

Denver, Colorado, Code of Ordinances >> TITLE II - REVISED MUNICIPAL CODE >> **Chapter 55 - TRANSPORTATION AND MOTOR VEHICLES; SALES AND SERVICE >> ARTICLE II. - VEHICLES FOR HIRE >> DIVISION 2. DRIVER'S LICENSE >>**

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**DIVISION 2. DRIVER'S LICENSE** [\[3\]](#)

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[Sec. 55-41. Required.](#)

[Sec. 55-42. Fees.](#)

[Sec. 55-43. Qualifications.](#)

[Sec. 55-44. Examination of applicant.](#)

[Sec. 55-45. Photograph of driver.](#)

[Sec. 55-46. Investigation.](#)

[Sec. 55-47. Effect of previous criminal record.](#)

[Sec. 55-48. Issuance; to be carried on person.](#)

[Sec. 55-49. Defacement prohibited.](#)

[Sec. 55-50. Identification card.](#)

[Sec. 55-51. Expiration and renewal.](#)

[Sec. 55-52. Revocation or suspension.](#)

[Sec. 55-53. Hearing for reissuance.](#)

[Secs. 55-54—55-60. Reserved.](#)

### **Sec. 55-41. Required.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or be permitted to drive a vehicle for hire on the streets of the city for business purposes unless such person is properly licensed by the director of excise and licenses.

(Code 1950, § 424.4; Ord. No. 618-89, § 6, 10-16-89)

### **Sec. 55-42. Fees.**

Application and license fees under this division are prescribed in [section 32-119](#).

(Code 1950, § 424.15)

### **Sec. 55-43. Qualifications.**

No license shall be issued under this division unless the applicant shall:

- (1) *Age*. Be of the age of eighteen (18) years or over.
- (2) *Physical condition*. Be found, upon physical examination, to be of sound physique, with good eyesight and not subject to epilepsy, vertigo, heart trouble or any other infirmity of body or mind which might render the applicant unfit for the safe operation of a taxicab.
- (3) *Literate*. Be able to speak, read and write in the English language.
- (4) *Appearance and habit*. Be clean in dress and person and not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors or drugs.
- (5) *Character*. Produce, on forms to be provided by the director of excise and licenses,

affidavits of good character from two (2) reputable persons who have known the applicant personally during two (2) years next preceding the date of the application, and a further testimonial, on a form provided for that purpose, from the last employer, unless, in the estimation of the director, sufficient reason is given for its omission.

- (6) *Signed and sworn forms.* Fill out, upon a blank form to be provided by the director of excise and licenses, a statement giving full name, residence, place of residence for eight (8) years previous to moving to the present address, age, color, height, color of eyes and hair, place of birth, length of time the applicant has resided in the city, whether a citizen of the United States, places of previous employment, whether married or single, whether the applicant has ever been arrested for, charged with or convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, and, if so, the circumstances thereof, whether the applicant has previously been licensed as a driver or chauffeur, and, if so, whether a license has ever been revoked and for what cause, which statement shall be signed and sworn to by the applicant and filed by the director as a permanent record.

(Code 1950, § 424.4)

### **Sec. 55-44. Examination of applicant.**

Every applicant for a driver's license under this article shall be examined by the director of excise and licenses as to skill and ability to operate a vehicle for hire, knowledge of the provisions covering the operation of vehicles for hire and other motor vehicles, and general knowledge of the streets and public places and institutions of the city.

(Code 1950, § 424.5; Ord. No. 618-89, § 7, 10-16-89)

### **Sec. 55-45. Photograph of driver.**

- (a) Each applicant for a driver's license must file with the application two (2) photographs of the applicant, taken within three (3) months, of a size which may be easily attached to the license, one (1) of which shall be attached to the license if and when issued and the other filed with the application to the director of excise and licenses.
- (b) The photograph shall be so attached to the license that it cannot be removed and another photograph substituted without detection.
- (c) Each licensed driver shall, upon demand of an inspector of license, a police officer or a passenger, exhibit the license and photograph for inspection.

(Code 1950, § 424.6)

### **Sec. 55-46. Investigation.**

- (a) The director of excise and licenses may make such investigation of each applicant as in the director's judgment may be appropriate to determine the record of such applicant, for law abiding behavior, attendance to duties, competence as a driver and trustworthiness.
- (b) Pending such investigation, the director of excise and licenses may issue a temporary driver's license for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.
- (c) In passing upon any application for a driver's license, the director of excise and licenses may, at the director's discretion, require the applicant to be fingerprinted and photographed.

(Code 1950, § 424.7)

### **Sec. 55-47. Effect of previous criminal record.**

- (a) No driver's license shall be issued to any applicant who has been convicted of a felony or

been an inmate of a reform school or penitentiary as a result of a conviction for a felony within five (5) years prior to the application for such license except that if the applicant shall have received a pardon or been placed on probation, the director of excise and licenses may, at the director's discretion, issue the license if all other provisions of this section are fully complied with.

- (b) Where such conviction has been prior to five (5) years preceding the application, a license may be issued to such applicant if in the judgment of the director of excise and licenses the applicant has since release conducted himself/herself as a law abiding person, and may be safely entrusted with the responsibility of transporting members of the public in a taxicab.
- (c) The director of excise and licenses may refuse to issue a license to any applicant whose police record shows convictions for drunkenness, repeated moving traffic violations, or for any other good and just cause, which, in the opinion of the director, would be inimical to the public health, safety or morals.

*(Code 1950, § 424.8)*

### **Sec. 55-48. Issuance; to be carried on person.**

Upon satisfactory fulfillment of the requirements of this division, there shall be issued to the applicant a license which the applicant shall carry at all times.

*(Code 1950, § 424.9-1)*

### **Sec. 55-49. Defacement prohibited.**

Any licensee who defaces, removes or obliterates any official entry made upon the license shall be punished by the revocation of the license.

*(Code 1950, § 424.9-2)*

### **Sec. 55-50. Identification card.**

In addition to the license provided for in this division, the licensee shall be furnished with an identification card, the content and form of which shall be determined by the director of excise and licenses. Such identification card must be continuously displayed within the vehicle for hire operated by the licensee so as to be easily visible to the passengers thereof. In the event of defacement or removal of the card, the licensee shall make prompt application to the director for a replacement.

*(Code 1950, § 424.10; Ord. No. 618-89, § 8, 10-16-89)*

### **Sec. 55-51. Expiration and renewal.**

All drivers' licenses shall expire on December thirty-first of each year unless sooner revoked, but upon receipt on or before that date of the annual license fee herein provided, the director of excise and licenses may renew a driver's license from year to year by appropriate endorsement thereon. A driver, in applying for a renewal of a license, shall make such application upon a form to be furnished by the director. Upon receipt of such renewal application, the director may require an examination and investigation as provided herein.

*(Code 1950, § 424.11)*

### **Sec. 55-52. Revocation or suspension.**

- (a) Drivers' licenses may be revoked for the conviction of any criminal statute; any provisions of this article or other city ordinance, state or federal law relative to the sale, possession or delivery of intoxicating liquor or drugs; drunk or reckless driving, regardless of whether the driver at the time of the commission of the offense was on duty or not.
- (b) Such license may be suspended or revoked if the licensee is found guilty of repeated moving traffic violations while driving a vehicle for hire.
- (c) Drivers licenses may be suspended or revoked at any time by the director of excise and licenses for other good cause shown; and summarily for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, pending inquiry or investigation of alleged violation of this article.
- (d) Upon the final conviction of any licensee for the violation of any provision of law or ordinance while on duty or driving a vehicle for hire, the director of excise and licenses may revoke or suspend the license.
- (e) Any suspension or revocation shall be noted on the driver's record, together with a statement of the reasons therefor, and the driver shall be deprived of the badge and license by the director of excise and licenses, the badge and license in case of suspension, to be returned to the driver at the expiration of the period for which the license was suspended.

(Code 1950, §§ 424.12, 424.13; Ord. No. 618-89, § 9, 10-16-89)

### **Sec. 55-53. Hearing for reissuance.**

No driver whose license has been revoked shall again be licensed as a vehicle for hire driver in the city except upon a new application made to the director of excise and licenses as provided in this division and a formal hearing thereon at which the applicant must produce evidence to the satisfaction of the director that another license should be issued to the applicant. No application shall be considered by the director prior to twelve (12) months following the date of revocation.

(Code 1950, § 424.14; Ord. No. 618-89, § 10, 10-16-89)

### **Secs. 55-54—55-60. Reserved.**

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#### FOOTNOTE(S):

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**Cross reference**— *Licenses generally, Ch. 32.* ([Back](#))