

What you need to know

Limousine chauffeurs perform an important transportation service in Washington State. As a chauffeur, it is important for you to follow the laws and rules that regulate the services you provide.

Here are the basics of what you need to know under current limousine laws:

1 May I offer rides?

- **No.** You may not offer rides to anyone or make any other arrangements from your vehicle.
- All trips must be dispatched from your business office and not arranged through you, a hotel employee or anyone else.
- You may not ask persons on the street if they want to hire your limousine.
- Your fares must be set at the time a customer calls your office – not at the pickup point.

2 How do I pick up customers?

- Park legally.
- Be professional and courteous.
- Don't wait in taxi zones or obstruct disabled parking.
- Don't park and leave your vehicle in a designated "passenger load zone" or overstay the time limit.
- Don't bother customers or other drivers.
- Don't touch any person or their luggage without permission.
- Don't block pedestrians.

- Don't stand at the doorways to businesses so that people must walk around you.
- Don't call yourself a taxi, or provide taxi service if you are licensed as a limousine.

3 Am I qualified?

You must:

- be at least 21 years old.
- have a valid WA State driver's license.
- complete and pass a training course approved by the Department of Licensing.
- successfully complete a Washington State Patrol background check.
- submit a physician's medical certification. File it with your business and renew it every three years.
- not have been convicted of vehicular homicide, vehicular assault or any other relevant offense.

4 What do I need to have with me?

The vehicle must have:

- the valid limousine vehicle certificate and sticker.
- proof of required insurance.
- the vehicle registration.
- special needs certificate and documentation, if the vehicle is not owned by your company.

5 Where do I find limousine laws and rules?

- **Department of Licensing:** You can find the Washington State limousine laws and rules on-line at: dol.wa.gov/business/limousine. You may also request a copy of “The Laws Relating to Limousine Carriers” by calling 360-664-1414, or email mls@dol.wa.gov.

6 What are the consequences for not following these laws?

- For violating limousine laws and rules, you, and your carrier could be subject to fines of \$500 to \$5,000 for each infraction, as well as additional penalties such as license revocation.

7 Does Seattle/Tacoma Airport have additional regulations?

- **Yes.** The Port of Seattle assumes regulatory authority for limousine services at SeaTac Airport. In addition to licensing requirements of the State, the Port has its own regulations and requires chauffeurs to obtain a for-hire driver credential to operate at SeaTac Airport.
- Port of Seattle requirements may be found at the Ground Transportation Information Booth at SeaTac Airport, or by calling 206-787-5906 and requesting the most current regulations and applications.

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

Limousine Laws for Chauffeurs



The Department of Licensing has a policy of providing equal access to its services. If you need special accommodation, please call (360) 664-1389 or TTY (360) 664-0116.

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