

Motor Vehicle Registry Information Bulletin

CPV09 Taxi Licence

Introduction

- A Taxi is a vehicle approved by the Director of Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport (“the Director”) that is fitted, equipped or constructed to carry up to 11 passengers, unless exempted by the Director.
- A Taxi is used to carry passengers for the purpose of hire or reward with the services of a driver.

Requirements

To Own/Operate a Taxi

- To own/operate or register a Taxi, you must be an Accredited Operator under the Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act. Once accredited, you are then required to apply for a Taxi licence.
- To apply for Operator Accreditation to operate a Taxi, complete the application form [CPVF01](#), and all other requirements as laid out in the application, then submit at your local MVR Office with the prescribed fee.
- Before a Taxi licence can be issued you must have your vehicle checked and approved by an MVR Transport Inspector and pay the prescribed fee (see page 2 of this bulletin).
- You must keep records relating to the operation of the Taxi as set out in the current Taxi Regulations.

To Drive a Taxi

- To drive a Taxi for the purpose of hire or reward, you must:
 - (a) be the holder of a current drivers licence
 - (b) be the holder of a licence to drive Commercial Passenger Vehicles (“h” endorsement)
 - (c) have successfully completed approved driver training, and
 - (d) be the holder of a current CPV ID card with Taxi endorsed against the ID Card.
- Any person who drives a vehicle that is registered as a Commercial Passenger Vehicle must have zero blood alcohol level.

Operating Conditions

- Government has placed a cap on the number of Taxis operating in the Darwin and Alice Springs areas. The availability of a Taxi licence is based on the population within these areas. Available Taxi licences are allocated by ballot. A ballot is held subject to licence availability. The ballot is advertised at least 3 weeks in advance.
- If a Taxi licence is expired for a period of more than 3 months it will be considered cancelled and placed on a list of licences to be made available through the ballot process.
- When applying for a Taxi licence the person applying for that licence must be the same as the person who owns the vehicle.
- There is provision to place a Taxi licence on hold for an approved period (see form [CPVF27](#)).
Note: conditions apply.

- A Taxi is permitted to stand for hire in designated Taxi ranks.
- A Taxi is permitted to respond to hails, eg. if a potential customer waves you down from the footpath you can pull over and pick that person up providing it is safe to do so.
- The annual fee for a Taxi licence varies from region to region:

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Darwin | \$18,400 | Katherine | \$10,350 |
| Alice Springs | \$14,950 | Gove | \$5,750 |
| Tennant Creek | \$5,175 | | |
- A full payment of 12 months will apply to any new Taxi licence that is issued. Following the initial 12 month period the option of 3, 6, 9 and 12 monthly payments are available.
- A person cannot operate a Taxi within an area that is not specified in the Taxi licence.
- You must have a meter fitted to the Taxi that is tested by a certified Taximeter Testing Officer. The Taxi meter calculates the fare to be paid by the customer.
- Communication devices, company logos/advertisements and dome lights must be fitted as described in the "Taxi Requirements and In-Service Maintenance Standards".

Communications device for a Taxi

- Any communications device used by drivers to receive notification of jobs is subject to conditions. These conditions are to enhance customer service, safety, and complaints handling, so that the same minimum standard across the entire industry is maintained.
- When you apply for a Taxi licence you will be asked to nominate your intended communications device/s.

General information

- Any person who operates or drives a Taxi must comply with all relevant Acts, Regulations and any Code of Conduct pertaining to Taxis.
- For information on Substitute Taxis see information bulletin [CPV14](#).
- For information on Multipurpose Taxis (MPT) see information bulletin [CPV10](#).
- For information on CPV ID Cards see information bulletin [CPV18](#).
- For information on how to obtain a licence to drive commercial passenger vehicles see information bulletin [CPV05](#).

Important

This Information Bulletin is a guide only and contains general information and requirements for/in relation to Commercial Passenger Vehicle. This document should not be regarded as a strict interpretation of Northern Territory law.

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