

Vehicle for Hire Driver's Licence

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Community Standards Branch (used to be Development Compliance)

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Overview of Vehicle for Hire Bylaw # 14700

The Vehicle for Hire Bylaw # 14700 came into effect April 1st, 2008. It replaced the following bylaws: The Taxi Bylaw (12020), The Accessible Taxi Bylaw (13909) and the Limousine Bylaw (10670).

A Vehicle for Hire in defined in the Bylaw as “ means a motor vehicle with a driver used or offered for transportation of at least one passenger in return for a fee from any place with the City to a destination either within or outside of the City”.

Fee for transport has been defined as: “Without limited the generality of the meaning of the term “Vehicle for Hire” if the transportation of a passenger is provided as part of a package of additional goods or services for which there is a fee, then the transportation of the passenger is considered to be in return for a fee unless the transportation is shown , on a balance of probabilities, to be merely ancillary to the other goods or services.”

Under this new bylaw, all of the licences that were previously issued under the old Bylaws (Vehicle, Business & Driver’s) for Taxi’s, Limousines and a new category called Shuttle Services are controlled and issued through this one bylaw.

Definition:

Driver's licences issued under this new Bylaw are:

- **Class A Taxi Driver’s Licence** (used to be the Taxi Driver’s Licence)
 - This is a City of Edmonton Taxi Driver’s licence that permits the person to drive a taxi within the City of Edmonton
 - This type of licence ALSO ALLOWS the holder of this type of licence to purchase a Taxi Vehicle Plate if one becomes available (currently, no new taxi plates are being issued by the City of Edmonton and therefore, the individual would be purchasing an existing plate that is currently owned by someone else).
 - To obtain this type of licence, the applicant is required to provide a letter from a licensed City of Edmonton Taxi Broker stating they have driven a taxi for 100 out of the last 365 days in addition to the regular application requirements.
 - Licence expires on Drivers’ birthdate unless they are missing information when they first apply and are issued a temporary drivers licence.

- **Class B Taxi Driver's Licence** (used to be the Temporary Taxi Driver's Licence)
 - This is a City of Edmonton Taxi Driver's licence that permits the person to drive a taxi within the City of Edmonton.
 - The holder of this type of licence is NOT able to purchase a Taxi Vehicle Plate if one comes available.
 - Licence expires on Drivers' birthdate unless they are missing information when they first apply and are issued a temporary drivers licence.
- **Accessible Taxi Driver Licence:** New type of drivers' licence - had no equivalent in the old Bylaws
 - This is a City of Edmonton Accessible Taxi Driver's licence that permits the person to drive an Accessible Taxi within the City of Edmonton.
 - The holder of this type of licence must have either a Class A or Class B Taxi Driver's Licence as well as providing proof that they have completed the Accessible Taxi Driver Training Program.
 - Licence expires on Drivers' birthdate unless they are missing information when they first apply and are issued a temporary drivers licence.
- **Limousine Driver's Licence** – used to be the Limousine Chauffeur Permit
 - This is a City of Edmonton Limousine Driver's Licence which permits an individual to drive a limousine as defined by the City of Edmonton within the City of Edmonton.
 - Licence expires on Drivers' birthdate
- **Shuttle Driver's Licence** – New type of driver's licence – no equivalent in old bylaw
 - This is a City of Edmonton Shuttle Driver's licence which permits an individual to drive a vehicle that has been deemed to carrying on a Shuttle Service within the City of Edmonton.
 - Licence expires on Drivers' birthdate unless they are missing information when they first apply and are issued a temporary drivers licence.

Application Procedure:

- **Applications can ONLY be made in PERSON from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** in our office. Applicants coming into our office after 4:00 pm will not be able to get their application processed. .
- **All applicants must fill out:**
 - the [Vehicle for Hire Driver's Licence Application](#)
- **Drivers licences expire on the drivers birthday unless** they are missing information from their application and they are only issued a temporary licence to enable the applicant to driver while getting and providing the required information back to the Planning & Development office.
- **All applicants must bring the required documentation as indicated in table below** for the licence they are applying for:

For NEW DRIVERS' LICENCES:

Requirements	Class A	Class B	Accessible	Limousine	Shuttle
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	Taxi Drivers Licence	Taxi Drivers Licence	Taxi Drivers Licence	Drivers Licence	Driver's Licence
Proof of letter of intent/affiliation	YES	YES	YES	No	No
Copy of Driving Abstract (within 30 days)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Stamped EPS Security Clearance (within 30 days)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Proof of Driver Training Program from broker (business licence holder)	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Proof of English Competency Screening	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Proof of Defensive Driving Course As of Nov 2008 - all new drivers require proof of taking a Defensive driving course within 5 years of application as per the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw.	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Proof of Experienced Driving Seminar (within 5 years)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Proof of Class 1, 2 or 4 Alberta Driver's Licence	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Proof of Accessible Taxi Driver Training Program	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
Letter stating you have driven 100 out of last 365 days	YES - however a brand new driver will not be able to meet this requirement	NO	NO	NO	NO
If driver allergic to animals - they will be required to	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

supply documentation from a qualified Medical Allergist to get exclusion					
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For RENEWING AN EXISTING DRIVERS' LICENCES:

Requirements	Class A Taxi Drivers Licence	Class B Taxi Drivers Licence	Accessible Taxi Drivers Licence	Limousine Drivers Licence	Shuttle Driver's Licence
Proof of letter of intent/affiliation	YES	YES	YES	No	No
Copy of Driving Abstract (within 30 days)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Stamped EPS Security Clearance (within 30 days)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Proof of Driver Training Program from broker (business licence holder)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Proof of English Competency Screening	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Proof of Defensive Driving Course (**required every 5 years) NOTE: All Vehicle for Hire Drivers are required to have a Defensive Driving Course every 5 years unless they have 3 convictions or 7 demerits in the last licence period.	NO Unless they have 3 convictions or 7 demerits in last licence period **See note	NO Unless they have 3 convictions or 7 demerits in last licence period **See note	NO Unless they have 3 convictions or 7 demerits in last licence period **See note	NO Unless they have 3 convictions or 7 demerits in last licence period **See note	NO Unless they have 3 convictions or 7 demerits in last licence period **See note
Proof of Experienced Driving Seminar (within 5 years)	YES - on 1st yr after initial application	YES - on 1st yr after initial application	YES - on 1st yr after initial application	NO	NO

	& then every 5 years	& then every 5 years	& then every 5 years		
Proof of Class 1, 2 or 4 Alberta Driver's Licence	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Proof of Accessible Taxi Driver Training Program	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Letter stating you have driven 100 out of last 365 days	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
If driver allergic to animals - they will be required to supply documentation from a qualified Medical Allergist to get exclusion	YES - if applying for exclusion for the 1st time -	YES - if applying for exclusion for the 1st time	YES - if applying for exclusion for the 1st time	YES - if applying for exclusion for the 1st time	YES - if applying for exclusion for the 1st time

Additional Information about Requirements:

What is a Letter of Intent?

- All Taxi & Accessible Taxi Drivers have to be driving for a company that has the appropriate business licence for that type of vehicle (i.e. - a Class A Taxi driver needs to be working for a company that has a Taxi Broker Business licence under the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw).
- In the case of Taxi drivers, they must be working for a company that owns a taxi or Accessible taxi plate -usually a Broker (i.e. Yellow, Prestige, Barrel, Checker, A-1, Capital) or they have to be an independent (own their own plate and will have the appropriate business licence to operate that vehicle).
- Therefore, when a Taxi or Accessible Taxi driver applies for their licence the first time, they need to provide a letter which states WHO **they will be driving for in the future**. This letter is called a Letter of Intent.

What is a Letter of Affiliation?

- It is a letter from a City of Edmonton regulated Taxi Cab broker (i.e. Yellow, Prestige, Barrel, Checker A1, Co-op, Capital or an Edmonton Regulated Independent) which confirms that the applicant applying for the driver's licence **has been working for them**.

What is a 100 day letter?

- A 100 day letter only applies to the Taxi industry. It is a letter from a City of Edmonton regulated Taxi Cab broker (i.e. Yellow, Prestige, Barrel, Checker A-1, Co-op, Capital or an Edmonton Regulated Independent) which states that the applicant applying for the driver's licence has driven a taxi or Accessible Taxi for 100 days out of the last 365. Only taxi or Accessible Taxi drivers who have

worked at least a 100 days in the last year are eligible to purchase a taxi vehicle plate if it comes available.

What is an acceptable Security Clearance?

- **Security Clearances must be issued by the City of Edmonton Police Service and be stamped within 30 days of the date the driver applies for their licence.**
 - **EPS Security Clearance for new & renewal licences** - If the individual provides us with a receipt from EPS that has their name on it - showing they have paid for the document & provide us all other requirements they can get a manual licence for 1 month & when the documentation is supplied and the licence reprinted, the Administration fee will be charged. (as per direction from the Chief Vehicle for Hire Inspector - May 7, 2009)
- **The Security Clearance must be for working with the “vulnerable sector”** since police check different things depending on what type of security clearance has been requested.

Where Can I get the Other Documents that are Required for the Licences?

- **English language competency screening document**
 - Course is offered by Grant MacEwan at 780-633-3708
- **proof of attending a taxi driver training program**
 - (by Co-op Taxi or the Edmonton Taxi Service Group (Yellow, Prestige, Barrel, Checker)
- **proof of the completion of a defensive driving program**
 - (provided by a great deal of Driving Schools in Edmonton – check the yellow pages)
- **proof of Class 1, 2 or 4, Province of Alberta Drivers Licence**
 - (Alberta Registries)
- **provide copy of current (within 30 days) Summary of Driving Record**
 - (Alberta Registries)
- **Experienced Driving Seminar:**
 - After one year from initial application and then once every five (5) years, a Taxi Driver must provide proof of having completed an "Experienced Driver Seminar" similar to the training program Co-op Taxi facility or the Edmonton Taxi Service Group (Yellow, Prestige, Barrel, Checker) provides. This requirement became effective January 1, 2003.
- **Accessible Driver Training Program:**
 - The 3 major Taxi Brokers (Alberta Co-op, Yellow and Capital) are offering these courses.

Fees:

All New Driver's Licences (Class A, Class B, Accessible Taxi, Limousine & Shuttle)	\$45.00/licence
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Driver's Licences for 2 or more of the various categories - Drivers who provide services to more than one category (i.e. taxi driver who also drives limousines....are required to get separate drivers licences to cover both activities. The only exception to this is if a taxi driver is also qualified to be an accessible taxi driver. In this case...one driver's licence covers both activities.	See Frequently Asked Question category
Renewal	\$45.00
Vehicle for Hire Driver Licence - Replacement	\$25.00

FINES:

As per the Section 115 fine amounts as per Bylaw 14700

- Fines can vary from \$250.00 to \$10,000 and to imprisonment for not more than 6 months for non-payment of a fine.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Reckless Driving:

Who do I contact if a cab driver cut me off or is driving carelessly?

- Contact the company the vehicle is providing the service for.

Disallowance of Service Animals:

Can a taxi driver refuse to pick up a person who has a service animal with them?

No- A taxi driver must agree to pick up a person who has a service animal with them unless the taxi driver has provided us a letter from an allergist proving they have an allergy to animals. If they have presented this letter to us, we will provide them with a message in Braille that is affixed to the reverse side of their City of Edmonton Driver's Licence, which will tell the individual without sight that they are allergic and can refuse to take them. In these cases, the taxi driver is supposed to ensure another cab will be called for that individual.

What happens if I need a driver's licence for 2 different categories under the new Bylaw?

Accessible Taxi Drivers Licence & Taxi Drivers Licence (either A or B class) –

- If you need both an Accessible Taxi Driver's Licence and a Taxi Driver's licence – you must supply all of the documentation required for the Accessible Taxi Driver's Licence as well as the documentation required for either a Class A Taxi Driver's licence or a Class B taxi Driver's licence when you first apply. If you have supplied all of the documentation together, you will only need to pay for the Accessible Taxi Driver's licence.

Taxi/Accessible Driver's Licence & Limousine Drivers Licence or Shuttle Drivers Licence.

- If you need 2 or more driver's licences for any of the above categories, you will need to pay for each individual licence required.

Do DATS/Ambulance drivers or Non Emergency Medical Transfer Staff need a vehicle for Hire Drivers Licence?

No - DATS/Ambulance drivers or Non Emergency Medical Transfer Staff working directly for the City of Edmonton, or contracted through a company like Yellow Cab, DO NOT require a Shuttle Vehicle Drivers Licence, nor does the Vehicle require a Shuttle Vehicle Licence. DATS is a City of Edmonton Service and Ambulance Drivers and Non Emergency Medical Transfer Staff are excluded under the section:

- AS per Part II - Section 4 (2) - Vehicle for Hire Bylaw:
 - does not apply to a motor vehicle used as part of a transit system operated by a municipality
 - does not apply to a motor vehicle licenced and used as part of an inter-municipal or inter-provincial bus service, or
 - an ambulance

What licences are required to drive what vehicles?

An individual who has an Accessible Taxi Driver licence can also drive a taxi. All of the other licences can ONLY drive what they are licensed for (i.e. Limousine Drivers Licence can only drive a limousine).