



Transport Regulation Information Sheet - How to Obtain an ACT Licence for Overseas and Interstate Licence Holders

Overseas Licence Holders

Driver licence holders from overseas are required to obtain an ACT driver licence within **three (3) months** of taking up residency in the ACT.

A national agreement (for driver licensing purposes only) separates overseas licence holders into two categories, those from approved countries and those from non-approved countries.

To obtain an ACT driver licence, applicants must abide by the following requirements:

- Licence holders from Approved countries, no tests required.
- Licence holders from Non-Approved countries must undertake and pass a road rules knowledge test. They must then undertake and pass a practical driving assessment or achieve a Certificate of Competency under the Competency Based Training and Assessment Scheme (CBT&A).

Upon completing the requirements for obtaining an ACT licence, applicants will be issued with a full driver licence applicable to the vehicle class in which the practical driving assessment is undertaken. Applicants who pass the practical driving assessment in an automatic car will be issued with a full licence for a manual car.

New Zealand licence holders of a provisional or full driver licence for a car or motorcycle are NOT required to undertake the road rules knowledge test or practical driver assessment.

Note: Overseas licence holders from approved countries with a full licence only are eligible to obtain an ACT licence. Overseas learner or provisional licence holders will be required to undertake and pass the Road Ready Course and Knowledge Test, obtain an ACT learner licence and pass a practical driver assessment before a provisional licence will be granted.

Mutual Recognition of Overseas Licences (Approved Countries)

Applicants from the following countries are exempt from the knowledge test and practical driving assessment when applying for a full licence in the ACT.

Austria	Greece	Norway
Belgium	Italy	Portugal
Canada	Ireland	Singapore
Croatia	Japan	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	Sweden
France	Malta	Switzerland
Finland	Netherlands	United Kingdom
Germany	New Zealand	United States of America

The Road Rules Knowledge Test

The knowledge test comprises 35 randomly selected computer based objective questions. Some questions in the test such as those relating to drugs, alcohol, intersections and seatbelts, are mandatory questions and must be answered correctly. Applicants are required to answer at least 31 of the 35 questions correctly in the general questions area of the test to pass the assessment.

The test is conducted by Road Ready Centres located at Canberra Technology Park, 49 Phillip Avenue Watson (telephone 6162 5152,) and at 72 Townsend Street, Phillip (telephone 6282 8990). The Road Ready Centres are open for business between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. on Saturdays. Applicants are not required to make a booking to undertake the test.

The knowledge test is only available in English, therefore, in special circumstances, an interpreter can be made available if the applicant is unable to read or understand English. In such cases, the applicant will need to contact the applicable Road Ready Centre to arrange for an interpreter to be present for the test.

Licence applicants will find the ACT Road Rules in the ACT Road Rules Handbook, available at any ACT Canberra Connect Shopfront.

The Practical Driving Assessment

- After passing the knowledge test, applicants (where applicable) can make a booking for a practical driving assessment.
- The practical assessment comprises a 55-minute test, which includes all aspects of driving in city and suburban areas.
- Applicants have the option of undertaking the driver assessment with an ACT Government licence examiner or with an accredited driving instructor.

Government Assessment

- Applicants can book a driving assessment by attending at any ACT Canberra Connect Shopfront and pay the assessment fee.
- Where the assessment is undertaken with a Government licence examiner, the applicant must pass the assessment on the first attempt.
- If the applicant fails the assessment, the overseas licence is then classed as invalid for use in the ACT and the applicant is required to take out a learner licence and abide by the conditions of that licence.
- Upon passing the assessment, the applicant will be issued with a full driver licence.

Assessment by an Accredited Driving Instructor

- Applicants have the option of obtaining their licence through the Competency Based Training and Assessment Scheme (CBT&A).
- Where an applicant decides on this system, he or she will be required to take out a learner licence before making arrangements for driving lessons with an accredited driving instructor.
- Under the CBT&A Scheme, the applicant must successfully complete 22 competencies, including the review of skills, during a number of driving lessons, with competency 22 being the final assessment phase of the program.
- A list of accredited driving schools is available in the Yellow Pages of the ACT telephone directory.
- Successful applicants must present the CBT&A Certificate of Competency at the ACT Canberra Connect Shopfront to obtain their driver licence.

Proof of Identity and Residency

- Full proof of identity and residency must be provided to any ACT Canberra Connect Shopfront before a driver licence will be issued.
- Some of the primary proof of identity documents are as follows:
Australian Full Birth Certificate, Current Passport, Naturalisation or Citizenship Certificate, Immigration Papers.
- A complete list of documents for primary and secondary proof of identity and proof of residency can be found on pages 6 and 7 of the ACT Road Rules Handbook.

Interstate Licence Holders

Provisional and Full Licence Holders

- Driver licence holders from interstate are required to obtain an ACT driver licence within **three (3) months** of taking up residency in the ACT.
- No road rules knowledge test or practical driving assessment is required.
- Full driver licences will be changed from an interstate to an ACT licence for no fee except where a licence is due for renewal.
- Provisional licensees will need to pay a pro-rata fee for their ACT provisional licence, based on the three-year provisional licence fee.

Learner Licence Holders

- To obtain an ACT learner car or motorcycle licence, interstate learner licence holders will be required to undertake and pass the ACT Road Ready course and a road rules knowledge test. However, if the licence holder has held the learner licence for at least six months and is 17 years of age or older, he or she can undertake a practical driver assessment with an ACT Government licence examiner. If the assessment is successful, a provisional driver licence will be issued, however, if the assessment is unsuccessful, the licence holder will be required to complete and pass the Road Ready course and knowledge test.
- Prior to attending the Road Ready course, applicants are required to book for the course and pay the course fee. Bookings can be made by contacting a Road Ready Centre on telephone 6162 5152 or 6282 8990. Information regarding the course and a Licence Application Form will be forwarded to all applicants prior to commencement of the course.

Proof of Identity

Provisional and Full Licence Holders

- Provisional and full licence holders will be required to provide an interstate photographic licence and proof of residency in the ACT.

Learner Licence Holders

- Full proof of identity and residency must be provided before a learner licence will be issued. Further information is provided with the licence application form.