

Dangerous goods drivers licence – Medical assessment

This form is to be returned to the patient by the health professional.

Applicant details

Surname:			
Given names:		Date of birth:	
Residential address:			
Home number:		Mobile number:	
Email address:			

Assessment of fitness to drive outcome – to be completed by a health professional

I certify that I have examined the above patient in accordance with the relevant medical standards as set out in the National Guidelines “Assessing Fitness to Drive for Commercial and Private Drivers 2016”			
I have examined the person to:	Commercial standards <input type="checkbox"/>	Private standards <input type="checkbox"/>	
In accordance with the assessing fitness to drive guidelines (full medical)			<input type="checkbox"/>
OR			
In accordance with Part B of the assessing fitness to drive guidelines for the condition(s) noted below:			<input type="checkbox"/>
Blackouts: <input type="checkbox"/>	Musculoskeletal condition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Vision and Eye disorder: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Cardiovascular condition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Neurological condition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance misuse (drug or alcohol): <input type="checkbox"/>	
Diabetes mellitus: <input type="checkbox"/>	Psychiatric condition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Hearing: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Sleep disorder: <input type="checkbox"/>	Other: <input type="checkbox"/>		
Were you familiar with the patient’s medical history prior to this examination?			<input type="checkbox"/>
According to this assessment, please select ONE of the THREE options below and provide supporting information:			
1. Unconditionally meets the medical criteria for fitness to drive. Meets all relevant medical criteria. No restrictions or conditions. See recommended date of next review below.			<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Conditionally meets the medical criteria for fitness to drive. In my opinion, the person who is the subject of this report does not meet the medical criteria to hold an unconditional licence (as outlined in Assessing Fitness to Drive) but may meet the medical criteria to hold a conditional licence.			<input type="checkbox"/>
Please describe the nature of the condition and the medical criteria that are not met.			
Please provide information to support the consideration of a conditional licence including evidence of the medical criteria met and consideration of the nature of the driving task.			
Please describe any recommended licence conditions or restrictions relating to the driver’s medical condition including requirements for periodic review (e.g. annual review), vehicle modifications, corrective lenses or restricted daytime driving, etc.			

3. Does not meet the medical criteria for fitness to drive In my opinion, the person who is the subject of this report does not meet the medical criteria to hold an unconditional or conditional licence as outlined in Assessing Fitness to Drive.		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Please describe the nature of the condition and the medical criteria not met, including a consideration of the driving task.			
Recommended management			
Local doctor referral	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specialist referral	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug test	<input type="checkbox"/>	Practical driver test	<input type="checkbox"/>
More frequent periodic review (see review date below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please attach additional information	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommended date of next review (from date of assessment)			
1 year	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	4 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health professional's details			
Doctors name:			
Practice address:			
Phone number:		Email address:	
Doctors signature:		Date of assessment:	

NT WorkSafe is responsible for ensuring that all applicants for dangerous goods driver's licences have the appropriate skills and abilities, and are medically fit to hold that licence. Prior to issuing a licence NT WorkSafe requires that applications or renewals are accompanied by medical fitness evidence. Completion and submission of this medical assessment form by a health professional will satisfy this requirement.

To the Driver/Applicant

- Make an appointment with your medical practitioner.
- As the examination may take longer than a routine consultation, please advise the receptionist when making the appointment that you are attending for this purpose.
- Please bring with you to the assessment:
- A list of current prescription, non-prescription and complementary medicines
- Glasses/contact lenses and hearing aids if you use them
- Disease management plans (e.g. sleep disorder management plan, diabetes management plan). Take this form to the appointment for your doctor to complete.
- You are required by law to advise NT WorkSafe of any conditions that may affect your ability to drive. You should make the doctor aware of any medical conditions you may have so that your doctor can advise NT WorkSafe on your behalf, using this form.
- If the medical report has been requested for a particular reason, you should let your practitioner know this reason.
- You should let your doctor know if you hold or are applying for a heavy vehicle licence, as the medical requirements for drivers of such vehicles are stricter.
- On completion of the examination the doctor will provide you with the form to return to NT WorkSafe.
- Payment for the medical examination is the responsibility of the licence holder/applicant.
- Withdrawal of licence – If NT WorkSafe takes away your licence on the basis of a medical report, you may be re-licensed when you provide medical evidence which indicates that you have met the national medical standards. You should be aware that you have the right to seek a review of any decision affecting your licence.
- Any queries regarding licensing may be directed to the NT WorkSafe on 1800 019 115.

To the Health Professional

- The examination must be conducted in accordance with the national medical standards described in *Assessing Fitness to Drive 2012*. This publication is available from the web: www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-G56-13. It details the examination process and provides examination proforma to guide you.
- Upon completion of the examination please complete and sign the certificate overleaf.
- Distribute the completed certificate as follows:
- Provide the original certificate (together with additional information relevant to the patient's fitness to drive) to the patient for them to present to NT WorkSafe.
- Retain a copy for the patient's medical record together with detailed examination notes.
- Information not relevant to the patient's fitness to drive should not be forwarded to NT WorkSafe.
- If you have doubts about your patient's suitability to drive, you may suggest a driver assessment or referral to a suitable specialist. Please indicate this on the form.
- If you have any doubts about the information required, or wish to discuss the case personally, please contact NT WorkSafe.
- Indemnity – Northern Territory legislation mandates reporting of unfit drivers by health professionals, thereby affording indemnity to practitioners who conduct an examination and provide NT WorkSafe with an opinion based on that examination.
- Criminal Liability & Insurance – Health professionals may be liable under civil law in cases where a court forms the opinion that they have not taken reasonable steps to ensure that impaired drivers drive only in circumstances that do not place them and other members of the community at increased risk. Professional indemnity insurers are aware of the potential liability of health professionals and may reasonably expect health professionals to comply with the national medical standards.

Occupational Therapy Driver Assessment

- Trained occupational therapists may conduct a driver assessment where there is a medical concern about the patient's ability to drive safely.
- The aim of the occupational therapy assessment is to assist people with impairments to resume or continue driving. There are two components of the assessment. The first part of the assessment aims to evaluate the person's difficulties. This involves an interview, vision screen, cognitive function test, assessment of physical strength, motor skills, reaction time, road law and road craft. The need for specialist equipment of vehicle modifications is considered at this time.
- The on-road assessment takes a standard approach but can be designed to meet individual needs. It is conducted in a dual controlled vehicle, accompanied by a driving instructor and where necessary set up with special requirements or modifications to meet the needs of the client. The assessment is structured to assess the impact of injury, illness or the ageing process on driving skills such as judgement, decision-making skills, observation and vehicle handling.
- Provided the overall driver is safe, the 'bad habits' that an experienced driver might display may not result in failure.

Conditions and Restrictions

- If appropriate, the practitioner may recommend conditions which may enhance driver competency or safety and allow their patient to continue to drive (e.g. corrective lenses, no night driving, additional mirrors).
- If the practitioner recommends a conditional licence, details of the recommended restrictions and reasons must be provided, otherwise a conditional licence will not be considered.
- If the practitioner believes that vehicle modifications are necessary (e.g. hand controls, left foot accelerator), or a prosthesis is necessary to drive safely, or that a local area driving restriction is appropriate, the patient will need to demonstrate the ability to drive safely with these restrictions. In these cases a driver assessment is necessary.

Motor Vehicle Registry Driver Assessment

- Where there is a concern about a person's ability to drive safely, a driving test is necessary.
- Assessments of this nature are generally conducted in consultation with an occupational therapist trained in this area