



Mandatory reporting of medical conditions

Frequently Asked Questions

This information is related to all driver licence holders in Western Australia. It provides responses to frequently asked questions related to mandatory reporting of medical conditions.

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1. What is Mandatory Reporting of medical conditions?

Mandatory Reporting of medical conditions is the legislative requirement of all licence holders to notify the Department of any long term or permanent medical condition they suffer from, if they haven't previously notified the Department.

2. Why is medical mandatory reporting legislation in place in Western Australia?

On 17 March 2008, Western Australia implemented the mandatory reporting of long term or permanent medical condition process which is a road safety initiative. The legislation was put in place due to recommendations made from a Coroner's inquest into the death

of a WA driver. The death occurred when a Driver who was suffering from a medical condition which impaired their ability to drive, caused a traffic accident.

3. What constitutes a medical condition?

Any physical disability or mental disorder that is likely to impair a person's ability to control a motor vehicle is what is referred to as a permanent or long term medical condition.

A range of medical conditions, as well as certain treatments, may impair a person's ability to undertake the complex task of driving a motor vehicle. These conditions may impair the driver's perception, judgement, response time and reasonable physical capability.

Some examples of conditions that do need to be reported are provided on our website www.transport.wa.gov.au/licensing (refer to the 'Driver Licences' section).

4. I already do medicals for my driver's licence. Am I still required to advise Department of my medical condition?

No, if you have already notified the Department in the past of your medical condition, you don't have to notify the Department again.

5. I did a medical assessment for my driver's licence previously; do I have to do another one?

If you have already notified the Department in the past of your medical condition and completed a **Medical Assessment Form (M107A)** a **Senior's Declaration Form (M108A)** with your medical practitioner, you will not be required to notify the Department again.

If you are currently required to undertake regular medical assessments with your medical practitioner as a condition of holding a driver's licence, these assessments will continue.

The new Mandatory Reporting requirements will not have any affect on any scheduled assessments you may already have or require in the future.

6. Should I report a medical condition even if I have not experienced any symptoms for some time?

Yes. You are required to inform the Department whether you have a long term medical condition that may affect your driving even if the symptoms are under control. In many instances, upon a health professional's advice, you would most likely be able to continue driving, but it is important that the information has been reported.

7. I only have a vehicle licensed in my name but not a current or valid licence. Do I still need to report a medical condition?

No, only valid Western Australian Driver licence holders need to report.

8. Do I need to complete the form if I have no medical condition to report?

No.

9. I have only just recently completed a medical assessment for the Department; do I need to complete this form?

If your condition or treatment has changed, since then, yes.

10. How will my insurance be affected if I don't report my condition and have an accident?

There may be ramifications however you will need to check with your individual private insurance company.

11. Will the Department provide the information to insurance companies?

No information is given to insurance companies or third parties.

12. Will this make insurance premiums higher?

You will need to check with your individual private insurance company.

13. Will I have to provide updates every year?

Updates are required when there has been a change in your previously notified condition or treatment. It may or may not be a period of 1 year. Regular medical reviews or assessments may be requested by the Department.

14. I'm not sure if my medical condition is reportable?

Please call **1300 852 722** or see your doctor to find out?

15. I need to wear glasses or contact lenses for driving; do I have to tell the Department?

Yes, you are required to advise of your need to wear suitable visual aids whilst driving, if you have not previously notified the Department. These details will then be updated on your driver's licence.

16. When I report my medical condition, how will my licence be affected?

How your licence is affected by the declaration of your medical condition depends on the condition itself and the action taken by the Department in determining your fitness to hold a driver's licence.

You may be asked to:

- Undertake a medical assessment with your health professional, or
- Undertake a practical driving assessment, or
- Your licence may be amended requiring you to only drive under certain circumstances, or
- Your licence may not be affected at all.

The Department will notify you in writing of the status of your licence.

17. How can I manage my driving if I have a medical condition?

Your health professional may suggest limitations or restrictions to your driving, such as:

- Daylight driving only

- Driving an automatic car only
- To take medication as prescribed
- Wear suitable visual aids whilst driving.

This acknowledges you are still medically fit to drive - but under certain conditions. In this situation, the Department will condition your licence and you will need to drive according to the restrictions or limitations that have been imposed.

18. How long will my licence be subject to conditions?

It depends on your medical condition and how long it needs to be monitored. This decision will be reviewed if the Department receives advice from your medical practitioner as to the status of your condition.

Prior to the renewal of your driver's licence, you may be required to undergo a medical assessment of your fitness to drive.

19. Who is a health professional?

A health professional can include such people as a:

- Doctor
- Specialist
- Occupational therapist
- Physiotherapist.

These people are qualified to check if you are medically fit to drive. If required, they will complete a medical certificate reporting on your fitness to drive and send it to the Department.

20. What will happen if I don't notify the Department?

It is an offence not to notify the Department of your medical condition, and the penalty for committing this offence is \$500.00.

21. Will I lose my licence?

It is possible, however this is not the case in most instances.