

Three Rivers District Council Private Hire/Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Knowledge Test

As part of an application for a Private Hire/Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence candidates are required to pass a written test, covering locations of well-known destinations, routes, the Highway Code and our licence conditions/byelaws.

- **Location and Time on the day of the test.**

Knowledge tests take place at:

Three Rivers District Council Offices, Northway, Rickmansworth, WD3 1RL

These tests can be on any week day, subject to room availability.

The test lasts 1 hour and will start at 11am **however you must arrive at 10:45am**. If arrive late you will not be allowed to sit the test and will have to rebook a new knowledge test online. No exceptions can be made as there are strict timing limits we need to adhere to.

If it is your first knowledge test you will be required to bring the relevant proof of ID to sit the test.

The test is carried out under usual exam conditions. The test is therefore undertaken in silence and mobile phones **MUST** be turned off. Remember to bring your glasses if you need them for reading.

There is a carpark situated directly outside our offices, as well as on Northway. **Please note that the carparks are pay and display.**

- **Fee**

The cost of the first knowledge test is included in your initial application fee.

If you are retaking a test you will need to pay £15 on the day of the test. You can take up to 3 knowledge tests before your application is halted. Please ensure you pay this additional fee at reception/One Stop Shop on the day of the test and retain the receipt to show the Licensing Officer.

- **General information**

To be able to take the test you must have already applied to be a Hackney Carriage/private hire driver with Three Rivers District Council

An applicant can take up to 3 knowledge tests before their application is halted. If an applicant fails all three attempts then they must wait a period of 6 months following the final test before re-applying.

The test lasts 1 hour. There are four sections, listed below, with five questions in each section:

1. Places of interest in and around our district

This section tests the applicant's knowledge of locations of buildings and places. Places that may appear in this section include schools, pubs, restaurants, sports/leisure facilities, hotels, shops, churches, police stations, clubs, museums, council offices, railway and bus terminals, colleges, hospitals and other public interest. We may include certain places not in our district but close by – namely Watford General Hospital, the Police Station in Watford, Mount Vernon Hospital and the Colosseum Theatre

You will be asked to name the roads on which they are found as well as the town they are in. Only giving the town as an answer may result in an incorrect answer.

Example question Q: Where is Three Rivers District Council?
A: Northway, Rickmansworth

2. Routes

The questions in Section 2 will give a start point and a destination. Applicants will be expected to describe the **shortest**, most direct route between these two places, naming **ALL** the streets and roads on the route they are taking.

There will be an airport route, for one of the following: Luton, Gatwick, Heathrow or Stansted.

Unfinished routes or routes that are unnecessarily long will result in an incorrect answer.

Example question Q: A passenger needs to be taken from their address in Harefield Road to Moor Park Station.

A: Church Street, Moor Lane, Sandy Lodge Road, North Approach

3. The Council's Conditions

If applying for Private Hire: '[Private Hire Drivers Licence Standard Conditions](#)' (PDF) and '[Private Hire Vehicle Licence Standard Conditions](#)' (PDF)

Or

if applying for a Hackney Carriage Driver licence then '[Hackney Carriage Byelaws](#)' (PDF) and '[Standard Conditions for Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence](#)' (PDF)

This section tests the applicant's knowledge and understanding of the conditions and byelaws they will be subject to if they are granted a licence. These are attached to the application form and should be retained when handing in the application form. Answers must be clear and include all the necessary information stipulated in the condition/byelaw.

Example question Q: Should a licenced driver notify the council of a change of address and within what timeframe?
A: Yes, in writing and within 5 working days of moving

4. Safe driving and The Official Highway Code' - Department for Transport, Driving Standards Agency (Great Britain). (We do not provide this)

This section will have 5 questions regarding The Highway Code and general driving, to test/refresh the applicant's knowledge. Questions will be about road markings, traffic signs, speed limits etc.

Example question Q: What is the maximum speed limit on a motorway
A: 70mph

The pass mark is 15 correct out of 20 questions.

We strongly advise that you do not sit the test unless you know our district and have studied our standard conditions.

- **Booking Cancellations/Amendments/no show**

If you need to cancel or rearrange a booking please call customer services on 01923 776611 to do so. A minimum of 24 hours' notice is required to amend or cancel a booking. Any cancellation or amendment received after this time period will be charged a fee of £15.

If you fail to attend on the day of your test without contacting us then the full £15 test fee will be payable.

Please be advised: No reminders are sent out for test dates.

- **Results and Feedback**

We will email the results of your test within 5 WORKING days of you sitting the test. Do not contact us for the result unless you have not received it by the end of the 5 working days after your test (check your junk email first).

If you fail the test we will tell you which sections you failed on; we will not tell you which specific question(s) you got wrong.

We do not give out copies of the test paper.

If you have any questions in advance of your knowledge test you can contact the Licensing Section Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 12.00pm and between 3.00pm to 4.00pm on 01923 776611.