



Do I need a passenger transport driver authorisation?

On-demand Transport fact sheet

A passenger transport driver (PTD) authorisation is an annual authorisation that permits a person to transport passengers for hire or reward.

If you are driving passengers as part of your paid or volunteer work, you may be driving for hire or reward and therefore need a PTD authorisation.

The information provided in this fact sheet is a **guide only**. The Department of Transport (DoT) cannot advise whether you must hold a PTD authorisation. It is up to you to consider your intended purpose in driving a vehicle.

What is hire or reward?

You are generally driving for hire or reward if:

- the passengers or hirers of the vehicle have paid, or are required to pay, an amount to use the service; or
- you get paid to drive the vehicle as a primary part of your job, even if the passengers aren't paying for the service; or
- you get paid directly by the passengers for the service.

People are only considered to be driving for hire or reward if the driving is more than an incidental part of their general employment duties. It is not related to how frequently the driving might occur.

The table below outlines some examples of transport services that would be considered hire or reward.

Transport is for hire or reward	Example service
Passengers are paying for the service directly to you as the driver, or to an on-demand booking service or hirer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-demand passenger transport, including taxi, premium charter, limousine, rideshare or contracted charter for mine sites, and in-bound tours. • Dial-a-skipper services.
Passengers are paying for the service as they board or book tickets, or through other fees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular passenger transport service provider – conducted to regular routes and timetables. • Tourism passenger transport service provider – publicly available tour itinerary both on-road and off-road. • School bus services.
Passengers are not paying for the transport service, but you are paid to drive as a main part of your job.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community transport service as an employee of a local government, religious, educational, recreational, or sporting establishment. • Free city CAT bus. • Courtesy shuttle service.
Passengers are paying a contribution to trip costs as part of a car pooling arrangement where you are the driver.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private car pool arrangement with more than 9 people in the vehicle, including driver.

What is not hire or reward?

You are generally **not** driving for hire or reward if:

- You are driving in a volunteer capacity (not paid or otherwise rewarded) and neither the passengers nor hirer have paid in any way.
- You are driving in a volunteer capacity and the amount being paid by the passengers only covers the running costs of the vehicle, currently prescribed at 88 cents per kilometre.
- You are employed by or are a volunteer for the provider of the transport service but your main duties do not generally include the driving (i.e. the driving is incidental to what you are normally paid to do).
- You are driving in the course of providing or operating a child care service or as part of your employment in a child care service.
- You are driving in a car pooling situation with 9 or less people in the vehicle, including the driver and:
 - the vehicle is provided by the driver (for example, their personal vehicle or borrowed from a family member), and:
 - the driver would be undertaking the journey anyway;
 - the driver or any other person do not ply or tout for the passengers; and
 - the driver or any other person do not make a profit from the passengers' payments.

Other types of transport that may be considered hire or reward

Some types of transport may be considered hire or reward, depending on a range of factors including whether driving is the main duty of your job.

I transport prisoners as part of my job

If you are employed by the Department of Justice (DoJ) and transport prisoners as part of your role, you are carrying out DoJ's statutory functions.

The transport is not considered for hire or reward and a PTD authorisation is not needed.

Contact

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If you are employed under a contract arrangement to transport prisoners, this transport is considered for hire or reward as the contracted organisation is receiving "reward" from DoJ for delivering the service. Contracted drivers will require a PTD authorisation.

I'm a teacher and drive students occasionally

As an employee of the Department of Education or a school, you will need to discuss with management or the relevant section as to whether your specific job as a teacher, education support or general staff member has driving for school purposes as a main part of its duties. If your main role is to teach, it is likely a PTD authorisation will not be required.

For example, a teacher's main duty is to teach students. Any duties other than teaching (including driving students) would be considered incidental, regardless of the frequency the duty occurs.

I'm driving passengers as a volunteer

You are not considered to be driving for hire or reward if you are driving as an unpaid volunteer and:

- driving passengers is an incidental part of your volunteer work; or
- the vehicle is being driven to provide a community transport service.

If you are driving in a voluntary capacity for a transport service that is established to generate profit (for example, a charter bus or limousine service), then you would be driving for hire or reward and require a PTD authorisation.

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