The Driver Vehicle Dashboard and the Traffic Light System

The Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Regulation 2017 (the P2P Regulation) requires that vehicles being used to provide a passenger service, and people driving those vehicles, meet certain safety standards.

Authorised service providers are responsible for ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, that their drivers and vehicles meet safety standards as outlined in the P2P Regulation. The Point to Point Transport Commissioner provides the Driver Vehicle Dashboard (DVD) to help authorised service providers in meeting these obligations.

What is the Driver Vehicle Dashboard?

The DVD allows authorised service providers to run near real-time checks on drivers and vehicles, with outcomes of those checks displayed in a traffic light format.

For drivers, the DVD can be used to check against standards relating to driver licence tenure, serious driving offences, medical fitness, disqualifying criminal offence charges, previous driver authority cancellation/refusal and serious P2P Regulation safety offences. Authorised service providers can also check whether a vehicle is registered.

Authorised service providers must comply with strict terms and conditions when using the DVD, and must obtain a person’s consent before uploading their details into the DVD and performing a check.

The DVD can only be used to check vehicles which are registered in New South Wales (NSW), and drivers with a NSW driver licence who have applied for a Passenger Transport (PT) code at a Service NSW centre. The DVD will only provide indicators relating to a NSW driver authority, disqualifying serious driving offences and criminal offences where charges were laid in NSW.
Traffic Light Indicators

The DVD does not provide details of an offence or a reason for ineligibility. It provides a traffic light indicator to show the outcome of the check.

A GREEN traffic light indicates that no disqualifying offence or ineligibility has been identified in running the check against Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), the Point to Point Transport Commissioner’s databases, or NSW Police Force records.

A WHITE traffic light indicates that the uploaded details do not match those in RMS’ database or the person does not have a PT code on their driver licence.

A RED traffic light indicates that there may be an issue with the driver and that further investigation is required to determine the driver meets the safety standards. Authorised service providers should take immediate action when they see a red traffic light. This may include asking a driver for information or evidence about their driving record, driver licence status, or criminal charge history to help the service provider determine whether they should permit the person to drive for them.

Authorised service providers can undertake the following checks on the DVD:

P2P Eligibility Check

This indicator helps authorised service providers to keep track of safety standards relating to specific P2P law eligibility and disqualifying offences. The P2P Regulation prohibits a person from driving a vehicle used to provide a passenger service if:

- they held a driver authority under the Passenger Transport Act 1990 or Passenger Transport Act 2014 that was cancelled (other than for medical reasons)
- their most recent application for a driver authority (in the last ten years) under those Acts was refused on the grounds that they were not considered to be of good repute and in all other respects a fit and proper person, or
- they have been found guilty of a disqualifying P2P Regulation safety offence (more information can be found on the ‘Disqualifying Offences for Drivers of Taxis or Hire Vehicles’ Fact Sheet on the Commissioner’s website).

The indicators for this check have the following meaning:

- The driver has not had a driver authority issued under the Passenger Transport Act 1990 or Passenger Transport Act 2014 cancelled or their most recent application refused, or
- No Disqualifying Point to Point Transport Safety Offence charge is recorded against the driver
- Not applicable - this check will not return a white light
- The driver is recorded as having a driver authority issued under the Passenger Transport Act 1990 or Passenger Transport Act 2014 cancelled or their most recent application refused, or
- Records indicate the driver has been charged with a Disqualifying Point to Point Transport Safety Offence

Note: The DVD only checks a driver’s NSW record. If a driver has been found guilty of an offence interstate which is equivalent to a NSW P2P safety offence then they would not meet the safety standards. Authorised service providers will need to have alternative methods in place for ongoing checks of drivers.
Licence Eligibility Check

The P2P Regulation requires a person who drives a taxi or hire vehicle to have held an unrestricted Australian driver licence for 12 months in the past two years, and to meet the medical standards for commercial vehicle drivers. A driver who has a PT code on their driver licence has satisfied RMS that they meet the medical standards for commercial vehicle drivers.

The Licence Eligibility indicator helps authorised service providers with these requirements.

The indicators for this check have the following meaning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Green Light</th>
<th>White Light</th>
<th>Red Light</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>The driver:</td>
<td>The details of the driver entered into the DVD do not match the records held by RMS (e.g. misspelt name or driver has changed their name), or</td>
<td>The driver:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• has a 'Passenger Transport' (PT) code on their NSW driver licence, and</td>
<td>• The driver does not have a ‘Passenger Transport’ (PT) code on their NSW driver licence, or</td>
<td>• may not hold a current unrestricted NSW driver licence, or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• has held an unrestricted NSW driver licence for 12 months in the past 2 years</td>
<td>• The driver does not hold a NSW driver licence (may hold an interstate driver licence), or</td>
<td>• may not have held an unrestricted NSW driver licence for 12 months in the past 2 years</td>
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Note: the DVD can only check information about people who hold a NSW driver licence. However, a driver may still be eligible to drive a taxi or hire vehicle if they hold or have held an unrestricted Australian driver licence for 12 months of the previous 2 years. Authorised service providers will need other methods for checking the eligibility of these drivers.

DISCLAIMER

The material in this fact sheet is for general information only. It does not reflect all the technicalities of the relevant law and you should seek legal advice in relation to your particular circumstances. The Point to Point Transport Commissioner does not accept any liability for any action taken in reliance on this document. If you need advice, LawAccess NSW is a free government telephone service that provides legal information, referral and occasionally advice to people who have a legal problem in NSW.
Serious Driving Offences Check

The P2P Regulation prohibits a driver who has been found guilty of a serious driving offence from driving a vehicle used to provide a passenger service. More information on disqualifying offences can be found on the ‘Disqualifying Offences for Drivers of Taxis or Hire Vehicles’ Fact Sheet on the Commissioner’s website.

The indicators for this check have the following meaning:

- No Disqualifying Serious Driver Offence charge is recorded against the driver in NSW since 29 May 2018
- The details of the driver entered into the DVD do not match the records held by RMS, or
- The driver does not have a ‘Passenger Transport’ (PT) code on their NSW driver licence, or
- The driver does not hold a NSW driver licence (may hold an interstate driver licence), or
- The driver has an outstanding RMS administrative matter to be resolved and may need to visit a Service NSW centre
- Records indicate the driver has been charged with a disqualifying Serious Driving Offence in NSW

Note: the DVD will only provide indicators of disqualifying offences where the matters were heard in a NSW Court. A driver would not meet the safety standards if they have been found guilty of an equivalent disqualifying offence in another state or territory. A national police check will assist in determining this.

The Serious Driving Offences check commenced on 29 May 2018. Serious Driving Offences are shown for drivers from that date, or from the date the driver had the PT code added to their licence, if it was after 29 May 2018.

Criminal Charge Check

The P2P Regulation prohibits a driver who has been found guilty of certain criminal offences from driving a vehicle used to provide a passenger service. More information on disqualifying offences can be found on the ‘Disqualifying Offences for Drivers of Taxis or Hire Vehicles’ Fact Sheet on the Commissioner’s website.

The indicators for this check have the following meaning:

- No disqualifying criminal offence charge is recorded against the driver since 26 November 2018, or
- No disqualifying criminal offence charge is recorded against the driver since a PT code was added to their licence, if added after 26 November 2018
- The details of the driver entered into the DVD do not match the records held by RMS, or
- The driver does not have a ‘Passenger Transport’ (PT) code on their NSW driver licence, or
- The driver does not hold a NSW driver licence (may hold an interstate driver licence), or
- The driver has an outstanding RMS administrative matter to be resolved and may need to visit a Service NSW centre
- Records indicate the driver may have been charged with a disqualifying criminal offence in NSW
The DVD will only provide indicators of disqualifying offences where charges were laid in NSW. A driver would not meet the safety standards if they have been found guilty of an equivalent disqualifying offence in another state or territory. A National Police Check will assist in determining this.

Once a charge is laid, the check will return a red traffic light indicator regardless of any Court outcome.

The Criminal Charge check commenced on 26 November 2018. Criminal Charge checks are shown for drivers from that date, or from the date the driver had the PT code added to their licence, if it was after 26 November 2018.

Vehicle Check

The P2P Regulation requires that vehicles used to provide passenger services must meet the requirements for registration under Australian law.

The indicators for this check have the following meaning:

- **Green Light**: Vehicle has current registration in NSW
- **White Light**: Check the type of vehicle
  - M = Motorcycle
  - O = Other
  - Check the VIN and Chassis number have been entered accurately
- **Red Light**: Vehicle is not currently registered in NSW
  - Does the vehicle have more than 12 seats?

What if the traffic light indicator is red and a person disagrees with it?

The DVD draws on the official records of RMS, the Point to Point Transport Commissioner, and the NSW Police Force. A red light indicator that is accurate will not be changed and is not reviewable.

When a driver disagrees with a traffic light, Commission staff will only deal with the driver and the relevant government agencies, and not with any third party (such as a service provider).

If a driver believes that a red traffic light result for a criminal charge offence is incorrect, they should contact the Industry Contact Centre on 131 727 and provide supporting information such as a recent National Police Check, court outcome or any other supporting documentation. Under no circumstances must a driver contact the NSW Police Force about criminal charge information they believe to be incorrect.

The Point to Point Transport Commissioner is unable to change records that are held by RMS. If a person believes that a red light relating to their vehicle registration, driver licence or serious driving offences is incorrect, they will need to contact Service NSW to confirm that the records held by RMS are correct, and if not, request RMS to amend their databases.

For questions relating to P2P Regulation safety offences or a driver authority cancellation or application, a driver can contact the Point to Point Transport Industry Contact Centre on 131 727.

A driver who believes that a red traffic light indicator for P2P eligibility is incorrect should provide their previous Driver Authority Number obtained under the Passenger Transport Act 1990 or the Passenger Transport Act 2014.

Note: While a vehicle registered outside NSW may be used to provide passenger services, the DVD will only show results for vehicles registered in NSW. Authorised service providers will need another method for checking that interstate vehicles are registered.
Further Information

There are a number of online resources available on the Commissioner’s website at pointtopoint.nsw.gov.au including a Quick Guide to the Driver Vehicle Dashboard Traffic Light System, as well as a searchable Driver Disqualifying Offences database and related fact sheet.

Service providers can also download the DVD User Guide from the Commissioner’s website.

Drivers wanting more information about the PT code can call RMS on 132 213 or visit http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/public-passenger-vehicles/point-to-point-transport-drivers.html

The Industry Contact Centre can provide assistance on 131 727.