

Fee changes for car licences (class 1)

from 8 July 2024

Factsheet
83

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There's currently very high demand for driver licence tests. Many people are sitting their test before they're properly ready, and taking several attempts before they pass, which makes wait times even longer.

Test fees are changing from 8 July 2024. The new fees encourage applicants to be well prepared before they book and sit their tests. The more test slots you use before you pass, the more you'll need to pay to get your licence.

This makes it fairer for everyone to get a test slot and move onto to the next stage of their licence.

Fees that are changing

The new fees are for **car licences (class 1) only**. You'll need to pay the new fees for:

- new licence stages
 - learner,
 - restricted, or
 - full
- getting your licence back
 - after a disqualification
 - alcohol interlock licence
 - zero alcohol licence
- converting an overseas licence.

If you apply or book your first test from 8 July 2024, you'll pay the new fees.

Booked before 8 July 2024

If you applied or booked your first test before 8 July, your application will still follow the old rules. You won't need to pay fees to change, cancel or reschedule your test.

You have until 7 October 2024 to finish your application. If you don't pass your tests by 7 October, then you'll start to pay the new fees.

No changes for trucks, motorcycles or renewals

Nothing changes if you're:

- renewing your licence
- requalifying your licence because it's been expired more than 5 years
- applying for a truck licence (class 2-5)
- applying for a motorcycle licence (class 6)
- applying for an endorsement.

New fees for getting a licence or getting a licence back

The application fee (including any one-off test fees) will be the same as before 8 July.

The application fee will now include your first test, and a second test if you need it.

If you need a third test or more, you'll pay a fee for each test.

Test fee for each test from 3rd attempt onwards

Test type	Fee
Theory test	\$54.60
Restricted practical test	\$102.80
Full practical test	\$71.90

New licence

Your application fee will include 2 tests. For example, a learner application includes 2 theory tests, and a restricted application includes 2 restricted practical tests if you need them.

Class 1 (car) stage	Application fee (includes 2 tests)	Test fee for each test from 3rd attempt
Learner	\$96.10	\$54.60
Restricted	\$167.50	\$102.80
Full	\$98.90	\$71.90

Getting your licence back

Licence reinstatement with tests (*disqualified 12 months or more*)

Application fee (includes 2 theory tests and 2 practical tests)	Theory test fee from 3rd attempt (for each test)	Practical test fee from 3rd attempt (for each test)
\$100.10	\$54.60	\$71.90 (full) or \$102.80 (restricted)

Alcohol licences (*with tests required*¹)

Application fee ² (includes 2 theory tests and 2 practical tests)	Theory test fee from 3rd attempt (for each test)	Practical test fee from 3rd attempt (for each test)
Alcohol interlock \$136.90 ³	\$54.60	\$71.90 (full) or \$102.80 (restricted)
Zero alcohol \$142.90 ³		

¹ If you don't need to sit any tests, there's no change to your fees.

² If you're getting a learner or restricted licence back your application fee will be different, go to www.nzta.govt.nz/alcohol-licence-fees

³ Before 8 July you pay the test fees when you book each test type for the first time. From 8 July you'll pay this application fee up-front when you apply.

Changing or rebooking a test

If you need to change or cancel your test, please do it as far in advance as possible. Then another person can book the test slot.

When you change or cancel your test, you may need to pay a fee.

If you change or cancel your test within 2 full working days of the day of your test, this counts as one of your included tests and you may need to pay a test fee for the next test.

Theory tests

If it's your:	and you change or cancel it:	then you'll pay:
1st test	anytime	\$16.40
2nd test	more than 2 full working days before the day of your test	\$16.40
	within 2 full working days of your test	\$54.60
3rd test or more	more than 2 full working days before the day of your test	\$16.40
	within 2 full working days of your test	\$54.60

Practical tests

If it's your:	and you change or cancel it:	and you do it:	then you'll pay:
1st test	anytime	online	nothing
		at an agent	\$16.40
2nd test	more than 2 full working days before the day of your test	online	nothing
		at an agent	\$16.40
	within 2 full working days of your test	online or at an agent	\$102.80 (restricted) or \$71.90 (full)
3rd test or more	more than 2 full working days before the day of your test	online	nothing
		at an agent	\$16.40
	within 2 full working days of your test	online or at an agent	\$102.80 (restricted) or \$71.90 (full)

For example, if your **first** test is booked on Monday, and you cancel it on the Friday beforehand, this counts as your first test. When you rebook your test, this will be your **second** test.



If you cancel the test, you won't have to pay anything at the time. You'll pay the fee above when you rebook the test.

For more information about the changes to test fees go to www.nzta.govt.nz/test-fee-changes

Overseas conversions

If you're converting an overseas driver licence to a New Zealand car licence, you will now have a separate application fee.

If you need to sit tests to convert your overseas licence, you'll pay a fee for each test when you book it.

Non-exempt countries

You'll need to pass a theory test and a practical test. You'll pay for the theory test when you apply. Once you've passed the theory test, then you can book and pay for the practical test.

If you need to sit the test more than once, you'll pay the test fee each time.

Application fee	Theory test fee	Total when you apply	Practical test fee
\$52.10	\$45.70	\$97.80	\$59.90

Exempt countries

If you've held the licence for less than 2 years, you'll need to pass a practical test. You'll pay for this when you apply.

If you need to sit the test more than once, you'll pay the test fee each time.

Application fee	Practical test fee	Total when you apply
\$52.10	\$59.90	\$112.00

Changing or rebooking a test for an overseas conversion

If you need to change or cancel your test, please do it as far in advance as possible. Then another person can book the test slot.

When you change or cancel your test, you may need to pay a fee.

If you change or cancel your test more than 2 full working days in advance, the fee you pay will be lower.

Theory tests

If you change or cancel it:	then you'll pay:
more than 2 full working days before the day of your test	\$16.40
within 2 full working days of your test	\$45.70

Practical tests

If you change or cancel it:	and you do it:	then you'll pay:
more than 2 full working days before the day of your test	online	nothing
	at an agent	\$16.40
within 2 full working days of your test	online or at an agent	\$59.90

Converting learner or restricted

If you're converting to the equivalent of a New Zealand learner or restricted licence, the test fees will be slightly different. To check the fees go to www.nzta.govt.nz/overseas-conversion-fees



This factsheet is a general guide only. It doesn't replace legal advice, and your exact requirements will depend on current legislation.

Make sure you have the most up-to-date version of this factsheet by checking www.nzta.govt.nz/factsheets



www.nzta.govt.nz



info@nzta.govt.nz



Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency,
Private Bag 11777, Palmerston North 4442