

In order to drive a Taxi you need to...

- Obtain a Driver Authorisation for Booked Hire / Taxi which is issued by Queensland Transport & Main Roads.
- To undergo an informal driver training this is dependent of the requirement of the booking office, and are available at Taxi In Townsville, The subjects covered will include the following
- If you wish to conduct formal registered training there are courses The nationally accredited TLI Cert II in Driving Operations/Taxicab (Partial Completion) Course is conducted in house which includes the following units:
- Obtain A full commercial medical certificate as required by Queensland Transport

Queensland Transport Require the following:

Entitlement to work in Australia

Applicants for grant or renewal of DA must provide documentary proof of their entitlement to work in Australia.

Before an application can be accepted, a person must provide evidence that they are—

- an Australian citizen; or
- a permanent resident of Australia; or
- a New Zealand citizen who is the holder of a special category visa as defined by the *Migration Act 1958* (Commonwealth), section 32; or
- entitled under a visa granted under the *Migration Act 1958* (Commonwealth) to work in Australia.

If you are an Australian citizen, permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen holding a special category visa any of the following documents will be accepted as evidence of an Australian work entitlement—

- Current green Medicare card
- full Australian birth certificate
- Queensland birth extract
- Australian citizenship certificate or extract
- Australian naturalisation certificate
- Australian passport (which cannot be expired for more than two years)
- Repatriation Health Card - for all conditions (Gold Card)
- New Zealand passport
- evidence of Australian permanent residency.

If you are not an Australian citizen, permanent resident or New Zealand citizen holding a special category visa, you must present your overseas passport at the time of application. You must also complete the Department of Transport and Main Roads' *Authority to Check a Visa Holder's*

Work Entitlement (form F4595) so the department can verify your entitlement to work in Australia before your application can be accepted.

Driver licence requirements

Applicants must—

- hold a current Australian open driver licence or a restricted licence of the appropriate class
- have held an open or provisional driver licence (Australian or overseas) continuously for at least three years for a car, truck or bus.
- have held for at least one year: - an Australian open, provisional or probationary driver licence; or an equivalent overseas driver licence (see note below).

Note: A driver licence that is at least equivalent to an Australian open, provisional or probationary driver licence will be considered acceptable if it is issued by an *experienced driver recognition country* or a *recognised country* listed on the Austroads website. These are countries recognised as have similar driver licensing standards to Australia.

Medical fitness

An applicant must obtain a medical certificate issued for a commercial vehicle driver. The medical assessment must be conducted by a medical practitioner in accordance with the commercial medical standards set out in the *Assessing Fitness to Drive – For Commercial and Private Vehicle Drivers* publication issued by Austroads and the National Transport Commission.

A medical certificate must be no more than six months old when presented to the department. For the purposes of DA, once a medical certificate has been presented to the department it may remain valid for up to five years from its date of issue unless an earlier expiry date is specified on the certificate.

Applicants are required to meet any costs associated with obtaining a medical certificate.

Suitability requirements for issuing and holding DA / Refusal, amendment, suspension, and cancellation DA

Grounds for refusal, amendment, suspension, or cancellation of a DA include—

- Unsuitable criminal history including conviction for a driver disqualifying offence or being charged with a driver disqualifying offence and the charge has not been heard or finally discharged.
- Unsuitable driving history.
- Driver licence suspension, cancellation, disqualification or expiry.
- Failure to comply with a standard or other requirement applicable to DA.
- Provision of false or misleading documentation or information, in relation to an application for DA.

- Failure to meet medical fitness standards.
- The chief executive considers it necessary in the public interest.
- Previous cancellation or suspension of a DA.

Criminal history check

Criminal history checks are made on all DA applicants before an application is approved. Holders of DA are subject to ongoing monitoring of any changes to their criminal history. Applicants for DA and holders of DA must have a satisfactory criminal history having regard to the safety of children and other vulnerable members of the community, as well as the personal safety of passengers and their property. For more information please refer to information bulletin PT17 *Driver Authorisation – Effect of a Driver Disqualifying Offence*.

Under the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act 1994*, a conviction is defined as including a finding of guilt or the acceptance of a plea of guilty by a court, whether or not a conviction is recorded. Applicants must declare all criminal history regardless of time elapsed. Criminal history information provided to the department for DA purposes is not restricted by time; details of all criminal history is received.

Traffic history check

An applicant must have a driving history considered suitable to hold DA. For more information refer to information bulletin PT16 *Driver Authorisation - Effect of a Driving History*.

How to apply

- Obtain a Driver Authorisation Application form (F2978) and relevant information bulletins from the Department of Transport and Main Roads' website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au, customer service centre or passenger transport office.
- Complete the application form and lodge it with evidence of your identity and your Australian work entitlement at a Department of Transport and Main Roads customer service centre or at a selected QGAP.
- All applicable fees must be paid at the time of lodgement.
- The medical certificate can be lodged either together with the DA application or after criminal and driving history checks have been completed.
- All requirements of an application must be finalised within three months otherwise the application will lapse and a new application will need to be lodged before DA can be issued.
- If requested, you must allow your photograph and signature to be recorded so that it may be reproduced on your Industry Authority card (which will be your evidence of holding DA) or to verify your identity when transacting business with the department.

Decision on application

Applicants will be notified of the approval or refusal of their application. If an application is approved, an Industry Authority card will be sent to the applicant's postal address within 7-14 days. Approved applicants may request an Interim Industry Authority to be issued for use as evidence of DA while waiting for their Industry Authority card to be received.