

Driver licensing courses

for licence classes and endorsements

Factsheet

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This factsheet provides information on approved driver licensing courses for all licence classes and licence endorsements.

Car (Class 1) courses

If you're under 25 years old, you can reduce the minimum time you have to spend on a restricted car licence from 18 months to 12 months by completing an approved advanced driving skills course. If you're over 25, the minimum time can be reduced from six months to three months.

In addition to completing an approved advanced driving skills course, you'll still be required to pass the full licence test (practical test) to obtain a full licence.

Further information about the full licence test can be found on our website at www.nzta.govt.nz/licence/photo/new-tests or in *The official New Zealand road code*.

What courses are approved?

There are two approved advanced driving skills courses:

1. Street Talk.
2. Defensive Driving.

How to find information about course providers

- To find out about **Street Talk**, read:
 - Street Talk information at www.nzta.govt.nz/licence/getting/cars/defensive-courses.html
 - Street Talk information on the website of the New Zealand Institute of Driver Educators (NZIDE) at www.street-talk.co.nz.
- To find out about **Defensive Driving** courses, read the Defensive Driving course (DDC) information on the Automobile Association (AA) website at www.aa.co.nz/ddc.

You can also get information about courses and course providers by:

- visiting our website at www.nzta.govt.nz/licence/getting/cars/defensive-courses.html
- calling us on 0800 822 422
- visiting an NZ Transport Agency driver licensing agent - these are selected branches of:
 - the Automobile Association (AA)
 - Vehicle Inspection New Zealand (VINZ)
 - Vehicle Testing New Zealand (VTNZ)
- looking in the *Yellow pages*: www.yellowpages.co.nz.

Motorcycle (Class 6) courses

Competency Based Training Assessment (CBTA)

The competency based training assessment option is an alternative path to progress through the restricted and full licence stages.

Successfully completing a CBTA course will mean you won't have to meet some of the graduated licensing system requirements.

A restricted licence applicant who presents a 6R CBTA certificate at a driver licensing agent won't have to:

- complete the learner licence minimum time period
- sit and pass a practical test at the agent
- pay the restricted practical test fee.

A full licence applicant who presents a 6F CBTA certificate at a driver licensing agent will:

- reduce the minimum age from 18 years to 17 ½ years, and
- reduce the restricted licence minimum period from 18 to 12 months, and
- not need to sit and pass a practical test at the agent, and
- not need to pay the full practical test fee.

Approved advance driving skills course (Street Talk or Defensive Driving)

Since 1 October 2012, an approved advanced driving skills course can no longer be used to reduce the minimum time you have to spend on a motorcycle restricted licence. To reduce the minimum time you need to spend on your learner or restricted motorcycle class you must present an appropriate 6R or 6F CBTA certificate.

Heavy vehicle (classes 2-5)

If you want to drive heavy vehicles, you have to obtain the appropriate learner licence (Class 2, 3, 4 or 5) before driving. The licence class you need to obtain depends on the weight of the vehicle you want to drive. When you apply for the learner licence you may also need to provide a medical certificate (see Factsheet 70 *Heavy vehicle driver licences* for details).

To progress to a full licence, you've got two options:

1. Practise driving under supervision for at least six months before applying for a full licence and sitting a practical test in a vehicle covered by that class.
2. Complete an approved industry-based course for that class. You can take the course any time after you gain your learner licence.

When you've completed the course, take your course certificate to a driver licensing agent and apply for a full licence. You don't need to sit a practical test.

Heavy vehicle courses (classes 2-5)

The approved courses for heavy vehicle classes are aligned with unit standards on the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) framework. If you successfully complete the courses, you have the opportunity to have the unit standards you've achieved count towards a national certificate as well as a driver licence.

The relevant course unit standards are:

Course	Unit Standard
Class 2	17574 (Class 2) and 24089* (fatigue management, work time and logbooks)
Class 3	17575 (Class 3) and 24089*
Class 4	17576 (Class 4) and 24089*
Class 5	17577 (Class 5) and 24089*

* Required unless successfully completed with an approved driver licensing course provider either:

- within the previous 12 months, or
- more than 12 months ago and the course provider is able to confirm that you have retained the necessary knowledge and skills.

You can view these unit standards at www.nzqa.govt.nz.

Licence endorsement courses

The approved courses for licence endorsements are aligned with unit standards on the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) framework. If you successfully complete a course, you have the opportunity to have the unit standards you've achieved count towards a national certificate as well as a driver licence.

Successfully completing the course is only one requirement in obtaining the endorsement on your driver licence. Please refer to the relevant factsheet (shown in the table below) for details about the full requirements for each endorsement type:

Endorsement type	Course unit standards	Factsheet
Passenger (P)	17579 and 24089*	42
Vehicle recovery (V)	17580 and 24089*	46
Dangerous goods (D)	16718	37
Forklift (F)	18496	10
Rollers (R)	16702	40
Tracks (T)	16703	40
Wheels (W)	16701	40
Driving instructor (I)	16646, 16647, 14511, 14521, 14523, 20179, 20180, 3466	5

* Required unless successfully completed within the previous 12 months with an approved driver licensing course provider.

You can view these unit standards at www.nzqa.govt.nz.

How to find information about course providers

To find details of course providers for classes 2-5 and licence endorsements:

- visit our website at www.nzta.govt.nz/licence/getting/course-providers/index
- call us on 0800 822 422
- visit a driver licensing agent
- look in the *Yellow pages*: www.yellowpages.co.nz.

The information in this factsheet is a general guide only. It is not the source of the law and should not be used in place of authoritative legal documents. Some factsheets are updated frequently and print versions can quickly become out of date. If the currency of the information you are reading is important, check the factsheet index on our website (www.nzta.govt.nz/factsheets) or call us on 0800 822 422.

Becoming a course provider

If you're interested in providing approved driver licensing courses for licence classes or endorsements, you must be a **registered assessor** with the appropriate industry training organisation (check this factsheet for the relevant course unit standards).

For further information regarding all course types (except tracks, wheels, or rollers), contact:

- **MITO (NZ Motor Industry Training Organisation (Inc))**
Phone: 04 494 0005
Freephone: 0800 88 21 21
Fax: 04 494 0006
Email: info@mito.org.nz
Website: www.mito.org.nz

For further information regarding tracks, wheels and rollers endorsement courses, contact:

- **Connexis ITO**
Phone: 0800 486 626
Email: askus@connexis.org.nz

In addition to becoming a registered assessor:

- You must also satisfy the Transport Agency that you have sufficient relevant industry experience in relation to the course type for which approval is sought. This experience must be within the past five years in either an operational or training setting. If you are unsure whether you have sufficient experience, you should contact the driver licensing auditor at your local Transport Agency office.
- If you are conducting approved courses for classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, you must also hold a driving instructor endorsement for the appropriate class of vehicle. (See Factsheet 5 / *endorsements* for more information).
- Where the application is for approval to conduct any of the class 2-5, P, or V endorsement courses, you must provide evidence of having successfully completed either of the following unit standards:
 - 7097 (Facilitate interactive learning sessions for adults); or
 - 17975 (Plan, conduct, and review interactive group learning for trainee drivers).
- Where the application is for the F endorsement course, you must provide evidence of holding a current OSH operator's or trainer's certificate.
- You must complete the Transport Agency's course provider approval application form and pay the applicable fee (\$38.80 for each course type applied for).

Where you can find out more

- Call us on 0800 822 422.
- Email us: info@nzta.govt.nz.
- Write to us: NZ Transport Agency, Private Bag 11777, Palmerston North 4442.

Contact details

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