



Medical Report: guidance notes

Medical in confidence

Information required for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers under section 57 of Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Note to the Doctor

The Council requires the Group 2 medical standards which apply to large goods vehicles and public carriage vehicles to apply in respect of hackney carriage and private hire driver licences. You may find it helpful to consult the DVLA's "At a glance Guide to the current Medical Standards of Fitness to Drive" available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/736938/assessing_fitness_to_drive_a_guide_for_medical_professionals.pdf If any amendments or mistakes are made, please ensure you sign and date next to the amendment.

What the doctor has to do

1. Ensure the applicant completes the Applicants declaration .
2. Complete sections 1-10

Notes for an applicant for a licence to drive Hackney Carriage (HC) or Private Hire Vehicle (PH)

- If this is your first application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire vehicle licence you must produce the Medical Examination form completed by a doctor who is Registered General Practitioner. You must also do this if you are applying to renew your licence every 3 years thereafter until the age of 65.
- From the age of 65 a medical examination is required annually and this form must accompany each renewal.
- If you have any questions, please email licensing@surreyheath.gov.uk

What you (the applicant) must do

1. Before you consult a doctor please read the notes "Medical standards for the drivers of Hackney Carriages or Private Hire vehicles for common medical conditions" found in the next page. If you have any of these conditions you will not meet the Council's Medical standard and your application may be refused. However, each application will be considered on its own merit.
2. If after reading these notes, you have any doubts about your ability to meet the medical standards consult your doctor before you arrange for this medical form to be completed. The doctor may charge you for completing it. In the event of your application being refused, the fee you pay the doctor is not refundable. The Council has no responsibility for the fee payable to the doctor.
3. Complete the applicant's declaration of this report in the presence of the doctor carrying out the examination.
4. The Council must receive the report within 4 months of the doctor signing the report.
5. Please check that all sections have been completed fully. If any medical conditions are identified, please ensure an explanation is given in section 6.



Medical standards for drivers of Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles for common medical conditions

1. It is the duty of you as the licence holder to inform us if you have a condition or are undergoing treatment or have a medical condition that may now, or in the future, affect your safety as a driver. You must inform us in writing and supply supporting medical reports/letters within 7 days of the start of the condition.
2. The standards are higher for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers than those required for normal car drivers. This page is a list of common conditions that would bar someone from becoming a Hackney Carriage and or a Private Hire driver, it is not an exclusive list. If you are in any doubt as to whether your condition would affect your application please email the Licensing team at licensing@surreyheath.gov.uk for further advice.
3. The following conditions are a bar to holding a Hackney Carriage and or Private Hire driver licence.

3.1. Epileptic attack

Applicants must have been free of epileptic seizures for at least the last 10 years and have not taken anti-epileptic medication during this 10 year period. If these conditions cannot be met the Council may refuse or revoke the licence.

3.2 Diabetes

Insulin treated diabetics may not obtain a licence unless they held a Hackney Carriage and or Private Hire driver licence valid at 1st April 1991 and the insulin treatment before 1 January 1991, or if they meet a strict criteria for diabetic control. If you believe you may meet these criteria please contact Licensing to discuss this further.

3.3 Eyesight

- a) Applicants for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles must have
 - i) A visual acuity of at least 6/7.5 (0.8 decimal) in the better eye; **and**
 - ii) A visual acuity of at least 6/60 (0.1 decimal) in the other eye, **and**
 - iii) Where glasses are worn to meet the minimum standards, they should have corrective power not exceeding +8 dioptries in any meridian of either lens.
- b) It is also necessary for all drivers of Group 2 vehicles to be able to meet the prescribed and relevant Group 1 visual acuity requirements:-
 - i) Must be able to meet the above prescribed standard for reading a number plate. In addition, the visual acuity (with the aid of glasses or contact lenses if worn) must be at least 6/12 (Snellen decimal 0.5) with both eyes open, or in the only eye if monocular.
- c) Applicants are barred from holding a Hackney Carriage and or Private Hire vehicle driver licence if they have
 - i) Uncontrolled diplopia (double vision)
 - ii) Or do not have a normal binocular field of vision

4. Other medical conditions

In addition to those medical conditions shown above, applicants (or licence holders) should be shown as unfit to drive a Hackney Carriage and or Private Hire vehicle if they are unable to meet the DVLA Group 2 guidelines in the following cases:

- 4.1. Within 3 months of myocardial infraction, any episode of unstable angina, CABG or coronary angioplasty
- 4.2. A significant disturbance of cardiac rhythm unless special criteria are met
- 4.3. Suffering from or receiving medication for angina or heart failure
- 4.4. Hypertension where the BP is consistently 180 systolic or over or 100 diastolic or over
- 4.5. A stroke, or TIA within the last 12 months
- 4.6. Unexplained loss of consciousness within the past 5 years



- 4.7. Meniere's and other conditions causing disabling vertigo, within the past year and with a liability to recurrence
- 4.8. Recent severe head injury with serious continuing after effects, or major brain surgery
- 4.9. Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis or other "chronic" neurological disorders likely to affect limb power and coordination
- 4.10. Suffering from a psychotic illness in the past 3 years, or suffering from dementia
- 4.11. Persistent alcohol, drug or substance misuse in the past 12 months or alcohol, drug or substance misuse in the past 3 years
- 4.12. Insuperable difficulty in communicating by telephone in an emergency
- 4.13. Any other serious medical conditions which may cause problems for road safety
- 4.14. If major psychotropic or neuroleptic medication is being taken
- 4.15. Any malignant condition within the last 2 years likely to metastasise to the brain for example malignant melanoma

A Hackney Carriage or Private Hire driver licence issued after cardiac assessment – usually for ischaemic or untreated heart valve disease – will usually be short-term and licence renewal will require satisfactory medical reports including an exercise or other functional test, as required from the DVLA. See Appendix C at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appendices-assessing-fitness-to-drive#appendix-c-cardiovascular-consideration>