

# Driver licensing courses

## for licence classes and endorsements

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### Car (Class 1) and motorcycle (Class 6) courses

If you're under 25 years old, you can reduce the minimum time you have to spend on a restricted licence from 18 months to 12 months by completing an *approved advanced driving skills* course. If you're over 25, the minimum time can be reduced from six months to three months.

In addition to completing the approved advanced driving skills course, you'll still be required to pass the full licence test (practical test) to obtain a full licence.

For details on the full licence test, see the relevant version of the *Road code*; Factsheet 58, *Full licence test for driving a car*; and Factsheet 59, *Full motorcycle licence*.

### What courses are approved?

There are two approved advanced driving skills courses:

1. Street Talk
2. Defensive Driving

If you're under 25, you should remember that to get a time reduction you need to have held your restricted licence for *at least six months* before you do the course.

### How to find information about course providers

- Call our Driver Licensing Call Centre: (freephone) 0800 822 422.
- Visit a Land Transport New Zealand driver licensing agent (the Automobile Association (AA), Vehicle Testing New Zealand (VTNZ), Vehicle Inspection New Zealand (VINZ), or On Road New Zealand).
- Look in the *Yellow pages*: [www.yellowpages.co.nz](http://www.yellowpages.co.nz).
- Visit these websites:
  - Defensive driving: [www.defensivedriving.co.nz](http://www.defensivedriving.co.nz)
  - Street Talk: [www.drivinginstructor.co.nz](http://www.drivinginstructor.co.nz)

This factsheet provides information on *approved driver licensing courses* for all licence classes and licence endorsements.

### Heavy vehicle courses (Classes 2–5)

If you want to drive heavy vehicles, you have to obtain the appropriate *learner licence* (class 2, 3, 4 or 5) before driving. The licence class you need to obtain depends on the *weight* of the vehicle you want to drive (see Factsheet 70, *Heavy vehicle driver licences*, for details).

To progress to a full licence, you've got two options:

1. Practice driving under supervision for at least six months before applying for a full licence and sitting a practical test in a vehicle covered by that class
2. Complete an approved industry-based course for that class. You can take the course any time after you gain your learner licence.

When you've completed the course, take your course certificate to a Land Transport New Zealand driver licensing agent and apply for a full licence. You don't need to sit a practical test.

### Approved courses

The approved courses for heavy vehicle classes are aligned with unit standards on the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) framework. If you successfully complete the courses, you have the opportunity to have the unit standards you've achieved count towards a national certificate as well as a driver licence.

The relevant course unit standards are:

Course	Course unit standards
Class 2	17574 (Class 2) and 15164 (log books and driving hours)
Class 3	17575 (Class 3)
Class 4	17576 (Class 4)
Class 5	17577 (Class 5) and 1734 (health and stress)

You can view these unit standards on the NZQA website: [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz).

## Licence endorsement courses

All courses are aligned with unit standards on the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) framework, as shown in the table below. Some course providers are also registered NZQA assessors, which means you have the opportunity to have the unit standards you achieve count towards a national certificate as well as a driver licence endorsement. If you wish to take this option, please check with your course provider *before* starting the course because not all course providers are registered with NZQA for this purpose.

Successfully completing the course is only one requirement in obtaining the endorsement on your driver licence. Please refer to the relevant factsheet (shown in the table below) for details about the full requirements for each endorsement type:

Endorsement type	Course unit standards	Factsheet
Passenger	17579 and 15164	42
Vehicle recovery	17580 and 15164	46
Dangerous goods	16718	37
Forklift	18496	10
Rollers	16702	40
Tracks	16703	40
Wheels	16701	40
Driving instructor	16646, 16647, 14511, 14512, 14521, 14523, and modules 'Observation and vision in a vehicle' and 'Advanced driving skills' (no equivalent unit standards).	5

You can view these unit standards on the NZQA website: [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz).

## How to find information about course providers

To find details of course providers for Classes 2-5 and licence endorsements:

- Call our Driver Licensing Call Centre: (freephone) 0800 822 422.
- Visit our website: [www.landtransport.govt.nz](http://www.landtransport.govt.nz).
- Visit a Land Transport New Zealand driver licensing agent: The Automobile Association (AA), Vehicle Testing New Zealand (VTNZ), Vehicle Inspection New Zealand (VINZ), or On Road New Zealand.
- Look in the *Yellow pages*: [www.yellowpages.co.nz](http://www.yellowpages.co.nz).

## Becoming a course provider

If you're interested in providing approved driver licensing courses for licence classes or endorsements, you must be a *registered assessor* with the appropriate industry training organisation (see below).

- For all course types (except tracks, wheels, or rollers), contact:

The New Zealand Road Transport & Logistics Industry Training Organisation  
Phone: 04 499 3369  
Fax: 04 499 5317  
Email: [office@roadtrain.org.nz](mailto:office@roadtrain.org.nz).

- For tracks, wheels, and rollers endorsement courses, contact:

InfraTrain New Zealand  
Phone: 0800 486 626  
Fax: 04 499 9145  
Email: [askus@infratrain.co.nz](mailto:askus@infratrain.co.nz).

**Note:** Any person conducting the approved courses for classes 2, 3, 4, or 5 must *also* hold a driving instructor endorsement for the appropriate class of vehicle. (See Factsheet 5, *I-endorsements*, for more information).

## Where can I find out more?

- Visit our website: [www.landtransport.govt.nz](http://www.landtransport.govt.nz).
- Call our Driver Licensing Call Centre: (freephone) 0800 822 422.
- Write to us: Land Transport New Zealand, PO Box 2840, Wellington.

## Where you can get factsheets

All our factsheets are available in the 'Publications' area of our website and most are available in print from Land Transport New Zealand agents and regional offices. If you need a factsheet that is not in print and you don't have Internet access, phone our Helpdesk on (freephone) 0800 699 000 and they will send you a copy.

## About factsheets

The content in our factsheets is carefully checked at the time of publication to ensure it is accurate. However, if the currency of the information you are reading is important, check the factsheet index on our website ([www.landtransport.govt.nz](http://www.landtransport.govt.nz)) to ensure you have the latest version, or call our Helpdesk on (freephone) 0800 699 000.