

Parking Certificate for Drivers Who Carry People with Mobility Disabilities

(“Parking Certificate”)

Part 1: Introduction

With an aim to further ensure that the persons with disabilities who applied to be carried have genuine needs to use the designated parking spaces and proper usage of the designated parking space, the Transport Department (“TD”) has previously conducted a comprehensive review of the application eligibility and approval criteria of the “Parking Certificates”, as well as other enhancement measures to deter the misuse of the “Parking Certificates”, and made a number of recommendations. The TD subsequently conducted a written consultation with “Parking Certificate” holders and relevant stakeholders on the proposed recommendations from January to February 2024, and meanwhile, listening to the opinions of the disabled groups. After considering the opinions raised by various stakeholders, the TD will implement the following application eligibility and approval criteria for “Parking Certificates”, and strengthen the measures against various forms of misuse of “Parking Certificates”, starting from **1 April 2025** (“Implementation Date”).

Part 2: Updated application eligibility and approval criteria starting from the Implementation Date

(A) Transition arrangements and points to note for the transitional period between the present and the Implementation Date

1. Prior to the Implementation Date, applicants can still use the existing version of the application form. In order to work with the implementation of the new measures, the applications received before the implementation date would be handled as follows:
 - (i) If the applicant submits an application with a medical certificate issued by a doctor from the Department of Health or the HA, once approved, the validity period of the application would depend on the recommendation of the relevant doctor, but the maximum validity period approved for each application would be for three years; and
 - (ii) If the applicant submits an application with a medical certificate not issued by a doctor from the Department of Health or the HA, once approved, the validity period of the application would be adjusted to no more than 12 months.
2. New applications and renewal applications for “Parking Certificate” received by the TD from the implementation date would be processed according to the new application eligibility and approval criteria. The new version of the application form and “Notes to Help You” would be uploaded to TD’s website on 2 January 2025.

3. If the applicant plans to submit an application after the Implementation Date, he/she has to use the new version of the application form. Depending on his/her own circumstances, the person to be carried should arrange to visit a hospital or clinic under the Department of Health or the HA as soon as possible and obtain a medical certificate issued by a doctor from the Department of Health or the HA. The template of the medical certificate would be simultaneously uploaded to the TD's website on 2 January 2025 for reference.
4. For renewal application for the "Parking Certificate" after the Implementation Date, if the person to be carried is unable to provide a medical certificate issued by a doctor from the Department of Health or the HA, while he/she has a relevant document that shows he/she **is waiting for** a medical treatment/re-examination by the Department of Health and the HA, the TD may exercise its discretion to consider extending the validity date of the "Parking Certificate" to after the date of medical treatment/re-examination of the person to be carried.

(B) Revised application eligibility and approval criteria

Item	New Measures
1. Definition and responsibilities of "Parking Certificate" holders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The applicant holds the "Parking Certificate" is jointly held by the applicant and the person with lower limb mobility disabilities ("persons to be carried") (i.e. both of them are holders of the "Parking Certificate") and they must comply with the approval conditions of the "Parking Certificate". ▪ If misuse is observed, i.e. the registered vehicle is found to have violated the approval conditions of the "Parking Certificate" in the future, the TD will consider cancelling the "Parking Certificate", and will notify the police and change the validity status of the relevant "Parking Certificate" to "Expired" in the database. ▪ In addition, the TD will not process applications for "Parking Certificate" (whether submitted by the registered vehicle owner and the person to be carried jointly or by only one of them) for a period ranging from 12 to 36 months, according to the cancellation records of the "Parking Certificate" of relevant holders (i.e. registered vehicle owners and the person to be carried) starting from the Implementation Date of the new measures. Please refer to the second item of Part 3 for details on the new measures to deter the misuse of the "Parking Certificates".
2. Application eligibility	<p><u>Medical Certificate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The person to be carried must be a person certified by a doctor of the Department of Health or the Hospital

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	<p>Authority (“HA”) to be suffering from a disease or physical disability that causes him/her considerable difficulty in walking. The relevant medical certificate must be issued within six months before the date of application, with an assessment of the likely duration of their disabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If the person to be carried is assessed as having a permanent lower limb disability by the doctor from the Department of Health or the HA, he/she will be exempted from submitting relevant certificates when applying for renewal, unless otherwise required by the TD. <p><u>Applicants of the “Parking Certificate”</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Applicants of the “Parking Certificates” must be the registered owner of the vehicle and the application for “Parking Certificate” must be submitted jointly by the registered vehicle owner and the person to be carried. ▪ The applicant (registered vehicle owner) must be a relative of the person to be carried. If the applied vehicle is owned by a company, the relevant applicant (i.e. the authorised shareholder of the company) must be a relative of the person to be carried and a shareholder of the relevant company. ▪ If the applicant is not a relative of the person to be carried (e.g. a friend), the applicant is required to provide relevant justifications and supporting documents to the TD.
3. Approval criteria for vehicle types applied for registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The TD will only accept private car and light goods vehicle as registered vehicles for the “Parking Certificate”, given that the private car does not hold a hire car permit for the purpose of carriage of passengers for reward, and the light good vehicle is the only vehicle owned by the applicant or the person to be carried. ▪ When applying for new or renewal of the “Parking Certificate”, except the application form and medical certificate, the applicant will also be required to submit photograph(s) of the vehicle. ▪ If the vehicle is a light goods vehicle or other special types of private car (i.e. off-road vehicles, sports cars etc.), the applicant must submit a video to prove that the vehicle to be used is suitable for carrying persons to be carried.
4. Approval criteria for the number of vehicles applied for registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each “Parking Certificate” (either in paper or electronic form) must not be used for any vehicles other than the registered vehicle and must not be used by more than one vehicle at the same time.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generally, each “Parking Certificates” only allows registration of one vehicle for carrying the person to be carried. The TD will only approve registration of up to three vehicles at its discretion under very special circumstances with sufficient justification and relevant supporting documents.
<p>5. Adding personal information of the holders on the inner pages of the “Parking Certificate” and adding anti-counterfeiting features</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For “Parking Certificates” issued from the Implementation Date by the TD, the names of the “Parking Certificate” holders (i.e. the applicant and the person to be carried) and the first four characters of their ID card numbers will be added on the inner pages. ▪ Anti-counterfeiting feature (i.e. windowed metallic thread) will be added to the paper-form “Parking Certificate”.

Part 3: Updated procedures for handling cases of misuse and measures to deter the misuse of the “Parking Certificates” from the Implementation Date

Item	New Measures
<p>1. Procedures for handling cases of misuse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ After review, if the “Parking Certificate” is found to have been misused, the TD will issue a warning letter to the holders and strongly remind them that they must strictly comply with the conditions of use. ▪ Whether the “Parking Certificate” is considered “to be misused again” is calculated based on the number of misuses in the use of on-street parking spaces designated for the disabled (“designated parking spaces”). In other words, if the “Parking Certificate” is found to be misused again on the same day, the TD will consider cancelling the “Parking Certificate”. ▪ When handling suspected cases of misuses with no reply to the TD, the TD will regard the “Parking Certificate” holder as giving up his/her defense and consider treating it as a misuse given the specific circumstances of the case.
<p>2. Strengthening measures to deter various forms of misuse of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The past misuse records of the holders and the person to be carried will be retained after the Implementation Date. ▪ If the “Parking Certificate” is proven to have been misused twice within three years, the TD will consider cancelling the “Parking Certificate”. The TD will notify the holders of the

Item	New Measures		
<p>“Parking Certificates”</p>	<p>cancellation of their certificate in writing by registered post and by E-Contact Means (i.e. a mobile phone that receives SMS or email). The holder shall surrender the cancelled “Parking Certificate” to the TD within five working days upon receipt of the letter notifying the cancellation of the “Parking Certificate”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After expiry of the specified deadline for surrender of the “Parking Certificate”, the TD will notify the police that the Parking Certificate concerned is cancelled. In addition, the TD will not process the application for “Parking Certificate” (whether submitted by the registered vehicle owner and the person to be carried jointly or by only one of them) for a period ranging from 12 to 36 months, depending on their cancellation records of “Parking Certificate” starting from the Implementation Date. Details are as follows: 		
	Number of cancellation records	Whether “Parking Certificate” is returned to the TD	Penalty
	First time	The holder should return the cancelled certificate and if the holder <u>return</u> it to the TD	Applications submitted by the holders in the following 12 months after the date of return of the certificate will not be processed
		The holder should return the cancelled certificate and if the holder <u>fail to return</u> it to the TD	Applications submitted by the holder within the following 24 months after the expiry date of the original “Parking Certificate” will not be processed
Second times or above	The holder must return the Parking Certificate. In order to strengthen the deterrent against misuses of the “Parking Certificates”, the penalties will be strengthened	Applications submitted by the holders within the following 36 months after the date of return of the “Parking Certificate” or the expiry date of the original “Parking Certificate” will not be processed, whichever date is earlier	

Item	New Measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="511 142 1458 384">▪ When processing a renewal application, if the holders have misuse records in the past three years before the expiry date of the “Parking Certificate”, validity period of the “Parking Certificate” approved by the TD will be no more than one year, in order to strengthen the monitoring on the use of the “Parking Certificate” by the holders. <li data-bbox="511 390 1458 758">▪ If the holders are found using the on-street parking spaces for the disabled for commercial purposes, including for the purpose of loading/unloading goods, carriage of passengers for reward, or other commercial purposes, the TD will cancel the “Parking Certificate” without prior warning. Applications submitted by the holder within the following 36 months after the date of return of the “Parking Certificate” or the expiry date of the original “Parking Certificate” will not be processed, whichever date is earlier.