

Senior drivers

licence renewal

This factsheet explains what senior drivers need to do to renew their driver licence. It provides helpful information outlining medical requirements, when you may need to do a practical driving test, what you need to bring for your renewal and where you need to go.

Senior drivers: licence renewal

Drivers must renew their driver licence at age 75, 80 and every 2 years after that.

When renewing your licence from age 75, your health and vision must be regularly checked, both for your own safety and the safety of other road users. This process is summarised in the diagram below.

Getting a medical certificate

To renew your licence past your 75th birthday you'll need to visit your health practitioner to get a *Medical certificate for driver licence*. This could be your usual doctor (GP), a registered nurse or nurse practitioner, or a specialist if appropriate.

Tell your health practitioner the certificate is for your driver licence. You'll have to pay for the appointment yourself.

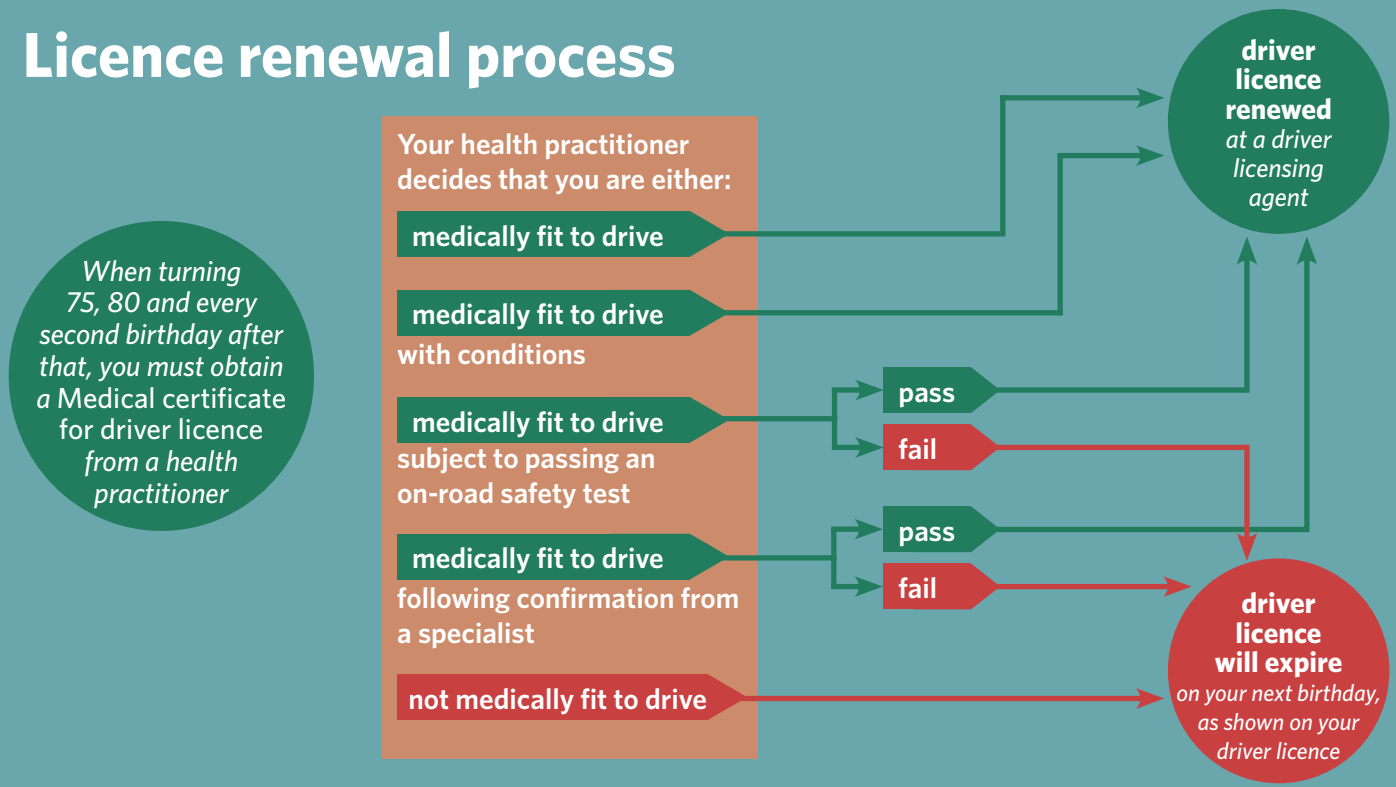
During your appointment your health practitioner will discuss your present state of health with you and test your eyesight.

They'll then recommend whether you are:

- medically fit to drive
- medically fit to drive with conditions (eg correcting lenses, time-of-day restriction, distance restriction)
- medically fit to drive subject to passing an on-road safety test
- to be referred to a specialist (eg optometrist or occupational therapist driving assessor - your health practitioner will advise you of the results)
- not medically fit to drive. Your health practitioner must advise Waka Kotahi and your licence will expire on your birthday.

If your health practitioner decides you are medically fit to drive, they will provide you with a *Medical certificate for driver licence*.

Licence renewal process



What you need to do

Once you have your medical certificate, you'll then need to visit a driver licensing agent with:

- your *Application for renewal of driver licence (DL1)* form. Waka Kotahi will send you a form with your renewal reminder. If you didn't get a reminder, you can fill in a form at the driver licensing agent
- evidence of your identity - this can be:
 - » your New Zealand photo driver licence (which must be current or expired up to 2 years), or
 - » your current New Zealand passport, or
 - » 2 other acceptable forms of identity. See *Identification for driver licensing* (Factsheet 20) for further information and a full list of identity documents.
- a *Medical certificate for driver licence* which is no more than 60 days old
- the renewal fee of \$21.50.

To find an agent in your area go to www.nzta.govt.nz/agent

A new photograph must be taken and your signature recorded when you renew your licence from age 75, 86 and every 10 years afterwards.

Note: you can have a new image taken and new signature captured as part of an earlier renewal if you wish.

Once you have completed the application process, the licensing agent will issue you a temporary driver licence. Your new photo driver licence will be posted to your mailing address.

The on-road safety test

If your health practitioner decides you are medically fit to drive, but is unsure about your ability to drive safely, they may issue you with a *Medical certificate for driver licence* enabling you to renew your driver licence, provided you pass an on-road safety test with a testing officer.

There is no fee to book, change or cancel an on-road safety test.

You can book this test when you apply to renew your licence at an agent. You can also book the test online.

www.nzta.govt.nz/online

For more information, refer to the *Guide to the on-road safety test* available online or by calling 0800 822 422.

www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/on-road-safety-test

If you have booked an on-road safety test and can't make the appointment, you can change your test at www.nzta.govt.nz/online or go to your driver licensing agent.

Refreshing your knowledge

Education resources are available to help senior road users stay safe behind the wheel for as many years as possible.

Information and interactive activities for people aged 70 years and over are available free on our website at www.nzta.govt.nz/senior-drivers.

There you will find:

- basic facts about senior road users including examples of common senior driver crash situations
- a 'Seniors driving safely' section where you can check how you're doing with a self-assessment rating form to help you assess your driving skills. This section also contains safety videos and information on choosing safe vehicles for senior drivers
- information on using public transport and alternative transport schemes. You can download or read online a copy of *Keeping moving - the positive guide for senior road users*
- information about cycling, walking and using a mobility scooter.

Staying safe

Staying safe: a refresher workshop for senior road users is a classroom based workshop that aims to maintain and improve safe driving practices.

During the workshop you'll re-familiarise yourself with traffic rules as well as increase knowledge about other transport options available to keep you mobile for as long as possible. To see if workshops are available in your area, see www.nzta.govt.nz/senior-drivers or call 0800 822 422.



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

0800 822 422

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