

Pilot vehicle driver Factsheet

February 2023

Training and qualification requirements for pilot vehicle drivers – information for operators

When is a pilot required?

The need for a pilot vehicle is determined by the level of risk in the movement of an oversize over-mass (OSOM) load. Risk factors include the size of the load, the nature of the route and the volume of traffic likely to be encountered.

What are pilot vehicle drivers required to do?

Pilot vehicle drivers are trained and certified to accompany OSOM vehicles and control traffic where necessary.

Who can be a pilot vehicle driver?

There are two levels of pilot vehicle drivers.

A Level 1 pilot vehicle driver is required to hold a valid driver licence.

A Level 2 pilot vehicle driver is known as a Certified Pilot Vehicle Driver (CPVD) and undertakes their work through what is known as CPVD authority.

Level 1 pilot vehicle drivers wishing to become a CPVD must have:

- successfully completed the required training modules;
- at least 12 months experience in piloting OSOM vehicles including a minimum 20 OSOM moves in the previous 12 months; and
- a valid driver licence.

Certified pilots interstate

Northern Territory, Queensland, Tasmania and Victoria have adopted a two-tier system where pilots have different levels of requirements and qualifications.

The table below details pilot accreditation and identifies the responsible entity who can perform the role of an escort in each jurisdiction.

What are the required training modules?

Applicants for a CPVD are required to successfully complete the following modules administered by a registered training organisation:

- TLIF 3060 Control Traffic as a Pilot Vehicle Operator
- TLIC 3010 Pilot or Escort Oversized and/or Over-massed Loads
- TLIE 3009 Use Pilot and Escort Communication
- TLIF 3013 Coordinate Breakdowns in Emergencies
- TLIB 2002 Carry out Vehicle Inspection

Keeping your CPVD authority current

CPVD are required to renew their authority every three years to ensure they are kept up to date with the latest traffic control measures.

Renewing your CPVD authority requires:

- documented evidence of having refreshed your TLIF3060 competency; and
- documented evidence of having undertaken a minimum 40 oversize load movements during the preceding three years.



State/ territory	Pilot		Escort
	Level 1	Level 2	
ACT	Nil Accreditation		Police
NSW	Nil Accreditation		Police
NT	No	Yes	NT Accredited Oversize Escort Operator or Police
QLD	Yes	Yes	Level 2 Escort Vehicle Driver or Police
SA	Nil Accreditation		Police
TAS	No	Yes	Transport Safety Services or Police
VIC	No	Yes	Safety Compliance Officers (SCO)
WA	Yes		Traffic Escort Warden

Pilots and escort drivers are required to maintain a valid license or certification, as specified by your state or territory.

If you are a pilot or escort driver working interstate, it's important you understand how your license or certification is mutually recognised.

Below is an overview of requirements for pilots and escorts when operating in or visiting Victoria:

State/territory	Recognition	Requirements
Tasmania & Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Australia Northern Territory Queensland 	Level 2 pilots have mutual recognition provided they: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> hold a current qualification in their state of origin; and have successfully completed the traffic control competency within the past three years (TLIF3060 – Control traffic as a pilot vehicle operator) before they operate as a Certified Pilot in Victoria.

While the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) does not regulate pilot and escort certification, the NHVR can issue an infringement notice to the driver of an oversize vehicle for not complying with the conditions on the permit such as a certified pilot or escort.



More information at [Driver of pilot vehicles : VicRoads](#)