

How to update your Road User Charges (RUC) licence following the fee increase

Are you affected?

If you have a vehicle with a gross vehicle mass (GVM) under 3500 kilograms this does not affect you. However, if you have a vehicle with a GVM of 3500 kilograms or more; and you haven't bought a RUC licence for it since 1 October 2010, you will need to take action.

Why do I need to update?

One month after a change in RUC rates, any licence for a heavy vehicle that was bought at the old rates becomes invalid, and a new licence must be purchased at the new rates. If the month is up and you have unused distance remaining on your old licence, you will need to buy a new one. The new licence will need to start at the current reading on your vehicle's hubodometer. A refund for the unused distance will be calculated automatically and credited against the purchase of your new licence.

What do you need to do if you're affected?

To buy your new licence, please follow the steps below

1. Note down your current hubodometer reading.
2. Go to any NZTA agent and complete a 'RUCLA' form for buying RUC (this is the same form you would normally complete for a RUC purchase).
3. On the form, where it says 'start distance' enter the reading you just took on the hubodometer.
4. Purchase enough units to equal or exceed the current end distance on the old licence.

When you buy the new licence, you'll automatically be credited with what you have already paid on the old licence. You'll only be charged the difference in charges between the old licence rates and the new rates.

EXAMPLE: Your licence was bought in 2009 and goes from 10,000 - 20,000 km and your hubodometer reading is currently 15460.

The 'start' distance for your new licence should be 15460 and you should buy at least 5 units (5000km).

The dollar value of the remaining unused distance on your old licence will automatically be deducted from the purchase price of your new licence. (Using the above example, from 15460 to 20,000km you'd only be charged the difference between the old rates and the new rates. From 20,000 km onwards, you'll be charged for the full new rates). A transaction fee will also be charged, which will be \$9.78 per vehicle for counter transactions.

When you are given your new licence, check it to ensure that the start distance is the reading you entered on the form.

All NZTA Agents have access to a helpdesk, so if the Agent you visit has any difficulty in assisting you, please ask them to call their helpdesk.

Examples of rate increases are:

Vehicle description	RUC Weight	Per 1000 kilometres (inclusive of GST)	
		Old rate	New rate
2 axle powered vehicle, single tyres on both axles	6	52.65	59.20
2 axle powered vehicle, dual tyres on rear axle	7	67.53	75.93
3 axle powered vehicle, dual tyres on both rear axles	9	67.33	75.71

A full list of rates and comprehensive information on Road User Charges can be found at:

<http://www.nzta.govt.nz/about/media/releases/790/news.html>

Alternatively, you can call the NZ Transport Agency helpdesk on 0800 655 644 for more information.