

HOW TO OBTAIN A HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVER LICENCE IN THE ACT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Vehicle Description

The heavy vehicle licences classes are defined in items 1 to 5 in the following table:

Vehicle Weights and Axle Configurations

<u>Item</u>	Driver Licence Classes and Motor Vehicles Covered by Each Class
1	<i>LR – Light Rigid Vehicle Licence</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A motor vehicle with a GVM over 4.5 tonne, but not over 8 tonne.• A motor vehicle with a GVM not over 8 tonne that is constructed or equipped to seat more than 12 adults (including the driver).• A motor vehicle mentioned in 3.1 or 3.2 that is towing a single trailer (other than a semitrailer) with a GVM not over 9 tonne.• However, this class does not cover a motor vehicle that is towing -<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) 2 or more trailers; orb) A single semitrailer; orc) Any other single trailer with a GVM over 9 tonne.
2	<i>MR – Medium Rigid Vehicle Licence</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A motor vehicle with 2 axles and a GVM over 8 tonne.• A motor vehicle mentioned in 4.1 that is towing a single trailer (other than a semitrailer) with a GVM not over 9 tonne.• However, this class does not cover a motor vehicle that is towing -<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) 2 or more trailers; orb) A single semitrailer; orc) Any other single trailer with a GVM over 9 tonne.
3	<i>HR – Heavy Rigid Vehicle Licence</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A rigid motor vehicle with 3 or more axles and a GVM over 8 tonne.• An articulated bus with 3 or more axles and a GVM over 8 tonne.• A motor vehicle mentioned in 5.1 or 5.2 that is towing a single trailer (other than a semitrailer) with a GVM not over 9 tonne.• However, this class does not cover a motor vehicle that is towing -<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) 2 or more trailers; orb) A single semitrailer; orc) Any other single trailer with a GVM over 9 tonne.

4	<p><i>HC – Heavy Combination Vehicle Licence</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prime mover to which is attached a single semitrailer plus any unladen converter dolly. • A rigid motor vehicle to which is attached a trailer with a GVM over 9 tonne plus any unladen converter dolly.
5	<p><i>MC – Multi-Combination Vehicle Licence</i></p> <p>Any motor vehicle or combination other than a motorbike.</p>

Eligibility Requirements

The relevant eligibility requirements to apply for a heavy vehicle driver licence in the ACT are as follows:

Light Rigid Vehicle (LR) or Medium Rigid Vehicle (MR) Driver Licence

An applicant for these licence classes must have held an Australian driver licence (including a provisional licence) of a class C for a period of at least 12 months.

Heavy Rigid Vehicle (HR) Driver Licence

An applicant for this licence must have held an Australian driver licence (including a provisional licence) of a class C for a period of at least 24 months.

Heavy Combination Vehicle (HC) Driver Licence

An applicant for this licence class must have held an Australian driver licence (including a provisional licence) of a class MR or HR for a period of at least 12 months.

Multi-Combination Vehicle (MC) Driver Licence

An applicant for this licence class must have held an Australian driver licence of a class HC or HR for a period of at least 12 months.

KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT

Applicants are required to undertake and pass a knowledge assessment for each of the following licence classes:

Light and Medium Rigid Vehicle

The knowledge assessment comprises 35 computer-based questions with some mandatory questions and some general questions. Applicants can answer up to four (4) questions incorrectly in the general questions group and still pass the assessment.

Applicants are required to have passed the knowledge assessment before attempting a practical driving assessment for the class they are seeking.

Heavy Rigid Vehicle

The knowledge assessment comprises 35 computer-based questions with some mandatory questions and some general questions. Applicants can answer up to four (4) questions incorrectly in the general questions group and still pass the assessment.

Where an applicant is upgrading from a Light or Medium Rigid Vehicle licence to a Heavy Rigid Vehicle licence, a knowledge assessment will NOT be required.

Applicants are required to have passed the knowledge assessment before attempting a practical driving assessment.

Heavy Combination Vehicle

The knowledge assessment comprises 35 computer-based questions with some mandatory questions and some general questions. Applicants can answer up to four (4) questions incorrectly in the general questions group and still pass the test.

Applicants are required to have passed the knowledge assessment before attempting a practical driving assessment.

Multi-Combination Vehicle

The knowledge assessment comprises 35 computer-based questions with some mandatory questions and some general questions. Applicants can answer up to four (4) questions incorrectly in the general questions group and still pass the assessment.

Applicants are required to have passed the knowledge assessment before attempting a practical driving assessment.

To undertake a knowledge assessment, applicants must have a current ACT licence and attend one of the following locations:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Opening Times</u>
Road Ready Centre 72 Townsend Street Phillip (02) 6282 8990	Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.
Road Ready Centre Canberra Technology Park 47 Phillip Avenue Watson (02) 6162 5152	Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

PRACTICAL DRIVING ASSESSMENT

A practical driving assessment is required for applicants wishing to obtain a driver licence for each of the following licence classes (a driver licence will be issued appropriate to the class of vehicle in which the applicant passes his or her assessment):

Light, Medium and Heavy Rigid Vehicle

The practical driving assessment is a 1 hour and 30 minutes evaluation of an applicant's driving skills, which includes the following components:

- Ensure vehicle is loaded to 60% of its capacity.
- Load restraint assessment using ropes, load binders (dogs) and chains, and ratchet/winch and straps.
- Ability to drain the test vehicle's air tank (where fitted).
- Knowledge of the height of the vehicle's load.
- Ability to perform a pre-test safety check, ie tyres, wheels, wheel nuts, fluid and air leaks etc.
- Thorough knowledge of the test vehicle's controls.
- A comprehensive driving assessment.

The above are some of the components required to pass a driving assessment for these vehicle classes.

Heavy Combination Vehicle

The practical driving assessment is a 1 hour and 30 minutes evaluation of an applicant's driving skills, which includes the following components:

- Ensure vehicle is loaded to 60% of its capacity.
- Load restraint assessment using ropes, load binders (dogs) and chains, and ratchet/winch and straps.
- Ability to drain the test vehicle's air tank (where fitted).
- Knowledge of the height of the vehicle's load.
- Ability to perform a pre-test safety check, ie tyres, wheels, wheel nuts, fluid and air leaks etc.
- Thorough knowledge of the test vehicle's controls.
- Ability to uncouple and couple the trailer using the correct procedures.
- A comprehensive driving assessment.

The above are some of the components required to pass a driving assessment for this vehicle class.

Multi-Combination Vehicle

The practical driving assessment is a 2 hour and 30 minutes evaluation of an applicant's driving skills, which includes the following components:

- Ensure vehicle is loaded to 60% of its capacity.
- Load restraint assessment using ropes, load binders (dogs) and chains, and ratchet/winch and straps.
- Ability to drain the test vehicle's air tank (where fitted).
- Knowledge of the height of the vehicle's load.
- Ability to perform a pre-test safety check, ie tyres, wheels, wheel nuts, fluid and air leaks etc.
- Thorough knowledge of the test vehicle's controls.
- Ability to uncouple and couple the trailers using the correct procedures.
- A comprehensive driving assessment.

The above are some of the components required to pass a driving assessment for this vehicle class.

Practical Assessments Completed in Sychromesh and Tiptronic Transmission Vehicles

Tiptronic Transmission Vehicles

An automatic condition is issued to a person who passes their practical driving test in a heavy vehicle with Tiptronic transmission.

The automatic condition applies whilst driving heavy vehicles only.

Sychromesh Transmission Vehicles

When upgrading from a car class to a heavy vehicle licence, the new licence is endorsed with a 'B' condition if the driving test is passed in a vehicle sychromesh gear box. These licensees may only drive a heavy vehicle fitted sychromesh gear box. This condition applies to licence classes LR, MR, HR, HC and MC. It does not apply to licence class C.

To make an appointment to undertake a practical driving assessment, contact one of the following training establishments:

Company	Location	Telephone No
Transport Industry Skills Centre ACT	Sutton Road, ACT	6297 7187
Ogden's Driving School	Bungendore, NSW	6238 1606
Drive to Survive Driving Academy	Queanbeyan, NSW	6298 1211
Canberra Region Truck & Bus School	Jerrabomberra, NSW	0418 487 465
Driver Training Plus	Mitchell, ACT	0419 416 365
Road Ready Driving School	Mitchell, ACT	0417 146 480
Intrain Assessors - Keeping People Alive	Lavington, NSW	6043 3268
Gordon Taylor	Jervis Bay Administration, ACT	0412-772203
Sandra Jones	Independent	02-48458298
Carolyn Blakeley	Independent	0410827220
Jamie Daken Canberra Region Truck and Bus School	Jerrabomberra, NSW	02-62978879

EYESIGHT TEST

An eyesight (visual acuity) test is required when the applicant is upgrading an existing ACT licence to a Medium Rigid, Heavy Rigid, Heavy Combination or Multi-Combination.