

Motor Vehicle Registry Information Bulletin

L2 - How to obtain a class “C” Provisional Driver Licence

Class “C” (Car) – Definition for Licensing Purposes

- “A motor vehicle that has a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) not greater than 4.5 tonnes and that is constructed or equipped to seat not more than 12 adults (including the driver), other than a taxi, private hire car, tourist vehicle, motor omnibus, a special passenger vehicle, motorcycle or motor trike”. Class “C” does not permit you to carry passengers for hire or reward unless you also have a (h) (Hire or Reward) endorsement.
- Before you can be issued with a class “C” (car) licence for the first time, you will need to hold a current class “C” Learners (Car Learner) Licence. See [Information Bulletin L1 – How to obtain a class “C” or class “R” Learner Licence](#).
- Prior to holding an open (unrestricted) class “C” Drivers Licence you must first hold a class “C” Provisional Driver License (see below). If you are under the age of 25 a 2 year Provisional Licence period applies and 1 year for people aged 25 or over.

Obtaining a class “C” Provisional Drivers License

- You must have held a class “C” Learners (Car Learner) License for a continuous period of 6 months.
- You must pass a practical driving test with a Licensed Testing Officer (LTO) at MVR or a Police Outstation (remote area residents only). For applicants whose normal residential address is more than 50km outside of Darwin/Palmerston the practical test may be undertaken with an approved Registered Training Organisation (RTO).
- Booking for a practical driving test at MVR is not permitted unless the mandatory 6 month Learner Licence holding period has passed.

About the practical test

When your instructor considers that your driving skills are adequate, you will need to make a booking for the practical test. Practical tests are conducted at MVR offices, agencies and Police Outstations in remote areas.

Bookings for practical tests may be made at any MVR Office either in person, or by phone if you have a current credit card. Police Outstation bookings should be made by arrangement with the local Police officers. Failure to attend for a scheduled test, without reasonable notice, may result in forfeiture of the test fee. Failed tests may be re-booked at any time on payment of a new test fee.

The test is designed so that an applicant demonstrates a systematic approach to driving safely, legally and efficiently in a variety of road and traffic conditions. Refer to [NT Road Users’ Handbook](#) or pass an approved RTO training program.

Driving methods should be in accordance with the System of Vehicle Control that is detailed in the Learner Driver’s Guide. This guide is incorporated within the NT Road User Handbook and is available from MVR offices and Police Outstations. The testing process currently in use is designed to assess a drivers’ ability to use a systematic approach in maintaining safe and legal driving standards.

Tests conducted to these standards will include the following compulsory manoeuvres:

1. A hill start,
2. reverse parallel park,
3. 90 degree angle park and
4. a "U" turn (180 degree turn)

The remainder of the test will be conducted whilst driving on normal roads and streets. The test is scored according to set observations made by the Licence Testing Officer (LTO). The required pass mark is 80%.

When you pass your practical test and on payment of the prescribed licence fee, you will be issued with your class "C" Provisional Driver Licence.

Important notes regarding your driving test:

- The vehicle which you supply for the test must be registered, roadworthy and clean, and must fall within the class "C" category, and, regardless of age, must provide a fully operational seatbelt for the testing officer's use. "L" plates must be displayed, and clearly visible, to the front and rear of the vehicle.
- When you attend for the practical test you must bring your current learner licence and test fee receipt. Failure to do so may result in cancellation of the test and forfeiture of the test fee.
- Plan to arrive at least 10 minutes before the test is due to begin. If you arrive unreasonably late, the test will impinge on the next customer's booking, and as a result your test will not be conducted. If this is the case, a new test fee will be required to make a further booking
- For further information on the practical driving tests refer to [Information Bulletin L24 – Your Driving Test What's Required?](#)

Conditions of a Provisional License

All Provisional licences are issued subject to the following conditions:

1. Zero blood alcohol concentration.
2. Not to exceed 100 kilometres per hour unless under the direct supervision of an instructor conducting an approved training program.
3. Must display P plates clearly visible to the front and rear on cars, and to the rear only on motorcycles.
4. Must not use a mobile phone while the vehicle is moving, or is stationary but not parked. All mobile telephone use including hands-free operation is prohibited whilst driving/riding for the duration of the learner period.
5. A 2 year Provisional License applies for people under the age of 25.
6. A 1 Year Provisional License applies for people under for people aged 25 or over.
7. Under the NT Demerit Points Scheme (DPS) all drivers are subject to a points action trigger of 12 demerit points in 3 years. Additionally, Learner, Provisional and overseas licence holders are also subject to a points action trigger of 5 demerit points in 1 year.
8. See [Information Bulletin L28 – NT DPS and How it Affects You.](#)

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