

Fact Sheet: Driver licence suspensions for repeated passenger transport offences

Fines and sanctions apply to drivers, operators and booking entities if they commit offences under the personalised transport reform framework. Alongside monetary fines, this may also include the <u>suspension</u> of your Queensland driver licence, meaning you cannot drive any vehicle on a Queensland road.

What is it?

If a personalised transport driver or operator commits multiple or repeated offences, the person's Queensland driver licence, or authority to drive on Queensland roads may be suspended. The suspension period may vary, depending on the driver's traffic history. These periods are outlined in section 91ZJ of the *Transport Operations Passenger Transport Act 1994* (TOPTA).

What are the penalties for committing repeated passenger transport offences?

If a person commits <u>three</u> offences from the list identified below within a period of three yearsⁱ, their driver licence will be suspended for one month. If the person has previously served a TOPTA driver licence suspension, then their driver licence will be suspended for three months.

This sanction cannot be appealed or reconsidered and the person is not able to apply for a Special Hardship Order or other option to avoid the sanction.

TOPTA Section	Description
27(1)	Driver provides unauthorised public passenger service
74 (1)(a)	Driver provides taxi service when not using a taxi
74 (1)(b)	Provide taxi service when not using a taxi (not driver)
74(2)(a)	Ply/stand vehicle for hire when not using taxi
75(2)(a)	Driver provides booked hire service and starts journey in declared Taxi Service Area
75(2)(b)	Provide booked hire service and start journey in declared Taxi Service Area (not driver)
76(1)(a)	Driver provides booked hire service not using a booked hire vehicle, taxi or limo
76(1)(b)	Provide booked hire service not using a booked hire vehicle, taxi or limousine (not driver)
77(1)(a)	Driver not in taxi provides booked hire service through fixed booking device
77(1)(b)	Provide booked hire service (not in taxi) using fixed booking device (not driver)
78(2)	Driver provides booked hire service without authorised booking
82(1)	Driver provides booked hire service while not carrying booking record
82(3)	Driver does not produce booking record or allow authorised person to enter vehicle
182 ⁱⁱ	Stop in a taxi zone while providing booked hire service



How will you be informed?

A <u>courtesy letter</u> (*Courtesy Notice – Driving Sanction for Passenger Transport Offences - F5215*) will be sent if you commit two of the specified offences, advising that your driver licence may be suspended if you commit another offence listed above. If you have a postal address nominated with the department, any notices will be sent there. If there is no nominated postal address, notices will be sent to your residential address.

If you commit another relevant offence, your driver licence may be suspended and a <u>notice</u> (Notice of Driver Licence Suspension for Passenger Transport Offences- F5216) will be sent to you advising of the dates of the suspension period.

What happens if your driver licence is suspended?

During the suspension period you <u>must not</u> drive a vehicle (including a private vehicle or a personalised transport vehicle), as you may be charged with unlicensed driving and may be required to appear in court. If you do not hold a Queensland driver licence, your authority to drive in Queensland or ability to apply for a Queensland driver licence will be withdrawn for the suspension period.

What about your Industry Authority?

Once your driver licence is suspended, any industry authority you hold (for example, driver authorisation, tow truck driver certificate, dangerous goods licence etc) is also suspended for the same period. Accordingly, you must not perform your industry authority role while your driver licence is suspended. This does not apply to a tow truck assistant certificate or traffic controller accreditation.

Do you have to hand in your driver licence?

No. The sanction will automatically be removed from your licence following the end date shown on the *Notice of Driver Licence Suspension for Passenger Transport Offences (F5216)* that you will have received.

More information

- Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act 1994 (section 91ZHA)
- Queensland's Personalised Transport Horizon website
- Email personalised.transport@tmr.qld.gov.au

¹ This can include committing the same offence multiple times or different offences.

[&]quot;Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Road Rules) Regulation 2009