

D endorsements

for carrying dangerous goods

Who needs a dangerous goods (D) endorsement

If you drive a vehicle or vehicle combination to transport dangerous goods, you may be required to hold a current D endorsement on your driver licence.

The below table summarises when a D endorsement is required. If you're not sure whether you need a D endorsement, or you require further information around the requirements for transporting dangerous goods, call our contact centre on 0800 822 422.

Dangerous goods transport scenario		Amount transported	Do you need a D endorsement?
NOT for hire or direct reward	For domestic or recreational purposes	Any	No
	As tools-of-trade for agricultural or commercial purposes	Under the limits in the schedule 1 of the rule ¹	No
		Over the limits in schedule 1 of the rule ¹	Yes* *Exceptions are listed in clause 9.2 of Land Transport Rule: Dangerous Goods 2005 ² . D endorsement is not required when any of the following exceptions apply: 1. the driver holds a compliant test certificate (see clause 9.2(2) for details); or 2. the driver is under the direct supervision of a person in the vehicle who holds a current dangerous goods endorsement on their driver licence; or 3. small packages of dangerous goods that comply with the requirements in clause 2.4 or 2.5 of the Rule, and the aggregate quantity of the dangerous goods does not exceed 50 litres, or 50 kg including the weight of the packaging; or 4. routine diagnostic specimens or low risk biological products and comply with the requirements in clause 2.6 of the Rule; or 5. radioactive material in excepted quantities or excepted packages in accordance with clause 2.9 or the Rule; or 6. are classified as UN 3077 or UN 3082 (toxic to the aquatic environment).
For hire or direct reward (includes all licensed transport service operators)	Any	Yes* *Exceptions are listed in clause 9.2 of Land Transport Rule: Dangerous Goods 2005 ² . D-endorsement is not required when the dangerous goods being transported are as per exceptions stated in 2) to 6) above.	

¹ www.nzta.govt.nz/schedule-1-dangerous-goods

² www.nzta.govt.nz/dangerous-goods

You need to complete a course

To ensure you have the necessary knowledge and skills for transporting dangerous goods, you need to complete an approved course.

To find an approved course provider in your area, go to www.nzta.govt.nz/course-providers

Applying for the endorsement

You can apply for a D endorsement at your nearest driver licensing agent.

You'll need to:

- complete an *Application for endorsement D, F, R, T, W* form (DL19) (go to www.nzta.govt.nz/form-DL19 to download the form)
- You'll need to provide evidence of your identity:
 - » your New Zealand photo driver licence (which can be current or expired up to 2 years) or
 - » your current New Zealand passport, or
 - » two other acceptable forms of evidence of identity (see *Identification for driver licensing* (Factsheet 20) for more information and a full list of acceptable identity documents)
- a certificate showing you've successfully completed an appropriate and approved course (the course certificate must be no more than 60 days old)
- pay the application fee of \$20.70

The D endorsement will be valid for 5 years. The expiry date of your endorsement will be on the back of your driver licence.

To renew the endorsement, you'll have to complete another course (to stay up to date with any developments or changes) and apply again following the process above. The fee to renew a D endorsement is \$22.

Eyesight requirements

You must prove that your eyesight meets the required standard each time you apply for a D endorsement. You can do this by:

- passing an eyesight check at a driver licensing agent, or
- presenting an original eyesight or medical certificate issued by a New Zealand registered optometrist or health practitioner (no more than 60 days old). The health practitioner can be your usual doctor (GP), a registered nurse or nurse practitioner, or a specialist if appropriate.

You may take the eyesight test while wearing glasses or contact lenses. Your licence will then have a condition that you must always wear these while driving.

If you try to pass the eyesight check at an agent and fail, then you must provide a satisfactory eyesight or medical certificate. Your application won't be completed (and you won't get a licence) until you've provided the certificate.

Sight in only one eye can dramatically affect your ability to judge distance. If you can only see out of one eye, or only have one eye, you must present an acceptable certificate stating that you're safe to drive.



This factsheet is a general guide only. It doesn't replace legal advice, and your exact requirements will depend on current legislation.

Make sure you have the most up-to-date version of this factsheet by checking www.nzta.govt.nz/factsheets



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