drivers

The training course is made up of National Road Transport competency units, so if an applicant moves to another part of the transport industry or to the taxi industry in another state the training units they have successfully completed will be recognised.

When you have completed the course, you will be issued a 'Statement of Attainment' for the units you have completed. The course can be completed with one of the following approved training providers:

Australian Workforce Training

Trade Assessment Centre
Units 2 and 3, 3 Blackly Row
Cockburn Central WA 6164
Phone: (08) 9414 8800
Website: www.awt.net.au

Black and White Cabs (WA) Pty Ltd – Rose Training Australia

Unit 1, 33 Frederick Street, corner of Daly Street,
Belmont WA 6104
Phone: (08) 9230 0400
Email: training@bwtaxi.com.au
Website: www.blackandwhitecabs.com.au

Swan Taxis Training Services

7 Harvey Street, Victoria Park WA 6101

Phone: (08) 9422 2288

Website: www.swantaxis.com.au

WA Advanced Training Academy

129 Clayton Street, Bellevue WA 6056

Phone: (08) 9250 6022

Email: info@waata.com.au

Website: www.waata.com.au

Step 6. Pass the Taxi Driver Registration Test

After you have completed your training you will be tested by DoT assessors. This test is designed to confirm that you have all the essential skills necessary to meet the needs of taxi passengers. The test involves an on-road test in a simulated taxi.

Through completing a series of practical tasks, you will demonstrate the skills you have acquired during your training. Arrangements for your test will be made through your training provider.

Step 7. Obtain your T extension and taxi driver identification card

Once you have successfully completed your registration test, your T extension and metropolitan taxi driver identification card will be issued to you. This will enable you to operate a taxi in Perth.

Ongoing training for taxi drivers

The Department of Transport is committed to maintaining and improving the standard of service provided to taxi passengers and has introduced:

Retraining:

Taxi drivers who do not perform to the required standard will be required to complete appropriate retraining in order to continue operating a taxi.

Professional Development Training:

All Perth taxi drivers are required to complete 4 hours of professional development training once every two years, prior to renewing their Taxi Driver Identification Card.

Mutual recognition for interstate taxi drivers

If you are currently registered as a taxi driver in another Australian state or territory, your previous training and experience may be recognised as part of these requirements.

Please refer to the DoT website for further information on mutual recognition for interstate taxi drivers or to apply for a Western Australian driver's licence and mutual recognition of your interstate taxi driver registration attend one of DoT's DVS centres or agencies.

Quick checklist – applying for a taxi licence

Are you eligible?

- You must be at least 20 years of age.
- Have held a driver's licence for at least three (3) years.
- Not be a provisional driver.

Licensing steps

- Complete the Taxi Driver Aptitude Test.
- Obtain your National Police Certificate and Traffic Infringements report.
- Apply for a metropolitan T (Taxi) extension on your driver's licence.
- Undergo a medical assessment.

Training and registration steps

- Complete a taxi driver training course.
- Complete the Taxi Driver Registration Test.
- Receive your taxi driver identification card.

Enquiries

Client Services Officer

Passenger Services Business Unit
GPO Box C102
Perth WA 6839

Telephone: 1300 660 147

Email: drivertraining@transport.wa.gov.au

Website: www.transport.wa.gov.au/taxis

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The information contained in this publication is provided in good faith and believed to be accurate at the time of publication. The State shall in no way be liable for any loss sustained or incurred by anyone relying on the information.