

EARLY NOTICE – WAV16 WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE GRANT SCHEME 2016



The Authority has received news that funding will be made available for a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) Grant Scheme to open next April to continue to encourage the wider availability of wheelchair accessible vehicles in Ireland's fleet. This Grant Scheme, WAV16, offers disability awareness training, together with financial assistance of up to €10,000 (depending on vehicle age) to purchase a WAV. Assistance can be for new licences, existing accessible licences or standard taxi licence holders looking to exchange to a WAT. All application forms, terms and conditions will be uploaded to the Authority's website on Friday, 1 April 2016.

WAV16 applications must be received by the National Transport Authority before Friday 28 October 2016. The vehicle must have successfully passed its inspection by 30 November 2016 to qualify for the grant and the proposed driver must have successfully completed the free Authority Disability Awareness Training course to receive funding under the Scheme. Applications will be dealt with on a first received basis. Therefore, those who submit applications later in the application period

(1 April – 28 October 2016) will have a shorter window to complete the process.

In 2014 and 2015, similar Grant Schemes issued 128 and 153 grants respectively.

New Vehicle (less than 3,000km and 3 months old)	€10,000
Vehicle less than one year of age	€8,000
Vehicle less than two years of age	€6,500
Vehicle less than three years of age	€5,000
Vehicle less than four years of age	€4,000
Vehicle less than five years of age	€3,500
Vehicle less than six years of age	€3,000

WAV16 details will be available on our website on 1 April.

DON'T LET YOUR SPSV LICENCE DIE WITH YOU



SPSV licence "transfers" are not possible during your lifetime under SPSV legislation or through a will. However, you may have noticed the "Section 15 Nomination" form, included with all booking confirmations and mentioned on all booking calls over the last year, as part of our campaign inviting you to nominate any person over 18 to receive the right to apply to operate your vehicle licence after your death. By submitting this S15N form to the Authority now, you register your nomination free of charge. Your chosen nominee must apply to the Authority, within the 9 months following your death, to operate your licence either directly or via rental agreement with another. If your nominated representative changes for any reason just send us in an updated form. You can download the S15N form from the "Forms and Guides" section of our website, together with the G15 information Guide for full details.

REVENUE TAX CLEARANCE CHANGES

– eTAX CLEARANCE



To operate as a licence holder you must be tax cleared. Revenue introduced a key change to their tax clearance process in December, eliminating paper tax clearance certificates and introducing online electronic tax clearance (eTax). All applications for tax clearance must be made through the new Revenue eTax Clearance system which is accessible through Revenue's ROS or myAccount websites.

The Authority will continue to check your tax status directly with Revenue as part of the **Vehicle Licencing process**.

For the **Driver Licencing process**, An Garda Síochána advises that all applicants must provide their Tax Clearance Access Number and a printout of their online eTax Clearance Certificate, with all applications.

Driver Licence renewal applications must be submitted to An Garda Síochána on Form PSV 18, accompanied by the following:

- Driving Licence;
- Receipt of payment from National Transport Authority;
- Three (3) portrait size photographs; and
- Printed copy of online eTax Clearance Certificate.

No paper tax certificates will be posted to applicants. Instead the online eTax Clearance Certificate will show a PPSN/Reference Number and Tax Clearance Access Number; both of which should be provided to An Garda Síochána to verify tax clearance. Applicants can print the screen results from the computer and attach that copy of the eTax Clearance Certificate to the application for a SPSV Driver Licence.

See Revenue's summary guide to the new application process, real-time assessment, electronic output and on-going review of tax clearance at www.revenue.ie/en/online/etax-clearance-taxi-drivers.pdf

EMAIL



When you are registering for eTax why not ensure that your email address is correct with the Authority too? It is important that licence holders provide the Authority with their up to date email address to receive renewal reminders, licence activity, news and legal changes.

Please contact the Information Line on 0761 064 000 or taxis@nationaltransport.ie to update your email to ensure you do not miss out on important news and notifications.

ADVANCE WARNING

1916 COMMEMORATIONS

24 MARCH TO 29 MARCH 2016

ÉIRE | 1916
IRELAND | 2016

Year long, nationwide 1916 Commemorations are being organised by the Department of the Taoiseach, centred in Dublin's O'Connell Street, on the Easter Bank Holiday Weekend. See the full year of plans for your county here <http://www.ireland.ie/events/download-your-full-county-plan>

These commemorations, including parades and public activities throughout Ireland, are expected to attract up to a million people, with a State Ceremonial Parade in Dublin City Centre on Easter Sunday and RTÉ presenting "Reflecting the Rising", the biggest public history event that has ever been staged in this country, on Easter Monday.

There will be a large number of city centre road closures, throughout Dublin in particular, over the Easter Bank Holiday Weekend. For further information on traffic management and alternative route plans, closer to the time, please visit the following websites: www.1916.rte.ie, www.Ireland.ie, www.garda.ie and www.dublincity.ie.

INSPECTIONS



In 2015, 93% of all licences were successfully renewed at their first inspection, while 7% resulted in a fail. Some easily rectified common fail items include:

- **Insurance**
Forgetting the insurance certificate, the wrong car or driver insured, insurance out of date or no SPSV use specified still cause a large amount of failed vehicle inspections. Please carefully check that the original insurance certificate that you bring to the inspection centre is correct and save the cost of a retest.
- **Vehicle safety equipment**
The required DIN13164 standard first aid is available for under €18 and has an expiry date

of 4-5 years. Ensure your fire extinguisher and first aid kit are complete and in date to avoid vehicle inspection fails and on the spot fines.

- **Vehicle condition**
Torn and dirty upholstery or poor exterior paint, together with unpleasant odours will result in a fail. The "Licence Renewal Assessment Manual" on our website outlines the inspection criteria and process.
- **Advertising**
Keep the advertising on rear doors within the regulated sign/advertisement limits (maximum size 1600cm²) and only use the prescribed credit card symbol to avoid a fail at inspection.

2015...

27,440
active driver
licences

21,146
active SPSV
licences

11,760
roadside
compliance
audits completed

4,855
average vehicle
compliance
checks completed
per month

253
prosecutions by
the Authority-
92.5% success rate

692
fixed payment
notices issued

928
customer
complaints
received

99
unlicensed drivers/
vehicle owners
prosecuted by the
Authority

SPSV ONLINE NOTIFICATIONS REMAIN COMPLIANT OR PAY THE PRICE



The largest, single offence within the Fixed Payment Notices, and also the greatest volume of offences that were prosecuted, related to the "failure to notify the Authority of the small public service vehicle being operated". This requirement, commonly known as the 'driver link notification', represented almost 40% of all Fixed Payment Notices issued and over 43% of all cases prosecuted at court.

The introduction of SPSV Online Services in late 2015 has made the creation and maintaining of a 'driver to vehicle link' more straightforward and therefore complying with this requirement has become simpler. As compliance becomes easier, 2016 should see a fall in the number of operators failing to meet this requirement. In April 2016, the Authority's compliance team will focus upon the 'driver to vehicle link' to ensure that compliance rates remain high. Those operators who are found to be operating whilst not having an active and accurate 'link', will be issued with a Fixed Payment Notice of €40.

SPSV ONLINE SERVICES DRIVER LINK NOTIFICATIONS



SPSV
Industry App



Driver Check
App

The Authority maintains an electronic database of links between each licensed SPSV and its current licensed driver. It is the driver's legal responsibility to ensure that this information is constantly up to date. The driver does this by informing the Authority whenever they start driving a different vehicle. This information feeds to the **Driver Check App** used by the public to ensure that the vehicle and driver they intend to use are licensed and registered with the Authority.

SPSV Online Services is a new web-based service that provides a simpler and better way to link yourself to a vehicle and now to view your history, with intuitive screens and a full history of all links created, changed or broken. Notifications of link changes will be sent

to both affected drivers and vehicle licence holders. Another new feature will allow you to view and print copies of your notifications directly from the web.

Current users: Download the software update when requested. Driver links will now be responsive to licensing changes, for example, you will need to create a new link if you change the vehicle on your licence or if your driver licence expires. You use the same email address and password at log in - just add your driver licence number.

New Users: Call 0761 064 000 or email taxis@nationaltransport.ie to receive your NTA Account Registration Number and be talked through the process.



4 ways to comply with this legal requirement

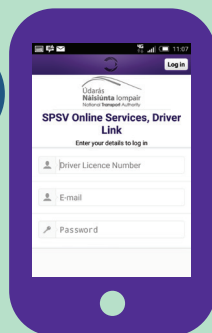
SPSV Online Services

1



SPSV online
<https://spsvonline.nationaltransport.ie>

2



**SPSV
Industry App**
Download free from
iTunes and Android
app stores

3

Text
51444

4

**SPSV Information
Line** 0761 064 000

New SPSV Online Services Benefits



No change to your current username, password or links. Just add your driver licence number



Get notified when links are made, broken or changed



View full history of all links and notifications



Keep your information up-to-date on the public facing Driver Check App



Responsive to licensing changes



Update your personal contact details yourself



Easier to use and navigate