

**MEDICAL REPORT**

**Associated with an application for a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Drivers Licence**

If this is your first application for a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire driver’s licence you must get a GP to access to your complete medical records to complete the DVLA D4 form. Further medical reports will be required on renewal of the licence when aged 45 years, then every 5 years until aged 65 and annually thereafter.

**A. WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO**

1. The DVLA D4 form to be completed by a doctor who is carrying out the examination.
2. If you have any doubts about your ability to meet the medical standards for a Group 2 Vocational drivers licence consult a doctor BEFORE you arrange for the D4 form to be completed. The doctor may charge you for completing it. In the event of your application being refused, the fee you pay the doctor is not refundable. Teignbridge District Council has NO responsibility for the fee paid to the doctor.
3. The notes below (Medical Standards for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers) may help you.
4. The D4 form, together with your application, must be received by Teignbridge District Council within 4 months of the doctor signing the form.

**B. WHAT THE DOCTOR HAS TO DO**

1. Fill in D4 form taking account of the criteria for the Group 2 Vocational driver’s licence in consultation with the DVLA ‘At a Glance Guide for Medical Standards of Fitness to Drive’.
2. Applicants who may be asymptomatic at the time of the examination should be advised that, if in the future symptoms of a medical condition develop which is likely to affect safe driving and a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire driver’s licence is held, the Licensing Team at Teignbridge District Council should be informed immediately.

**C. MEDICAL STANDARDS FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS**

Standards for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers are higher than for car drivers. Specific conditions which are a bar to obtaining or holding a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire driver’s licence are as follows:

**EPILEPSY / SEIZURE**

1. Applicants must have been free from epileptic seizures for at least the last 10 years and have not taken anti-epileptic medication during the last ten year period. The Council must refuse or revoke the licence if these conditions cannot be met.

If you have been diagnosed as having epilepsy, (this includes all events: major, minor and auras), you will need to remain free of seizures without taking anti-epilepsy medication for 10 years.

If you have a condition that causes an increased liability to seizures, for example a serious head injury, the risk of you having a seizure must have fallen to no greater than 2% per annum prior to application.  
  
If you cannot meet these conditions the DVLA must have refused an application or revoked your licence.  
  
If you have had only an isolated seizure, you may be entitled to drive 5 years from the date of the seizure, provided that you are able to satisfy the following criteria:

* No relevant structural abnormality has been found in the brain on imaging.
* No definite epileptic activity has been found on EEG (record of the brain waves).
* You have not been prescribed medication to treat the seizure for at least 5 years since the seizure.
* You have the support of your neurologist.
* Your risk of a further seizure is considered to be 2% or less per annum (each year).

You are strongly advised to discuss your eligibility to apply with your doctor before having this report filled in.

1. **INSULIN TREATED DIABETES**

If you have insulin treated diabetes you may apply for a Group 2 licence as long as you can meet the strict criteria for controlling and monitoring diabetes. This includes having at least 3 continuous months of blood glucose readings available for inspection on a blood glucose meter(s) with a memory function. Drivers must undertake blood glucose (sugar) monitoring at least twice daily (even on days when not driving) and at times relevant to driving (no more than 2 hours before the start of the first journey and every 2 hours while driving.

1. **EYESIGHT**All drivers must be able to read in good light with glasses or contact lenses if worn, a car number plate from 20 metres and have eyesight (visual acuity) of 6/12 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.5) or better. In addition:

1. All new applicants for a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire driver’s licence must have, as measured by the 6 metre Snellen chart:

* A visual acuity of at least 6/7.5 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.8) in the better eye
* A visual acuity of at least 6/60 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.1) in the worse eye
* This may be achieved with or without glasses or contact lenses.
* If glasses (not contact lenses) are worn for driving, the spectacle prescription of either lens used must not be of a corrective power greater than plus 8 (+8) dioptres in any meridian.

If you cannot meet the above standard we may still be able to issue a Group 2 licence if:

* You held a Group 2 licence on 31 December 1996
* Have a corrected visual acuity of at least 6/9 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.6) in the better eye and 6/12 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.5) in the worse eye, and
* An uncorrected visual acuity of 3/60 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.05) in at least one eye

Or

* You held a Group 2 licence on 1 March 1992
* You have a corrected visual acuity of at least 6/12 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.5) using both eyes together
* Have an uncorrected visual acuity of at least 3/60 (decimal Snellen equivalent 0.05) in at least one eye.

**Note:** Drivers first licensed as Hackney Carriage/Private Hire drivers on 31 December 1996 who cannot meet the above standards may still be considered on an individual basis. Please see leaflet INF4D (Medical examination report) for further information.

**AN APPLICANT (OR EXISTING LICENCE HOLDER) FAILING TO MEET THE EPILEPSY,**

**DIABETES OR EYESIGHT REGULATIONS MUST BE REFUSED BY LAW**

1. **OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS**

In addition to those medical conditions covered by law, an applicant or existing licence holder is likely to be refused a Group 2 licence if they cannot meet the recommended medical guidelines for any of the following:

* within 3 months of a coronary artery bypass graft (CABG)
* angina, heart failure or cardiac arrhythmia which remains uncontrolled
* implanted cardiac defibrillator
* hypertension where the resting blood pressure is consistently 180 mm/Hg systolic or more and/or 100 mm/Hg diastolic or more
* a stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA) within the last 12 months
* unexplained loss of consciousness with liability to recurrence
* Meniere’s disease, or any other sudden and disabling dizziness or vertigo within the past year, with a liability to recurrence
* major brain surgery and/or recent severe head injury with serious continuing after-effects or a likelihood of causing seizures
* Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis or other chronic neurological disorders with symptoms likely to affect safe driving
* psychotic illness in the past 12 months
* serious psychiatric illness
* if major psychotropic or neuroleptic medication is being taken
* alcohol and/or drug misuse in the past 1 year or alcohol and/or drug dependence in the past 3 years
* dementia
* cognitive impairment likely to affect safe driving
* any malignant condition in the last 2 years, with a significant liability to metastasise (spread) to the brain
* any other serious medical condition likely to affect the safe driving of a Group 2 vehicle
* cancer of the lung.

1. **SLEEPINESS / TIREDNESS AND DRIVING**

There is no excuse for falling asleep at the wheel and it is not an excuse in law.

All drivers are subject to the pressures of modern life, but many drivers are unaware that some medical conditions also cause excessive sleepiness/tiredness. These, along or in combination with the factors mentioned previously, may be sufficient to make driving unsafe. A road traffic accident may be the first clear indication of such a sleep disorder.

**If you know you have uncontrolled sleepiness you MUST not drive.**

Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Syndrome (OSAS) is a condition which often goes undiagnosed. If it is not fully assessed and treated, this can cause sleepiness and other symptoms which can be a serious risk factor in road traffic accidents.

**You must tell DVLA and licensing immediately if you are diagnosed with Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Syndrome.**

Narcolepsy also causes daytime sleepiness/tiredness as well as other symptoms that may be disability for drivers.

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| **THE APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE THIS PAGE**  **Applicant’s declaration** | |
| --- | --- |
| You **must** fill in this Section and **must not** alter it in any way.  Please read the following important information carefully then sign to confirm the statements below.  **Important information about fitness to drive**  As part of the investigation into you fitness to drive, we (Licensing Authority) may require you to have a medical examination or some form of practical assessment. If we do, the people involved will need your medical details to carry out an appropriate assessment. These may include doctors, orthoptists at eye clinics or paramedical staff at a driving assessment centre. We will only release information relevant to the medical assessment of your fitness to drive.  **Declaration**  I authorise my doctor and specialist to release reports and information about my condition which is relevant to my fitness to drive, to the Licensing Authority.  I understand that the Licensing Authority may disclose relevant medical information that is necessary to investigate my fitness to drive, to doctors and paramedical staff.  I declare that I have checked the details I have given on the enclosed questionnaire and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are correct. | |
| Name: |  |
| Address: |  |
| Telephone: | Home: |
| Work / Daytime: |
| Mobile: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Signature |  |
| Date of signature |  |

**Checklist**

Have you signed and dated the declaration?

Have you checked that the optician or doctor has filled in all parts of the report and all relevant notes have been enclosed?

**This report is valid for 4 months from the date the doctor, optician or optometrist signs it.**