

Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999: Senior Drivers' Licence Renewal Exemption Notice 2025.

Pursuant to section 168D of the Land Transport Act 1998, the Director of Land Transport, after being satisfied of the matters set out in section 168D (3) of that Act, gives the following notice:

1. Title

This Notice is the Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999: Senior Drivers' Licence Renewal Exemption Notice 2025.

2. Commencement

This Notice comes into force on 1 August 2025.

3. Expiry

This Notice expires at 11.59pm on 1 August 2028.

4. Application

This Notice applies to senior drivers applying to renew their classes 1-6 driver licences, if their details listed in clause 10(a)-(e) and (h)-(j) of the Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999 have not changed.

This Notice does not apply to any driver licence endorsements.

This Notice is intended to apply only to those whose details have not changed from those printed on their photo driver licence and renewal reminder letter. If any details have changed, they will be required to complete the relevant section of the application form.

5. Interpretation

(1) In this Notice –

Act means the Land Transport Act 1998

Rule means the Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999

Renewal means replacing an existing licence before it expires

Senior Drivers means drivers aged over 74 years and six months of age

(2) Any term or expression that is defined in the Act, or the Rule and used, but not defined, in this Notice has the same meaning as in the respective Act or the Rule.

6. Class exemption

- (1) A senior driver described in clause 4 of this Notice is exempt from clause 10(a) to (e), and (h) to (j), inclusive, of the Rule when renewing a licence of any class.
- (2) The exemption in subclause (1) is subject to the conditions specified in clause 7 of this Notice.
- (3) Nothing in this Notice affects the other driver licence application requirements contained in the Rule.

7. Conditions applying to drivers relying on this class exemption.

(1) A senior driver described in clause 4 of this Notice is exempt from the requirements listed in clause 6.1 if:

- a. their details listed in clause 10(a)-(e) and (h)-(j) have not changed; and
- b. they produce their driver licence and driver licence renewal reminder notice to the licensing agent; and
- c. the licensing agent confirms the driver's identity; and
- d. the licensing agent fills in the driver's driver licence number on the application form.

Signed at Wellington on 10 July 2025



Brent Alderton
Director of Land Transport

Explanatory Note

This note is not part of the Notice. This note indicates the Notice's general effect and the reasons for it being given.

This Notice comes into force on 1 August 2025 and expires at 11.59pm on 1 August 2028. It may be amended, replaced, or revoked in accordance with section 168E(2) of the Act.

General effect of the Class Exemption

The Notice grants a temporary Class Exemption to allow drivers of 74.5 years of age and older to renew their class 1-6 licences without needing to fill out as many sections on the application form.

In making the decision to grant this exemption, the Director of Land Transport has considered section 168D(3) of the Act. The Director is satisfied that the exemption is appropriate considering the Agency's objective, the need to maintain or improve land transport safety and other relevant and appropriate matters. The Director is also satisfied that the exemption is no broader than necessary to address the matters that gave rise to it.

This exemption only applies to the renewal of class 1-6 driver licences and does not apply to the renewal of driver licence endorsements, the reinstatement or replacement of a driver licence, or an application for a new class of licence. This exemption only applies to certain parts of the application form and does not apply to any other application requirements. Drivers described in clause 4 of this Notice are still required to complete the medical and statutory declarations and identify which classes of licence they are seeking to renew.

Reasons for giving the Class Exemption

Clause 10 of the Driver Licensing Rule requires specified information to be submitted with every application. Senior drivers are required to renew their licences initially within 5 years and then every two years. This frequent process involves re-entering information that is unlikely to have changed in that period. In 2024, only 0.16% of senior drivers had changed their name when they renewed. Other information required under section 10 does not change; for example, date of birth or place of birth.

Collecting information that NZTA already hold adds an administrative burden for both agents and customers, slows down service at driver licensing agents, and offers limited value.