

# Driver licensing courses

## for licence classes and endorsements

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

### Car (class 1) courses

You can reduce the minimum time you have to spend on a restricted car 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 6 months to 3 months.

As well as completing an approved advanced driving skills course, you'll still need to pass the full licence practical test to get a full licence.

For more information about the full licence test read *The official New Zealand road code* or go to [www.nzta.govt.nz/practical-tests](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/practical-tests)

### Approved courses

There are 2 approved advanced driving skills courses:

1. Street Talk
2. Defensive Driving.

### How to find a course providers

- **Defensive Driving**  
[www.aa.co.nz/ddc](http://www.aa.co.nz/ddc)
- **Street Talk**  
[www.street-talk.co.nz](http://www.street-talk.co.nz)

### Motorcycle (class 6) courses

#### Competency based training and assessment (CBTA)

The competency based training and assessment option is an alternative path to progress through the restricted and full licence stages.

Successfully completing a CBTA course means you won't have to meet some of the graduated licensing system requirements.

You'll need to present the CBTA certificate when you apply for the next stage of your licence.

If you have a restricted licence and present a 6R CBTA certificate, you won't have to:

- complete the learner licence minimum time period, or
- sit and pass a practical test at the agent.

If you have a full licence and present a 6F CBTA certificate, you will:

- reduce the minimum age from 18 years to 17 years, and
- reduce the restricted licence minimum period from 18 to 12 months, and
- not need to sit and pass a practical test at the agent.

### Getting a heavy vehicle licence (classes 2-5)

If you want to drive heavy vehicles, you have to get the appropriate learner licence (class 2, 3, 4 or 5) before driving.

The licence class you need to get depends on the weight of the vehicle you want to drive. For more information about how to get these licences read *Heavy vehicle driver licences* (Factsheet 70).

To progress to a full licence, you've got 2 options:

1. Practise driving under supervision for at least 6 months. Then apply for a full licence and sit 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 get your learner licence. When you've completed the course, take your course certificate to a driver licensing agent and apply for a full licence. You don't need to sit a practical test.

### Heavy vehicle courses (classes 2-5)

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 can 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	Unit standard
Class 2	17574 (Class 2) and 24089* (fatigue management, work time and logbooks)
Class 3	17575 (Class 3) and 24089*
Class 4	17576 (Class 4) and 24089*
Class 5	17577 (Class 5) and 24089*

\* Required unless successfully completed with an approved driver licensing course provider either:

- within the previous 12 months, or
- more than 12 months ago and the course provider can confirm that you have retained the necessary knowledge and skills.

View these unit standards at [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz)

## Licence endorsement courses

The approved courses for licence endorsements are aligned with unit standards on the NZQA framework. If you successfully complete a course, you can have the unit standards you've achieved count towards a national certificate as well as a driver licence.

Completing the course is only one step in getting the endorsement on your driver licence. See the relevant factsheet for full details about each endorsement type:

Endorsement type	Course unit standards	Factsheet
Vehicle recovery (V)	17580 and 24089*	46
Dangerous goods (D)	16718	37
Forklift (F)	18496	10
Rollers (R)	16702	40
Tracks (T)	16703	40
Wheels (W)	16701	40
Driving instructor (I)	16646, 16647, 14511, 14521, 14523, 20179, 20180, 3466	5

\*Required unless successfully completed within the previous 12 months with an approved driver licensing course provider.

View these unit standards at [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz)

## How to find a course provider

To find a course provider go to [www.nzta.govt.nz/course-providers](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/course-providers)

## Becoming a course provider

If you're interested in providing approved driver licensing and endorsement courses, you must be a **registered assessor** with the appropriate industry training organisation. Check this factsheet for the relevant course unit standards.

For more information about all course types (except tracks, wheels, or rollers), contact:

- **MITO (NZ Motor Industry Training Organisation (Inc))**  
Phone: 04 494 0005  
Freephone: 0800 88 21 21  
Fax: 04 494 0006  
Email: [info@mito.org.nz](mailto:info@mito.org.nz)  
Website: [www.mito.org.nz](http://www.mito.org.nz)

For more information about tracks, wheels and rollers endorsement courses, contact:

- **Connexis ITO**  
Phone: 0800 486 626  
Email: [askus@connexis.org.nz](mailto:askus@connexis.org.nz)  
Website: [www.connexis.org.nz](http://www.connexis.org.nz)

As well as becoming a registered assessor:

- You must also satisfy Waka Kotahi that you have sufficient relevant industry experience relating to the course type you want to assess. This experience must be within the past 5 years in either an operational or training setting. If you're not sure whether you have sufficient experience, you should contact the driver licensing auditor at your local Waka Kotahi office.
- If conducting approved courses for classes 2, 3, 4 or 5, you must also hold a driving instructor endorsement for the appropriate class of vehicle. For more information read *l endorsements* (Factsheet 5).
- If you're applying to conduct class 2-5 or V endorsement courses, you must provide evidence of having successfully completing either of the following unit standards:
  - 7097 (Facilitate interactive learning sessions for adults); or
  - 17975 (Plan, conduct, and review interactive group learning for trainee drivers).
- If you're applying to conduct the F endorsement course, you must provide evidence of holding a current OSH operator's or trainer's certificate.
- You must complete the Waka Kotahi course provider approval application form.

Go to [www.nzta.govt.nz/becoming-a-course-provider](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/becoming-a-course-provider)



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](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/factsheets)



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