Introduction of the Motorcycle Graduated Licensing System

The Department of Transport (DoT) is improving the process to obtain a motorcycle licence. The changes will better prepare applicants and result in safer motorcycle riders.

From 5 November 2018 the significant changes to the process are:

- Introduction of a motorcycle specific Hazard Perception Test (HPT) which must be completed before you can attempt your Practical Driving Assessment (PDA).
- You must complete a minimum six month period on an R-E learner’s permit before completing the HPT.
- After holding an R-E class licence for a minimum period of two years you can take the PDA on a R class vehicle. The minimum two year period will only include time where a driver’s licence is valid (i.e. will exclude periods of suspension, cancellation or expiry).

How the new system looks for applicants applying for ‘R-E’ class licence.

*If applying for your first class of licence the Graduated Driver Training and Licensing (GDT&L) requirements will apply (Must meet minimum age eligibility, complete minimum six month wait between learners permit and HPT, complete minimum 50 hours (including 5 night time hours) in an approved Log Book and pass your PDA).*
R-E class scenarios

Learner's permit issued before 5 November 2018
You will continue under the system in place before 5 November 2018. You will not be required to complete a motorcycle HPT or hold the learner's permit for a minimum period of six months.
If the R-E learner's permit is your first class of licence, the Graduated Driver Training and Licensing (GDT&L) requirements will apply (Minimum age eligibility, minimum six months between learners permit and HPT, log book requirements and PDA).

Licence issued before 5 November 2018
Holders of an R-E class licence that was issued prior to 5 November 2018, may elect to sit a PDA to upgrade to an R class licence after having held the R-E licence for a minimum period of 12 months.
If an R-E licence holder chooses to have supervised riding lessons on an R class motorcycle, a learner's permit is not required.

Learner’s permit issued on or after 5 November 2018
You will need to complete the new graduated motorcycle licence system, including a minimum six month period prior to completing the newly introduced motorcycle specific Hazard Perception Test.

Licence issued on or after 5 November 2018
The R-E licence must be held for a minimum period of two years before being eligible to undertake a Practical Driving Assessment (PDA) on an R class vehicle. It is recommended you gain as much riding experience as possible before attempting the PDA.
If you wish to obtain a replacement card to show the R class, you will need to make application and pay the appropriate fees. Further information is available on the DoT website on how to order a replacement card.

R-N (moped) class

Learner's permit issued before 5 November 2018
You are not subject to the new rules for the R-N class application.

Licence issued before 5 November 2018, applying for an R-E licence.
You will be required to hold an R-E learner's permit for six months before completing the motorcycle HPT.
NOTE: If you do not hold a C class licence, you will be subject to the full GDT&L system.

Learner’s permit issued on or after 5 November 2018
You will be required to complete the motorcycle HPT. There is no minimum six month wait before sitting the HPT for an R-N class licence. To be eligible to sit the PDA, you must be a minimum 16 years of age.

Licence issued on or after 5 November 2018, applying for an R-E licence.
You need to hold your learner's permit for six months and you will not be required to complete the motorcycle HPT again.
NOTE: If you do not hold a C class licence, you will be subject to the full GDT&L system.