

Competency-based training and assessment (CBTA) for the Learner and Restricted phases of the motorcycle licence

Questions and answers

WHAT IS COMPETENCY-BASED TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT?

CBTA is a new training and assessment option for people getting their motorcycle licence. Instead of taking a practical test at the restricted and full stages of your licence, you can choose to have your riding skills assessed by an approved CBTA assessor.

If you want to get your motorcycle licence, you can choose between the driver testing regime and the new competency-based assessment scheme, or a combination of the two.

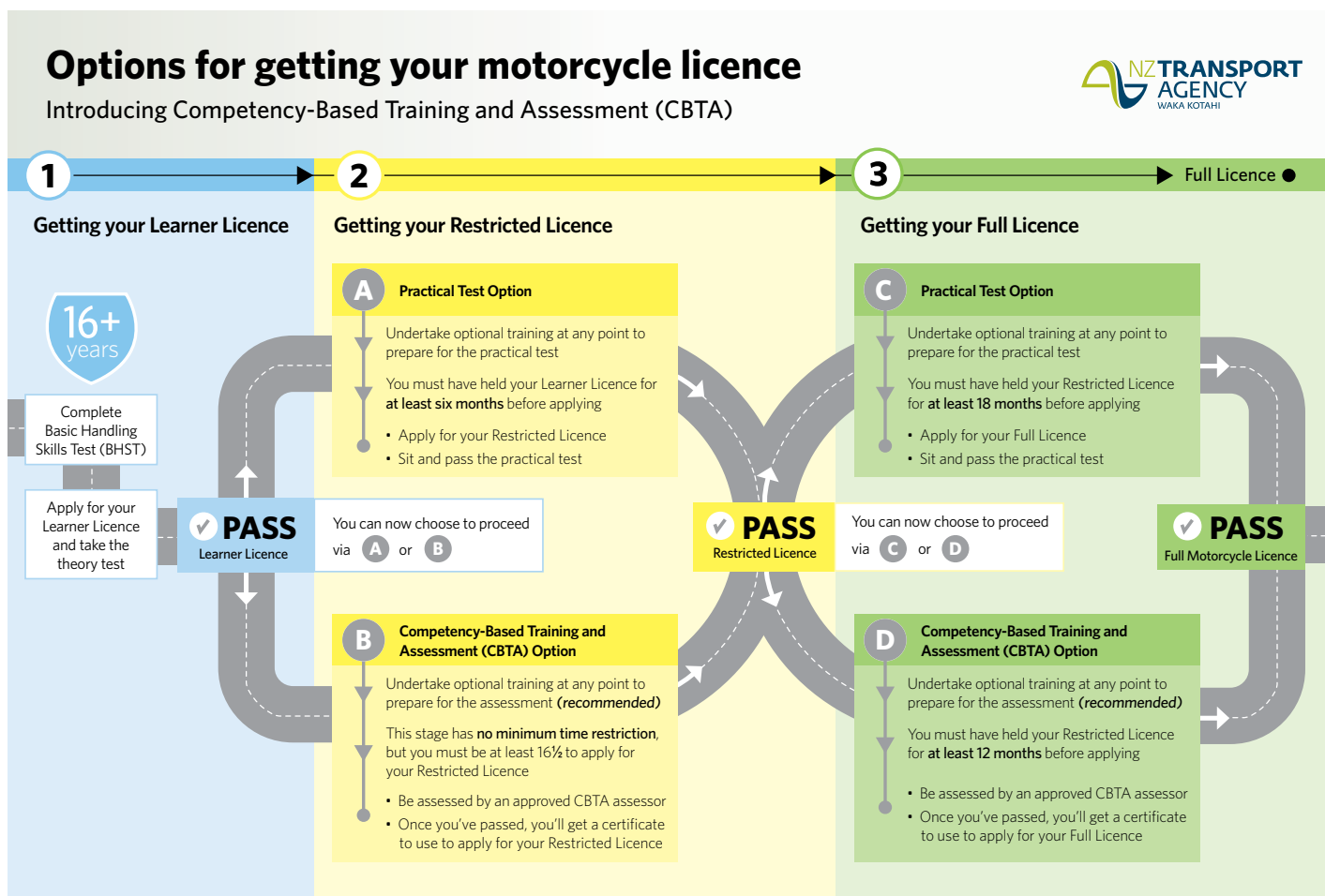
The assessments are designed to ensure you're competent in a prescribed range of riding skills, which are important to keep you safe when riding on our roads. This option can reduce the amount of time it takes you to get your restricted or full licence, while ensuring you have the skills and knowledge you need to ride safely on New Zealand roads.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF CBTA?

If you choose the CBTA option, there are a number of benefits:

- It can reduce the time it takes you to gain your restricted and/or full motorcycle licence - completing the CBTA course is the only way for a motorcyclist to reduce the required minimum time during the learner and restricted licence stages
- It improves your riding skill levels by targeting high-risk riding behaviours, which allows for a safer road system for you and other road users
- If you choose to do your training through an approved CBTA assessor, you'll get feedback on your riding skills and you'll get tips on how to ride smarter and safer. These improvements will help prepare you for the CBTA assessment, and help you make smarter choices on the road.

HOW DOES CBTA COMPARE WITH THE PRACTICAL TEST OPTION?



WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO BE ELIGIBLE TO UNDERTAKE CBTA?

Before you can start CBTA, you'll need to complete a **basic handling skills test**, apply for your learner licence and take the **learner licence** theory test.

Once you've been issued with your learner licence, you can choose to undertake CBTA, the existing licensing regime, or a combination of the two to get your restricted and/or full motorcycle licence.

WHAT WILL CBTA INVOLVE?

There are two stages to CBTA; the Learner stage and the Restricted stage. You can choose CBTA in one, or both of the stages, to get your restricted and/or full motorcycle licence.

- Learner stage (Class 6R CBTA) - occurs during the learner licence stage of the licensing system and upon successful completion, you'll be able to apply for your restricted motorcycle licence (provided you're at least 16½ years of age when applying).
- Restricted stage (Class 6F CBTA) - occurs during the restricted licence stage of the licensing system and upon successful completion, you'll be able to apply for your full motorcycle licence.

WHAT ARE THE SPECIFIC BENEFITS DURING THE LEARNER AND RESTRICTED STAGES OF CBTA?

- Successful completion of a CBTA course during the learner stage will:
 - remove the minimum time period for holding a learner licence (you must still be at least 16½ years of age when applying for your restricted licence).

- remove the requirement to sit a class 6 restricted practical test
- Successful completion of a CBTA course during the restricted stage will:
 - reduce the time period for holding a restricted licence from 18 months to 12 months **and** - reduce the minimum age to apply for the licence from 18 years to 17 ½ years of age and
 - remove the requirement to sit a class 6 full licence practical test.

DO I HAVE TO UNDERTAKE CBTA TO GET MY MOTORCYCLE LICENCE?

No. CBTA is optional. It's an alternative option to the testing system for getting your restricted and/or full motorcycle licence. If you'd like to get your restricted or full motorcycle licence, you can choose between CBTA, the testing system, or a combination of the both.

CBTA training

IS TRAINING COMPULSORY?

Although training isn't compulsory, we recommend you complete training before attempting the assessment ride.

If you're new to riding, training will help prepare you for the assessment, ensuring you have the necessary skills required to ride safely on our roads.

For existing riders, training will identify any errors in your riding style and help you correct these before you do your assessment.

WHO CAN I TRAIN WITH?

You can do your training with any qualified motorcycle riding instructor. All approved CBTA assessors are qualified motorcycle instructors and are able to tailor training programmes to suit the stage of riding you're currently at.

WHEN DO I START MY TRAINING?

Training for either stage can be started at any time after getting your learner or restricted licence to enable you to be fully prepared to undertake the assessment. Once you're satisfied that you're competent in the skills required for the assessment, you can book and undertake the assessment ride.

CBTA assessment

WHO CAN I BE ASSESSED BY?

CBTA uses the knowledge and experience of industry based assessors who have been approved by the Transport Agency to train and assess motorcyclists riding skills.

As CBTA assessors are approved, their details will be loaded to the Transport Agency website. When you're ready to sit your assessment, contact one of the assessors listed at www.nzta.govt.nz/cbta to book in for your assessment appointment.

WHAT DOES THE ASSESSMENT INVOLVE?

The assessment is designed to ensure that you're competent in a prescribed range of riding competencies. The assessment is conducted with the CBTA assessor following you on a motorcycle and you'll be fitted with communication equipment to allow the assessor to communicate with you. Your riding skills will be assessed throughout the entire duration of the assessment ride.

A full list of the riding tasks and competencies that are assessed, as well as all other important information you'll need to know for the assessment, can be found in the Motorcycle Competency-Based Assessment (CBTA) Course Guide, available on the [Transport Agency website](#).

HOW LONG DOES THE ASSESSMENT TAKE?

The assessment is a different length for each stage of CBTA.

The learner stage (Class 6R CBTA) assessment takes between 50-60 minutes riding time, which allows for a comprehensive assessment of your riding skills in both urban and higher speed zone areas.

The restricted stage (Class 6F CBTA) assessment takes between 25-30 minutes riding time, mostly in higher speed zone areas.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER I'VE PASSED THE ASSESSMENT?

Once you have your learner/restricted licence, you can undertake training for your 6R/6F assessment ride at any time. Once you've passed your assessment you'll be issued with a Transport Agency motorcycle competency certificate for the appropriate CBTA course. Once you've held your learner/restricted licence for the minimum period, you'll be eligible to apply for your restricted/full licence. You'll need to present this certificate to a driver licensing agent when you apply for the related licence.

Street Talk and Defensive driving courses are still available, but completing a course will not reduce the licence holder's time period on their class 6 (motorcycle) restricted licence nor reduce the minimum age at which they can apply for their full licence.

Background

WHY HAS THE NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY INTRODUCED CBTA?


The Transport Agency has introduced competency-based training and assessment (CBTA) to improve safety for motorcyclists. The New Zealand Government's Safer Journeys strategy identifies motorcycling safety as a priority area for improvement. In 2010, the government announced a package of reforms to improve the safety of motorcyclists through improved rider training and licensing requirements. Part of that package, was allowing for the introduction of CBTA.

The more training and practical riding experience a motorcyclist gets, the more prepared they're likely to be for potentially unsafe or confronting riding scenarios.

CBTA focuses on the specific skill sets required to help keep motorcyclists safe through the application of a robust course assessment and the availability of appropriate targeted training. This will result in improved riding skills and safer journeys for everyone on New Zealand roads.

WHEN DID THE LAW CHANGE TO ALLOW FOR CBTA TO BE CONSIDERED AS AN ALTERNATIVE OPTION TO THE PRACTICAL MOTORCYCLE TEST?

The draft Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Amendment Rule 2011 was released for public consultation in November 2010, the consultation period ended on 20 December 2010. The draft included removal of time based requirements



and the introduction of CBTA as an alternative option for progression through the graduated licensing system.

The Amendment Rule was signed by the Minister on 26 August 2011 and came into force on 1 October 2011 except for those specific clauses (including the motorcycle clauses) which came into force on 1 October 2012.

CBTA came into effect on 1 March 2014 as an alternative option for getting a motorcycle licence.

WHAT OTHER CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE MOTORCYCLE GRADUATED LICENSING SYSTEM TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF MOTORCYCLISTS?

- In August 2011 the minimum age you could obtain a learner motorcycle licence increased from 15 years to 16 years.
 - Prior to October 2012, the driver licensing requirements for Class 6 motorcycle applicants aged under 25 were different to the requirements for applicants aged 25 or over. From 1 October 2012, the requirements for Class 6 motorcycle licence applicants changed. This means that under the current practical testing option, the same criteria now applies to all Class 6 motorcycle applicants (i.e. the same minimum class ages and mandatory minimum time periods apply).
 - Learner and restricted licence holders can only ride LAMS-approved motorcycles. More information about LAMS approved motorcycles can be found on the [Transport Agency website](#).
 - Class 6 restricted licence holders can no longer complete an approved advanced driving course to gain a time reduction or reduce the minimum class age when applying for a class 6 full licence.
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