



## FAQs

### Cessation of Experienced Driver Recognition category

#### What is an Experienced Driver Recognition category?

Holders of overseas licences (car or motorcycle) issued by countries and jurisdictions in the Experienced Driver Recognition category who are over the age of 25 could be issued a comparable Western Australian (WA) licence without a theory test or a practical driving assessment (PDA).

#### Why is the Recognised Country Scheme changing?

The Austroads Recognised Country Scheme began more than 20 years ago. Over the past two decades, there have been significant changes to car and motorcycle driver training and testing in Australia designed to improve road safety. The Recognised Country Scheme will expand to include countries from the Experienced Driver Recognition category if their application for Recognised Country status is accepted by Austroads.

#### Which countries and jurisdictions are currently in the Experienced Driver Recognition category?

- |   |                      |                                   |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Bulgaria  | • Czech Republic     | • Estonia                         |
| • Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China) |                      |                                   |
| • Hungary   | • Latvia             | • Lithuania                       |
| • Poland  | • Republic of Cyprus | • Republic of Korea (South Korea) |
| • Republic of Serbia  | • Romania            | • Slovakia                        |
| • Slovenia  | • South Africa       | • Taipei (Taiwan)                 |

#### When does the Experienced Driver Recognition category cease?

Austroads will cease the Experienced Driver Recognition category on 30 April 2025.

In WA, the Department of Transport (DoT) will provide a further six-month transition period for WA residents who hold a valid overseas driver's licence from the Experienced Driver Recognition category. Those drivers will need to apply for a WA driver's licence before 31 October 2025 to avoid being subject to a theory test and PDA, regardless of the Recognised Country application status.

#### Has my country or jurisdiction been notified of the changes to the Experienced Driver Recognition category?

Yes, Austroads and WA DoT have communicated directly with each Experienced Driver Recognition jurisdiction and invited them to apply for the Austroads Recognised Country status for car and motorcycle classes by 30 April 2025.

#### Who will determine if my country or jurisdiction is granted Recognised Country status?

An Austroads overseas licensing committee has been established to assess Recognised Country status applications to if Recognised Country status should be granted.

## What happens if my country or jurisdiction is granted Recognised Country status?

If your country or jurisdiction is granted Recognised Country status by the Austroads committee then you can be granted a comparable WA driver's licence (car and/or motorcycle) without the testing requirements after the Experienced Driver Recognition category ceases.

## What happens if my country or jurisdiction does not apply or is not granted Recognised Country status?

If a country or jurisdiction does not apply or Recognised Country status is not granted by 31 October 2025, your country or jurisdiction will be categorised as a non-recognised country. This means that holders of an overseas licence from that country or jurisdiction will need to pass the theory test and PDA to be granted a WA driver's licence.

## What happens if I miss the deadline to transfer my overseas driver's licence to a WA driver's licence?

If you hold a driver's licence from the Experienced Driver Recognition category and you do not apply for a WA driver's licence before the 31 October 2025 deadline, you will need to pass the theory test and PDA to be granted a WA driver's licence.

## Can my country or jurisdiction apply or be granted Recognised Country status after 30 April 2025?

Yes, the Austroads overseas licensing committee will accept applications after 30 April 2025. These applications will be assessed to determine if Recognised Country status should be granted. In WA, Experienced Driver Recognition category drivers will need to apply for a WA driver's licence before 31 October 2025 to avoid being subject to a theory test and PDA, regardless of the jurisdiction's application status.

## I hold an overseas heavy vehicle driver's licence, will I undergo testing to obtain a WA heavy vehicle licence class?

Yes, all overseas heavy vehicle licence holders must complete a theory test, a heavy vehicle theory test (HVTT) and a PDA for the relevant heavy vehicle class prior to a WA heavy vehicle licence being granted.

## My overseas driver's licence is from a country or jurisdiction in the Experienced Driver Recognition category. Can I still drive in WA as a visitor?

Yes, as a visitor you can legally drive in WA. You must always carry your driver's licence and produce it when requested by a WA police officer. If the overseas licence is not in English, a translation is required for enforcement purposes. Any conditions on your driver's licence are applicable when driving in WA.