

L6 - How to obtain a class “HR” Driver Licence

Effective Date: 01 July 2007

“HR” (Heavy Rigid) – Definition for Licensing Purposes

A rigid motor vehicle or an articulated motor omnibus that has 3 or more axles and a gross vehicle mass (GVM) greater than 8 tonnes.

Any trailer towed must weigh less than 9 tonnes GVM and comply with the manufacturer’s Gross Combination Mass (GCM) limit for the towing vehicle.

Class “HR” does not permit you to carry passengers for hire or reward unless you also have an (h) endorsement on your licence.

For practical test purposes, the vehicle you provide for your test must be at least 15 tonnes GVM, and have a minimum of three axles.

Points to Note

- Before you can be issued with a class “HR” (heavy rigid) licence, you will need hold an open (not Provisional) driver licence to have held a class “C” (car) licence for at least **twenty-four months**.
- You will also need to pass a Heavy Vehicle theory test. This is based on information provided in [Information Bulletin L11 - Heavy Vehicle Driver’s Information – class “LR”, “MR”, “HR”, “HC” & “MC”](#) and consists of multiple choice questions. Pass mark required is 80%.

Note: If you currently hold a class “MR” licence, you will have already passed this test, **so you will not be required to undertake the test again.**

- If you have been licensed for twenty four months (including your Provisional licence period) , and hold an open (not Provisional) driver licence, you may begin learning to drive a heavy rigid vehicle at any time, but must be accompanied by a driver who holds a current class “HR” (or higher) licence.
- On the practical test drive, there is no requirement for you to provide a “licensed driver”, this role is fulfilled by the testing officer. You need to be aware however, that you are not licensed to drive unaccompanied to, and possibly from the test location (depending on your test outcome).
- Because you are not a first time driver and have previously held “L” plates, you must instead display a “Driver Under Instruction” sign at the rear of the vehicle. The sign must be yellow and no smaller than 530mm wide and 300mm high with black lettering at least 75mm high.
- 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, agencies and Police Outstations.

Conduct of Practical Test

The testing process currently in use is designed to assess drivers’ ability to operate the vehicle in an efficient manner with safety and adherence to the law.

Tests will incorporate compulsory manoeuvres including:

1. a hill start and
2. a reversing exercise.

The remainder of the test will be conducted whilst driving on normal roads and streets.

Practical tests are conducted at selected MVR offices and Police outstations in remote areas. (For information regarding Industry Accredited Licence Assessment Officers please contact MVR).

Tests must be booked in advance, with the test fee being payable at the time of booking.

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.

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.

The vehicle you supply for the test must be registered and roadworthy, provide a clean seating space for the testing officer, and must fall within the "HR" (heavy rigid) licence category. The vehicle must display a "Driver Under Instruction" sign on the rear.

Your test vehicle **must be at least 15 tonnes gross vehicle mass** and have a minimum of three axles. Applicants whose test vehicle cannot meet this standard should first discuss the matter with the local MVR Licence Testing Officer.

When you attend for the practical test you must bring your current driver licence and test fee receipt.

Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the test and forfeiture of the test fee.

Once you pass the practical test, and pay the prescribed fee, you will be issued with a new Heavy Vehicle Driver Licence. Your class "HR" licence will be easily identifiable as a Heavy Vehicle Driver Licence by the distinct magenta surround.

You must carry your heavy vehicle driver licence with you at all times whilst driving.

Important Note:

Your licence will now display the highest class of vehicle that you are licensed to drive.

The holder of a licence of a class "HR" licence may, in addition to driving motor vehicles in that class, drive vehicles in any lower class, i.e. "C", "LR", and "MR".

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