

July 4, 2007

Vehicle Capacity “Bands”

The Passenger Transportation Board sets vehicle capacity as a term and condition of licence for passenger directed vehicles. The Board is establishing vehicle capacity bands that would apply to particular types of passenger services. Licences would state vehicle capacity as a band rather than a specific number. This will give licensees more flexibility in fleet management. Licensees would only need to submit applications to amend fleet capacity if they want to use a vehicle with a capacity that is outside their band. The bands are as follows:

Band	Range of Passenger Capacity (not including drivers)	Types of Vehicles that fall into this Band (these labels are for easy reference only)
T	<u>2 – 7</u> e.g. Vehicles can accommodate a driver and not more than 7 passengers.	<u>Taxis</u> Vehicle operations would be classified as a taxicab if licensees: a) Charge metered rates and have Board authorization to use a taxi meter, or b) Charge non-metered rates and have a licence that contains express authorization to use a top light or pick up hails and flags from the street, and operate one or more vehicles that carry no more than 7 passengers.
SL	<u>3 – 5</u> e.g. Any vehicle that can accommodate a driver and not less than 3 and not more than 5 passengers must be a <i>sedan limousine</i> .	<u>Sedan Limousines</u> Vehicles must bear a National Safety Mark or Compliance Label as a passenger car under the Canada Motor Safety Act that has 4 passenger doors, a closed body and a wheel base of not less than 113 inches (287.02 cm).
LV	<u>6 – 11</u> e.g. Vehicles can accommodate a driver and not less than 6 passengers and not more than 11 passengers.	<u>Large Passenger Directed Vehicles</u> E.g. Limousines, larger passenger vans, sport utility vehicles, etc.
M	<u>1-2</u> e.g. Vehicles can accommodate a driver and not more than 2 passengers	<u>Motorcycles</u> Vehicle must be a motorcycle as defined by the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i>

Implementation

New Applicants

All applications summaries will state vehicle capacity in terms of vehicle banding and, if approved, terms and conditions of licence will state vehicle capacity in terms of banding.

Any applications approved after the effective date of this policy will state vehicle capacity in terms of banding.

Existing Licensees

Existing licensees who want to take advantage of the banding policy must submit a "PDV Vehicle Banding Request Form" to the Passenger Transportation Board office in Victoria. This form is available on the Board's website at www.ptboard.bc.ca Click "information". There is no fee associated with this form.

The Board will review the form and the current conditions of licence of a licensee. If the request is approved, the Board will complete a "PDV Banding Direction to Registrar" sheet which will direct the Registrar to amend a licensee's terms and condition of licence to reflect the banding policy as it applies to a licensee's current condition of licence. This sheet will be sent to the licensee and the Registrar.

For 90-95% of licensees, this should be a straight forward process. However, for 5-10% of licensees, the process may be more complex or not appropriate. This can be determined upon submission of a PDV Banding Request Form and discussion with Board staff.

If approved, the new condition of licence will be effective immediately. A new licence will only be issued at time of (a) licence renewal or (b) issuance of a new licence pursuant to a transfer or amendment application.

This policy is to give flexibility, within current conditions of licence, to licensees with respect to vehicle capacity. It will not:

- Increase maximum fleet size
- Increase the number of sedan limousines that may be operated if this is limited under current conditions of licence
- Enable limousines to become taxis or taxis to become limousines.

The Board's Policy Guideline on "Eco-friendly Taxis" continues to apply to any new or additional vehicle taxi applications approved in the GVRD or CRD.

The effective date for this policy is **July 5, 2007**