

Motor Vehicle Registry Information Bulletin

L15 - Transfer of Overseas Licences

Subject to certain conditions, overseas driver licences may be transferred to the Northern Territory. Transfers will be to base grade classes only, i.e. class "C" (car) and, class "R" (Rider-motorcycle). New Zealand licence transfers are not restricted to base grades; however applications for the transfer of heavy vehicle classes will be assessed on a case by case basis.

All licence transfer applicants from the following recognised countries are exempt from the requirement for an entry level theory test and or practical driving test.

Recognised Countries

- Austria
- Belgium
- Canada
- Channel Islands
(Jersey & Guernsey)
- Croatia
- Denmark
- France
- Finland
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
(first issued on or after 01/04/1991)
- Italy
- Japan
- Luxembourg
- Malta
(first issued on or after 02/02/2004)
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Portugal
- Singapore
- Switzerland
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

All other countries

Licence holders from all other countries must pass a theory and practical (driving) test to affect a transfer, which will be to base grade licence classes (i.e. class "C" or class "R") only.

After gaining the pre-requisite base grade licence, the licence holder may choose to re-qualify for a heavy vehicle licence by passing routine heavy vehicle theory and heavy vehicle practical (driving) tests.

Conditional Licences

Certain applicants may be issued with an 'Interim' licence. If you do not hold a current driver, or rider, licence issued in another country, or your 'right to drive/ride' has expired as a result of your NT residency exceeding 3 months, you will require an Interim licence so that you can legally undertake a practical driving, or riding, test. The Interim licence issued may be with conditions similar to conditions applicable to Learner drivers or riders. These conditions are designed to protect you, and other road users, until such time as your practical driving, or riding, skill has been formerly assessed.

Once you have been issued with an Interim Licence it renders any overseas licence invalid in Australia.

Approved driver or rider training courses may be undertaken in lieu of the theory and practical assessments conducted through Motor Vehicle Registry.

After passing the practical driver, or rider, test, or approved training course, you will be issued with a Northern Territory open driver, or rider, licence (subject to previous licence history).

Holders of an Australian Licence

Where an Australian driver licence holder also maintains a current overseas driver licence only the Australian driver licence will be recognised.

Where an applicant holds a current Class 'C' (car) Australian driver licence and seeks recognition of a Class 'R' (motorcycle) licence issued in another country, the applicant should seek further advice from the Motor Vehicle Registry as the recognition of the overseas Class 'R' licence is not routinely recognised in these circumstances.

Evidence of Identity (EOI) & Evidence of Residency (EOR)

See MVR [Information Bulletin G8](#) – 'Evidence of Identity and Evidence of Residency for Individuals' available from www.mvr.nt.gov.au

Privacy and your Information

The information you provide to MVR to obtain a driver licence is collected for the purpose of compliance with and enforcement of the Northern Territory Motor Vehicles Act.

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles is required to collect information for registrations, licences and permits under section 92 of the Motor Vehicles Act. The Registrar adheres to the Department's Privacy Statement and the Information Act. Further information on privacy can be found at www.dpi.nt.gov.au

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