



## *Maitland Neighbourhood Centre Inc.*

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### **Light Rigid and Medium Rigid Drivers Licence**

Dear Stakeholder

I want to share with you the good news about some funding to assist Aboriginal people gain their Light Rigid and Medium Rigid Drivers Licence. Maitland Neighbourhood Centre is looking for some likeminded organisations who will assist at least 20 Aboriginal people across the Hunter obtain a bus/ light truck licence.

Maitland Neighbourhood Centre has heard via consultation that some people could have a better chance of employment and/or contribute more to their community if they could get some assistance with gaining a higher classification of drivers licence. Now thanks to a grant from Transport for NSW, funding is available.

The project aims to develop a pool or resource of Aboriginal people with a bus licence that will be potential drivers of buses for Community Events, Community Services and also for the Transport Industry, especially when a more culturally appropriate transport service is desired/required.

Organisations will provide appropriate cultural support.

In the past some organisations have had a bus available for use for a group trip but a suitably licensed driver could not be found. Sometimes this has resulted in a more expensive charter bus service being used. This new funding will see at least 20 Aboriginal people in the Hunter will a bus licence.

#### **What this funding can assist with:**

A capped contribution per person to assist them gain their Light Rigid Licence **or**

A capped contribution per person to assist them gain their Medium Rigid Licence and

Capped assistance to obtain a Bus Driver Passenger Transport Authority Card

**What this funding will not assist with:**

- Payment for those who are eligible for assistance from an Employment Agency to obtain a licence upgrade
- Payment of fines or identity documents
- Payment for Heavy Rigid Licence upgrades, Motor Bike Licences or any other types of licences (Learners or Provisional)

**Who this funding will assist:**

Priority for this funding will be for Aboriginal people who are experiencing financial disadvantage and/or other significant disadvantage that reduces their opportunity to successfully complete the licence upgrade without assistance.

People who are unemployed and registered with an employment agency will need to seek financial assistance from their employment agency to upgrade their licence as this funding is targeted for those who are unable to access assistance from an Employment Agency.

People who are in low income and part time/casual employment will be a priority.

The project does not aim to assist people who are full time paid employees to gain an upgrade to their licence.

**Please note: This project is for Hunter Valley Organisations only.**

## **What you as an organisation agree to provide:**

### **To Maitland Neighbourhood Centre**

Names and ages of participants

Information about type of licence gained, number of attempts made

Taxi Invoice and any other paperwork as and when requested

Feedback on trainers

Information about volunteer driver hours delivered

### **To Participants**

- Receipt for their \$50 registration fee
- Appropriate learning environment for Aboriginal people to access a computer/s to look up relevant resource material online and undertake practise tests
- Support through the process to assist with building confidence and knowledge
- Link to local group/s where volunteer driver hours may be delivered (This may be in your service, Community Transport, Community Bus, Bus Company or other)
- Booking of Driving School
- Payment of Driving School
- Payment of relevant Roads and Maritime Services Fees for participants
- Assistance with gaining Public Passenger Bus Driver Authority Card (If desired by participant)

## **What the Participant needs to provide/have:**

Their personal identification papers (existing drivers licence is appropriate)

Willingness to:

- pay a minimum of \$50 to the organisation
- Undertake study/reading of the relevant road rules book
- Practise the on line knowledge test for heavy vehicles
- Undertake driving instruction from a qualified professional driver
- Be assessed for their LR and MR licence
- Provide 15 hours volunteer driving time back to the community

## **How it works**

1. Organisations identify a number of suitable/eligible participants who may want to obtain their LR or MR licence. (Keeping in mind, the organisation may choose to support people who they believe will provide some return to them via either volunteer driver hours or paid driver hours)
2. Organisation contacts Maitland Neighbourhood Centre to confirm that funding for X number participants is available. ( A limit of 5 people per Org and/or LGA applies)
3. An agreement is made between Maitland Neighbourhood Centre and organisation for a specific number of places. (Subject to conditions being met).
4. Upon invoice from Organisation MNC will pay "Commencement Payment" of 50% to the Organisation.
5. Report provided to MNC from Organisation about participants successful completion of licence upgrade and invoice for final payment required (Maximum of 50% of initial agreed subsidy)
6. Completion payment paid by MNC to Organisation.

Payments

LR	Simple	\$400
	Complex	\$800
MR	Simple	\$400
	Complex	\$1,000

**Express your interest NOW**

**Contact Maitland Neighbourhood Centre**

## RESOURCES

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/licence/driver/tests/driver-knowledge-test.html#PracticeDKT>

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/documents/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/heavy-vehicle-driver-handbook.pdf>

You will need to refer to this handbook – in conjunction with the Road Users' Handbook – if you are taking the driving test to get your heavy vehicle driver licence, or if you are undertaking a Heavy Vehicle Competency Based Assessment (HVCBA).

You must hold a current NSW driver licence to be eligible for HVCBA . HVCBA with an RMS-accredited RTO assessor is the primary method for obtaining a heavy vehicle licence in Sydney, Central Coast and Newcastle regions.

## Current Roads and Maritime Service Fees and Charges

As at 14 MAY 2015

To undertake the LR/MR Computer Test                      \$42

Practical Test with RMS (Own vehicle)                      \$52

Heavy Vehicle Log Book    \$25

To change the conditions on your licence from  
"c" to LR or MR    \$25

### Option 1:

\$42                      Computer Test

\$25                      Log Book (This is needed when going via a driving school)

\$52                      Practical Test

\$25                      Licence condition change

**\$144                      TOTAL**

### Option 2

\$42                      Computer Test (Once passed no log book needed)

\$52                      Practical Test

\$25                      Licence condition change

**\$119                      Total**