

# **DRIVING SERVICES SECTION**

# **Guide to Taxi Written Test**

## Note:

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### Introduction

The taxi written test aims at ensuring the taxi drivers can drive safely, with good traffic and location knowledge of Hong Kong and are familiar with the laws and regulations governing the operation of taxi drivers. The purpose of this Guide is to provide candidates with more information with respect to the taxi written test, especially on the examination format as well as the assessment criteria. With a deeper understanding, candidates can better prepare for the test.

#### **Basic Requirements and Test Assessment Standards**

Candidates applying for a taxi written test must be either a holder of a valid full driving licence for private car or light goods vehicles for at least 1 years immediately preceding their applications (if their full driving licences were obtained without undergoing a probationary driving period); or have completed a probationary driving period of private car or light goods vehicles of at least 1 year and are holding a valid full driving licence for private car or light goods vehicle on the date of application. In addition, candidates must not be convicted of an offence under Section 36 (Causing death by dangerous driving), Section 36A (Causing grievous bodily harm by dangerous driving), Section 39 (Driving a motor vehicle under the influence of drink or drugs), Section 39A (Driving, attempting to drive or being in charge of a motor vehicle with alcohol concentration above prescribed limit), Section 39B (Screening breath tests), Section 39C (Provision of specimens for analysis), Section 39J (Driving motor vehicle without proper control under influence of specified illicit drug), Section 39K (Driving motor vehicle with any concentration of specified illicit drug), Section 39L (Driving motor vehicle without proper control under influence of drug other than specified illicit drug), Section 39O(1) (Failure to undergo preliminary drug test, or Section 39S (Failure to provide specimen of blood or urine) of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) during the 5 years immediately preceding their applications.

According to Regulations 11 and 15 of the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Regulations (Cap. 374B), an applicant can apply for a full driving licence within 3 years after passing all parts of the driving test and a full driving licence must be renewed within 3 years after its expiry. If the applicant cannot fulfill the residence requirement at the time when applying for issue or renewal of the full driving licence for commercial classes but he / she meets the residence requirement (i.e. Hong Kong permanent resident / subject to no condition of stay) afterwards, he / she may apply for the commercial classes within 3 years from the passing date of driving tests or within 3 years after the expiry of the most recent full driving licence with commercial driving classes. Otherwise, he / she will be required to take the relevant driving tests again and obtain a learner's driving licence if he / she wishes to learn to drive before obtaining a full driving licence with relevant commercial vehicle classes.

Normally, candidates, who have passed the written test, can apply for a full driving licence for taxi without the need to attend any road test. In addition, if a candidate's driving licence has been

suspended by the Court before the test, he / she will be disqualified from taking the test and the test fee will not be refunded.

The taxi written test is divided into 3 parts, all of which should be answered by candidates. The questions are in the form of multiple choices and there is only one correct answer for each question. The time allowed for the test is 45 minutes.

#### (1) Part A: Taxi Regulations

This part consists of 20 questions. In each question, candidates are required to choose the most suitable one from four available options as the answer. To obtain a "Pass" in this part, candidates must not commit more than three mistakes.

#### (2) Part B: Location and Route Questions

This part consists of 20 questions. 18 of the 20 questions are location questions, and candidates are required to choose the most suitable one from four available options as the answer. Two of the 20 questions are route questions, and candidates are required to choose the most suitable one from three available options as the answer. To obtain a "Pass" in this part, candidates must not commit more than three mistakes.

#### (3) Part C: Road Users' Code

This part consists of 50 questions. In each question, candidates are required to choose the most suitable one from three available options as the answer. To obtain a "Pass" in this part, candidates must not commit more than seven mistakes.

To score an overall "Pass" result in the Taxi written test, a candidate must be able to meet the passing criteria in each of the three parts mentioned above. A candidate will be classified as "Fail" in the test if he fails in any part of the test.

The taxi written test is conducted in the following written test centre of the Transport Department. The address of the written test centre and the Driving Test Appointment Office is:-

#### 2/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon

During the test, candidates can use both touch screen and mouse to give answers. Candidates can familiarise themselves with the interface of the computerised written test and practise the touch screen features in the Kiosks located at the Driving Test Appointment Office lobby.

When attending the taxi written test, candidates can choose **Traditional Chinese**, **Simplified Chinese or English** as the test language on the computer screen.

## Scope of Test and Suggested Reference

#### (1) Part A: Taxi Regulations

This part is to test candidates' knowledge on the guidelines and regulations related to the taxi industry. All questions in this part are set based on the booklet "Guidelines to Taxi Regulations" published by the Transport Department. The booklet is written by extracting relevant topics from the Road Traffic (Construction and Maintenance of Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374A) and the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374D) with a view to explaining laws and regulations related to the operation of taxi.

The "Guidelines to Taxi Regulations" booklet will be sent to candidates with the taxi written test appointment letter. Latest notices or updates regarding this Guideline, if any, will be released on the Transport Department's website:

www.td.gov.hk > Publications and Press Releases > Publications > Free Publications

#### (2) Part B: Location and Route Questions

The purpose of this part is to test the location knowledge as well as the route planning capacity of candidates. For location questions, the scope mainly covers major hospitals, tourist spots, hotels, government buildings, commercial buildings, shopping malls, residential buildings and higher education institutions in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, the New Territories and the Lantau Island. For route questions, candidates are required to identify the most direct viable route between two specified locations under normal traffic conditions and assuming tunnel toll (if applicable) is not a factor to be considered.

All questions in this part are set based on the "Location and Route Questions Booklet" published by the Transport Department. The booklet is prepared by making reference to materials including the "Hong Kong Guide" published by the Survey & Mapping Office of the Lands Department.

The latest version of "Location and Route Questions Booklet" will be sent to candidates with the taxi written test appointment letter. Latest notices or updates regarding "Location and Route Questions Booklet", if any, will be released on the Transport Department's website: <u>www.td.gov.hk</u> > Publications and Press Releases > Publications > Free Publications

#### (3) Part C: Road Users' Code

This part is to test the candidates' knowledge on road traffic regulations and safe driving. Questions are set based on the "Road Users' Code". All questions in this part are based on the "Road Users' Code (June 2020 Edition)" booklet published by the Transport Department. The format of questions is the same as those in the private car / light goods vehicles / motorcycle and motor tricycle written tests.

Candidates can purchase the booklet "Road Users' Code" at the Government Publication Centre situated at Room 626, 6th floor, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong and the contact phone number is 2537 1910, or view it and other test related publications at the Transport Department's website.

## Sample Questions

The following are the sample questions for the three parts of the test:-

## (1) Part A: Taxi Regulations

1. Every taxi should be fitted with a taximeter of a design and construction approved by \_\_\_\_\_

- A. the taxi owner
- B. the Commissioner for Transport
- C. the Commissioner for Police
- D. the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Correct Answer: B

2. Which of the followings does not fulfill the requirements for construction of a taximeter?

- A. It should not be a sealed for the ease of repairs in case of mechanical breakdown.
- B. The fare dial is fitted with illuminating device.
- C. The amount of additional fares in progressive increments of the lowest fare as prescribed is indicated on the fare dial.
- D. The height of the figures indicating the fare and the additional fares is not less than 10 millimetres.

Correct Answer: A

## (2) Part B: Location and Route Questions

Location Questions (choose the correct place or street of the location provided):

1. Sino Plaza	2. Southorn Centre	
A. Tai Wai B. Sham Shui Po	<ul><li>A. Tsim Sha Tsui</li><li>B. Prince Edward</li></ul>	
C. Yuen Long	C. Wan Chai	
D. Causeway Bay	D. Aberdeen	
Correct Answer: D	Correct Answer: C	

Route Questions (choose the most direct viable route under normal traffic conditions, assuming tunnel toll (if applicable) is not a factor to be considered) :

- 3. Which of the given options is the most direct viable route under normal traffic conditions when driving from <u>Grand Promenade, Sai Wan Ho</u> to <u>Diocesan Boys' School, Mong Kok</u>, assuming tunnel toll (if applicable) is not a factor to be considered?
  - A. Driving through Island Eastern Corridor, Eastern Harbour Crossing, Kwun Tong Road, Lung Cheung Road, Chuk Yuen Road, Waterloo Road, Prince Edward Road West, Sai Yee Street and Argyle Street
  - B. Driving through Island Eastern Corridor, Gloucester Road, Cross Harbour Tunnel, Princess Margaret Road, Waterloo Road, Prince Edward Road West, Sai Yee Street and Argyle Street
  - C. Driving through Island Eastern Corridor, Central-Wan Chai Bypass Tunnel, Connaught Road Central, Western Harbour Crossing, West Kowloon Highway, Lai Cheung Road, Waterloo Road, Prince Edward Road West, Sai Yee Street and Argyle Street

Correct Answer: B

- 4. Which of the given options is the most direct viable route under normal traffic conditions when driving from <u>Panda Hotel, Tsuen Wan</u> to <u>Hong Kong Macau Ferry Terminal, Sheung Wan</u>, assuming tunnel toll (if applicable) is not a factor to be considered?
  - A. Driving through Sha Tsui Road, Texaco Road, Tsuen Wan Road, Tsing Kwai Highway, West Kowloon Highway, Western Harbour Crossing, Connaught Road West and Chung Kong Road
  - B. Driving through Sha Tsui Road, Texaco Road, Tsuen Wan Road, Tsing Yi South Bridge, Stonecutters Bridge, Tsing Sha Highway, West Kowloon Highway, Western Harbour Crossing, Connaught Road West and Chung Kong Road
  - C. Driving through Sha Tsui Road, Texaco Road, Tsuen Wan Road, Lung Cheung Road, Chuk Yuen Road, Waterloo Road, Princess Margaret Road, Cross Harbour Tunnel, Gloucester Road, Connaught Road Central and Chung Kong Road

Correct Answer: A

## (3) Part C: Road Users' Code

1. As soon as you have driven through a stretch of flooded road, you should

- A. flash your headlamps to warn the approaching traffic
- B. sound the horn to warn the tailgating vehicles
- C. try your brakes

Correct Answer: C (Road Users' Code P. 87)

2. Red sign post for no stopping restriction is used to represent no stopping within A. 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. B. 7 a.m. - 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.C. 7 a.m. – midnight Correct Answer: C (Road Users' Code P. 91) 3. Motorcyclist must not carry a passenger under the age of \_\_\_\_\_ unless he or she is carried on a fixed seat in a sidecar. 8 A. B. 10 C. 12 Correct Answer: A (Road Users' Code P. 103) 4. In the misty weather, when you see this sign, you should: A. Drive past the site at normal speed to avoid blocking the persons and vehicles working on or near the roadway

- B. Slow down and keep a safe distance, and be prepared for persons and vehicles working on or near the roadway moving unexpectedly close to or into the open traffic lanes
- C. Stop immediately and do not drive past the sign. This sign will be removed only after the misty weather disappears

Correct Answer: B (Road Users' Code P. 87 & 88)

## Documents and Papers for Test

Candidates should present the following documents and papers for inspection when attending the taxi written test:-

- 1. Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card / Hong Kong Identity Card / an alternative identity document previously registered in the Transport Department;
- 2. valid full driving licence; and
- 3. test appointment letter.

Candidate who is unable to present document listed in items (1) and (2) will not be allowed to attend the test scheduled.

Candidates are recommended to carefully inspect their identification documents before the test. If the identification documents are damaged or defaced, candidates are advised to bring along a valid passport for the test or apply for a new identity card from the Immigration Department.

If a candidate wishes to postpone the test and his or her test form is close to its expiry date, the candidate must purchase another test form to make the new appointment valid. (Note : the validity period for a test form is 18 months) Candidates should also carefully study the 'Notes' printed on the appointment letter to acquire a better understanding of the details of the test and the rules governing application for postponement.

## **Examination Regulations**

Candidates must follow the following examination rules and instructions of the invigilators. Anyone who fails to do so may result in his / her disqualification from the test and invalidation of the test forms. He or she may also be requested to leave the test room immediately. Candidates who encounter any problem related to the test should raise their hand and speak to the invigilators.

- (1) Candidates must switch off all communication equipment like mobile phone, smart watch and tablet. Other than the test ticket allocated by this Department during registration, all other personal belongings should be placed on the top of the booth. No pets or recording apparatus like video-cam, phone-cam, watch-cam or sound recorder will be allowed. Without the invigilator's permission, candidates must not take out anything during the test (e.g. water and medicine).
- (2) Candidates wishing to go to the restroom during the test should inform the invigilator by raising their hand. However, the time consumed will be counted as part of the test time. No extra time will be given. Therefore, candidates are advised to go to the restroom before starting the test if they have the need.
- (3) Candidates will be disqualified if they cheat, attempt to cheat or record the test content in whatever method and their test form will also be invalidated. Please note that CCTV is installed in the test room and the entire test will be recorded for future reference.
- (4) Candidates must not smoke, eat, drink, talk with or disturb other candidates in whatever way.
- (5) Under the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201), it is an offence in law for any candidate to offer any advantage to any staff with a view to influencing him/her in discharging his / her official duties. Any candidate attempting to bribe any staff or anyone in connection with the driving test (including written test) will not only be disqualified but will also be prosecuted.

- (6) If candidates have queries about the test regulations or difficulties in using the computer or wish to leave the test room, they should raise their hand to seek invigilator's assistance. Do remember, no extra time will be given on such circumstances. Therefore, candidates are advised to raise the questions before the start of the test if they have to.
- (7) Candidates are required to sit according to the table number printed on their test tickets and input the Test Form Number after choosing a test language. They will then have 5 minutes to read the instructions, after which, the test will automatically start. Candidates could also start the test by pressing [BEGIN TEST]. Candidates will not be allowed to change the chosen test language once the test begins.
- (8) After finishing the test, candidates wishing to leave prematurely must inform the invigilator by raising their hand. Candidates should ensure that "Test Finished" is shown on the computer screen before leaving the test room. Once they have left, they will not be permitted to enter the test room again. The test result will be available in about 15 minutes after submission of test, and candidates could wait at the Driving Test Appointment Office counter 36 for collection of their result slip.

#### Notes for Disabled Candidates

Before applying for a driving test, person with physical disabilities (e.g. deaf, colour blind, missing or defective limbs) must seek the recommendations from registered medical practitioners. In addition, he / she has to undergo an assessment conducted by the Transport Department. Approval letter will be issued upon satisfactory assessment result, and the candidate should present the letter to the invigilators before the test starts. In case of doubt, please contact the Driving Services Section (Headquarter Office) of the Transport Department at 2713 7262.

### **Result Notification**

Result slip will be distributed to candidates in the Driving Test Appointment Office in about 15 minutes after the test at counter 36.

However, if a candidate's driving licence has been suspended by the Court before taking the test, the test result will be nullified and the test fee will not be refunded.

## Application for Driving Licence by Successful Candidates and Application for a Second Test by Unsuccessful Candidates

#### (1) Candidates Who Have Passed the Test

According to Regulations 11 and 15 of the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Regulations (Cap. 374B), an applicant for a full driving licence with commercial vehicle classes must be the holder of a Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card; or the holder of a Hong Kong Identity Card (other than a Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card) and is not subject to any condition of stay other than a limit of stay as defined in section 2(1) of the Immigration Ordinance (Cap. 115).

For candidate who have passed the taxi written test, please approach any Licensing Offices of this Department in-person or by agent during office hour within 3 years from the date of passing the test to apply for or add a new entitlement on the full driving licence for taxi with the following documents:-

- 1. Your taxi written test result slip (original);
- Your Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card (original or copy)/Hong Kong Identity Card (original or copy) and a valid travel document (original <u>and</u> copy) to show that you are not subject to any condition of stay other than a limit of stay as defined in section 2(1) of the Immigration Ordinance (Cap. 115);
- 3. Your full driving licence (original);
- 4. Proof of present address (original or copy), which is issued not more than 3 months from now;
- 5. Duly completed prescribed form (TD 557): Application for Full Driving Licences; and
- 6. Fee for full driving licence (if applicable); and
- 7. Original of course certificate of the Pre-service Course for Taxi Drivers with a date of completion of the course specified therein falling within one year preceding the date of application for the full driving licence to drive a taxi (applicable to candidates who apply for the Taxi written test on or after 1 October 2020.)

Candidates who have passed the taxi written test may apply by post to "**Transport Department Kwun Tong Licensing Office, P.O. Box 68115, Kowloon East Post Office, Kowloon**". Underpaid mail items will be rejected. For proper delivery of their mail items to the department, applicants should ensure their mail items bear sufficient postage with return address.

According to the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Regulations (Cap. 374B), any candidate who applies for the issue of a full driving licence to drive a taxi after 3 years from the date that the candidate passed his / her test will not be entertained by the Transport Department.

Licensing Offices		Tel. No.
Hong Kong Licensing Office:	3/F, United Centre, 95 Queensway, Hong Kong	2804 2636
Kowloon Licensing Office:	2/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon.	2150 7728
Kwun Tong Licensing Office:	5/F, Kowloon East Government Offices, 12 Lei Yue Mun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.	2775 6835
Shatin Licensing Office:	2/F, Shatin Government Offices, 1 Sheung Wo Che Road, Shatin, N.T.	2606 1468

### (2) Candidates Who Have Failed the Tests

Unsuccessful candidates can apply to re-take the taxi written test through the following ways:

• Application by Post

They may send a postal application with the following documents to: "Transport Department P.O. Box No. 79, Shatin Central Post Office" and mark 《Application for Driving Test (Commercial Vehicle)》 on the envelope:-

- 1. Copy of your Hong Kong Identity Card or other identification documents;
- 2. Copy of your full driving licence;
- Duly completed prescribed form (TD 321): "Application for a Driving Test (Commercial Vehicle)"; and
- 4. The required fee for the purchase of the relevant driving test form (please pay by crossed cheque or cashier order, payable to "The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region" or "The Government of the HKSAR", do not send in cash).

(Note: In general, application and related payment for written test will not be received and processed at the counter of the Licensing Office. However, if an applicant can provide evidence showing that he/she has genuine difficulty in arranging submission of application by post or payment by crossed cheque or cashier order, he/she can contact the Shatin Licensing Office (Tel. No.: 2606 1468) for assistance. The Transport Department may, after consideration of the case, take discretion to receive his/her application at the counter, and inform the applicant to visit the Licensing Office again to pay the application fee by cash and collect the notification letter containing the written test date and time at the counter at a later date.)

- Online Application
  - Log in the following GovHK website for Online Booking for Driving Tests Taxi Written Test <u>http://www.gov.hk/en/residents/transport/drivinglicense/roadtest.htm</u>

- 2. Choose "Book driving test online"
- Choose "Driving Test Appointment Booking" under "Please select a service" and proceed to online application (Do not choose "Repeater Early Test Appointment Booking")

(Note: Applicant must possess a valid personal digital certificate issued by recognized Certification Authorities or 'iAM SMART' account with digital signing (i.e. "iAM SMART+") for authentication; and a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, UnionPay or JCB), a FPS or a PPS account for online payment. Please contact the Driving Test Appointment Office at 2771 7723 for enquiries.)

#### (3) Result of Driving Test

The result of the driving test as shown on the result slip is subject to final verification by this Department. Should an amendment of the verdict be found necessary in the course of verification, the candidate will receive by post a notice to this effect and he / she will be invited to our office for the purpose of updating the test result.

#### **Checking Wrongly Answered Questions**

Candidates who <u>failed in</u> the Taxi written test may bring along identification documents to apply in person for checking the wrongly answered questions and their selected answers at Counter 36, Driving Written Test Centre (2/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon) during office hours (except system maintenance days).

Each candidate can only apply for question checking of the latest failed attempt twice; if he/she has already been allotted a new test appointment, he / she cannot make such application within one week before the new test day.

Please note that applicant can only check his/her wrongly answered questions and the chosen answers and only perform it at the designated computer at the Driving Written Test Centre. During question checking, the candidate may refer to the test preparation publications but copy of question content in any form and any writing is prohibited, and the Transport Department will not provide the correct answers to the concerned questions but will indicate relevant pages and paragraphs where the correct answers can be found in the test preparation publications upon request.

As the computer system is unable to provide question checking service on the system maintenance days, applicants should call 2150 7777 for enquiry before coming to the Driving Written Test Centre.

# Enquiries

For enquiries about taxi written test, please feel free to call the following numbers:

Enquiries	Contact number	
Application for driving test for Commercial vehicles	2158 5908	
Postponement and other appointment matters	2771 7723 / 2606 1676	