



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Transport**

## Application for the Lease of Multi-Purpose Taxi Plates

### Information for Applicants

#### MPT Plate Release Reference:

#### Lodgement Details:

The Application shall be in a suitable envelope or package and clearly marked with the Expression of Interest Number and Title.

The Application shall be mailed to or delivered personally to the addresses listed below.

#### MAIL

Passenger Services Business Unit  
Department for Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box C102  
PERTH WA 6839

#### PERSONAL

Passenger Services Business Unit  
Department for Planning and Infrastructure  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor,  
Public Transport Centre  
West Parade  
EAST PERTH WA 6004

### FACSIMILE OR ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

#### Enquiries:

Technical	Licensing Officer	Ph: (08) 9216 8033
		(08) 9216 8184
		Fax: (08) 9216 8116
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:leaseplates@dpi.wa.gov.au">leaseplates@dpi.wa.gov.au</a>

**NB: These facsimile numbers and e-mail addresses are not to be used to lodge Applications.**

## CHECK LIST FOR THE APPLICANT

To assist the Applicant in lodging a complete and valid Application, the following Check List is provided. It is suggested that once the documents are completed, the Check List should be examined to ensure all critical matters have been attended to.

- Information for the Applicant has been read and understood.
- All information to be supplied by the Applicant has been included.
- All necessary documentation (National Police Certificate, personal references, finance information etc) requested within the Application Pack is attached.
- Taxi Plate Lease Conditions read and understood.
- Taxi Plate Operating Conditions read and understood.
- Attachments have been acknowledged.
- Declaration in the Application Pack completed and duly signed and witnessed.


# **1 INFORMATION ABOUT THE MULTI-PURPOSE TAXI PLATES BEING OFFERED FOR LEASE**

## **1.1 Number of Multi-Purpose Taxi plates offered**

This expression of interest covers the issue of Multi-Purpose Taxi (MPT) plates by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure ("the DPI") under the *Taxi Act 1994* ("the Act").

## **1.2 Term of the Multi-Purpose Taxi plate leases**

The term of the taxi plate lease is 10 years and it is non-renewable. The lease may be terminated by the Lessee, without cause, subject to a minimum notice period of 90 days. The Director General in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Lease Agreement may terminate the lease, with cause. Applicants are advised to familiarise themselves with all clauses and in particular clauses 7, 16, 17 and 18 of the attached Lease Sample Agreement.

## **1.3 Multi-Purpose Taxi plate lease fees**

The current Multi-Purpose Taxi plate lease fee is \$100 per week.

There is no GST payable on the lease fees payable to the Department for the lease of taxi-car plates.

At present the Government is offering a 50% discount on the lease fee for six months to new entrants to the MPT sector of the taxi industry. For administrative convenience the discount is applied to invoices for the first two full quarters of the lease period.

The Director-General may increase the lease fees for all types of taxi plate during the term of the lease. The minimum period of time between increases will be 12 months. The maximum increase in lease fees will be limited to the greater of:

- 3%; or
- the percentage increase in the maximum permitted taxi plate lease rate that may be charged by a taxi plate owner for Multi-Purpose taxi plates at the time that the increase is authorised.

Taxi plate lease payments will be made quarterly, payable in advance. The quarterly payment dates are:

January 31 - for the period February 1 to April 30  
April 30 - for the period May 1 to July 31;  
July 31 – for the period August 1 to October 31; and  
October 31- for the period November 1 to January 31

At the commencement of a lease a payment will be required before the lease plates are issued to the Lessee. This first lease payment will be a pro-rata payment to the end of the nearest quarter at the applicable lease rate for the taxi plate type.

The Lessee will be responsible for all costs associated with operating the taxi including insurances and the annual taxi licence fee payable to the Department. The taxi plate lease cannot be sold, transferred or sub-leased. However, the leasing of a taxi fitted with lease plates on a shift basis, at the times that the taxi is not being driven by the principal driver, is permitted.

## 1.4 Multi-Purpose Taxi Operating Conditions

Operating Condition	Multi-Purpose Taxi
Hours of Operation per Week	72 hours per week (minimum)
Mandatory Hours of Operation	6pm Fridays to 3am Saturdays 6pm Saturdays to 3am Sundays
Principal Driver Minimum Driving Commitment	At least 5 shifts per week
Vehicle Age Limits (to be registered as a taxi)	May not be first registered as a taxi if more than 5 years old May not be registered as a taxi if more than 10 years old
Passenger Carrying Capacity	Capable of carrying a minimum of 2 wheelchairs Vehicle must comply with MPT Vehicle Standards
Driver Standards	Driver must have a T-endorsement on their WA MDL Driver must have a valid, current Perth Metropolitan Taxi Driver ID
Insurance Requirements	Taxi must have full comprehensive vehicle insurance and at least \$5,000,000 of public liability cover

In addition to the above requirements it is mandatory for all Perth Metropolitan Taxis to be fitted with a taximeter and a security camera system. Both the taximeter and the security camera are subject to annual inspections by the Department at the expense of the Lessee.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY TO LEASE MULTI-PURPOSE TAXI PLATES

### 2.1 Eligibility to lease Multi-Purpose Taxi plates

Before submitting an application you are advised to read the information provided below to ensure you meet the minimum criteria to lease Multi-Purpose Taxi plates. If you are unsure about your eligibility please contact a Licensing Officer on 9216 8033 for advice.

A suitably qualified person may apply for plates as:

- An individual (lessee and principal driver).
- A member of a partnership, where they are nominated as the principal driver. It is an additional requirement that all other members of the partnership are related to the principal driver as a spouse, de facto, parent, child or a sibling.
- A member of a corporation, where they are nominated as the principal driver. It is an additional requirement that all shareholders of the corporation be natural persons and that all other members of the corporation (managers, directors and shareholders) are related to the principal driver as a spouse, de facto, parent, child or a sibling.

All Applications are required to identify a person who will be the principal driver of the vehicle to operated as an MPT. The principal driver is the person who will be responsible, whether as an individual plate holder or as a member of the corporation or partnership, to drive the taxi for at least 5 shifts per week.

Persons nominated as the principal driver must meet the following **minimum qualifications** as a taxi driver:

- Be in possession of a Western Australian Motor Driver's Licence with a T-class endorsement or be capable of obtaining a T-class endorsement

- Be in possession of a current Perth Metropolitan Taxi Driver ID Card.
- Successful applicants, if not a current MPT driver will be required to complete the MPT cadetship offered by the DPI before the plates may be issued to them..

*Note: For Applications submitted by a partnership or corporation, the **minimum requirements** set out above are only applied to the person who is nominated as the “principal driver”, i.e. other members of the partnership or corporation who do not intend to drive the taxi are not required to meet the minimum qualifications as a taxi driver.*

## **2.2 Good character of the persons who will be named in the lease agreement**

**Each person** named in the application who is **not** the holder of a T class endorsement on their MDL, must demonstrate that they are of good character and a fit person to lease a taxi plate by presenting a National Police Certificate and the names and contact details of two character referees.

## **2.3 Experience of providing service to people with a disability**

Multi-Purpose Taxis are required to provide a priority service to people with a disability. MPT drivers are required to meet minimum quotas of services to people with a disability. It is important that persons who operate a Multi-Purpose Taxi have a positive attitude towards working with people with a disability.

Successful applicants who are not currently MPT drivers may be awarded an MPT Driver Cadetship which will provide funding for training to gain the T-class endorsement on their driver's licence (if not already held) and further training to qualify as an MPT driver.

It will be a requirement that successful applicants be current MPT drivers or that they complete either or both the above qualifications before their MPT lease plates are issued. Further details of the MPT Cadetship Scheme are available on the DPI/Taxis website [www.dpi.wa.gov.au/taxis](http://www.dpi.wa.gov.au/taxis) or by telephoning the Driver Standards Project Officer on 9216 8101.

## **2.4 Interest in other taxi plates**

In order to maximise the opportunity for taxi drivers to lease a taxi plate from the State, each lease plate holder is restricted to leasing only one set of plates.

No person, corporation or partnership applying to lease taxi plates may:

- Have an ownership interest in unrestricted (Conventional taxi and Multi-Purpose taxi) taxi plates;
- Have an interest in other taxi plates leased from the Government (Conventional taxi, Restricted (Area or Peak Period) taxi or Multi-Purpose taxi);

Any person (whether applying as an individual or member of a partnership or corporation) who has an ownership interest in Restricted (Area or Peak Period) taxi plates may submit an Application to lease MPT plates, provided that they undertake to divest themselves of that ownership interest before taking up a leased taxi plate. Successful Applicants will have between 60 and 90 days from the date that they are offered a taxi plate lease to divest themselves of their interest in taxi plates. Failure to divest on or before the expiry of the 60 or 90-day period may result in the lease plates being offered to another applicant.

*Note that leasing taxi plates from a **taxi plate owner** does not confer an ownership interest in those taxi plates.*

## **2.5 Financial Capacity to operate a Multi-Purpose Taxi**

You are required to provide information to demonstrate that you have the financial capacity to set up and operate a Multi-Purpose Taxi. If you have to purchase a vehicle and/or taxi equipment then you are required to provide documents showing that you have the finance available to pay for the costs you expect to incur.

If you have any questions about the suitability of the documents you intend to provide, please contact an enquiry officer on the telephone numbers or email address given on page 1.

## **3. CONDITIONS OF LEASING A MULTI-PURPOSE TAXI PLATE FROM THE GOVERNMENT**

### **3.1 Lease agreement and conditions**

Please note that the Lease Agreement and Taxi Plate Operating Conditions which will apply to the proposed lease are available on the DPI/Taxis website [www.dpi.wa.gov.au/taxis](http://www.dpi.wa.gov.au/taxis) or by telephoning the enquiries officers whose contact details are shown on page 1. It is strongly recommended that applicants obtain these documents and study them before completing an application. It should be noted that under section 22 of the Act, Taxi Plate Operating Conditions are subject to change at the discretion of the Director General. If your application is successful you will be provided with a Final Lease Agreement and Taxi Plate Operating Conditions.

The Lease is for a maximum of 10 years and is non-renewable. At the end of the lease period the plates must be returned to the Department for re-tendering. The Lessee may terminate the Lease Agreement, without cause, at any time during the term of the lease with no additional penalty, subject to a 90-day notice period.

### **3.2 Responsibility for compliance with taxi plate operating conditions**

In the case where an individual leases taxi plates, it is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that all of the taxi plate operating conditions as detailed in Attachment 2 are complied with throughout the term of the lease.

Where the taxi plates are leased by a partnership or corporation the responsibility for ensuring compliance with all of the taxi plate operating conditions are complied with is shared equally among the members of the partnership or corporation. In the event that a member of a partnership or corporation is responsible for a breach of the taxi plate lease operating conditions the partnership or corporation may be asked by the Director General to demonstrate that it is still fit to hold a taxi plate.

### **3.3 Public Disclosure of Lease Details**

Information relating to the award of a Lease above \$10,000 will be published on the Western Australian Government Contracting Information Bulletin Board after the lease is legally established.

Lease documents and other information relevant to the lease may be disclosed when required by Government policy under the Freedom of Information Act 1992, tabling of documents in Parliament or under a Court order.

## **4. APPLYING FOR MULTI-PURPOSE TAXI PLATE LEASE**

### **4.1 How to lodge an application**

You can submit an application to lease a Multi Purpose (MPT) plate at any time.

Application forms may be downloaded from the DPI/taxis website [www.dpi.wa.gov.au/taxis](http://www.dpi.wa.gov.au/taxis) or you may telephone the Enquiries Officers whose details are given at page 1. Application documents may also be obtained at the Passenger Services office, East Perth, full address on page 1.

Applications may be lodged by mail or delivered in person to the DPI at the address listed on page 1.

It is important that you are aware that Application Forms will be considered in the order in which they are received until all of the available plates have been issued to successful applicants.

### **4.2 Validity period of applications**

An application will remain valid for one year from the date it is stamped as received.

### **4.3 Applications for more than one type of taxi plate**

Applicants may submit an application for more than one type of taxi plate. Applicants are required to obtain and submit a separate application for each type of plate.

Each application is treated separately so it is important that the applicant attaches all of the required documents to each application that they submit. It is permitted for the applicant to photocopy an original document and submit the photocopy with each application that they submit.

## **5. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Lease MPT Plates are allocated on a first come, first served basis**

Multi-Purpose Taxi plates will be allocated to applicants who meet the eligibility criteria on a first come, first served basis. Each application form will be marked with the date and time that it was received by Contracts and Central Services. Applications will be considered in the order in which they are received.

Application Forms will be considered valid for 12 months from the date marked upon them as above.

If the interview is concluded satisfactorily and you still wish to proceed to lease Multi-Purpose Taxi plates then you will be provided with information on the further actions required to lease the plates.

### **5.2 Declining an offer to lease an MPT plate**

In the event that you decide not to accept the offer to lease Multi-Purpose Taxi plates the following will apply:

- The lease of Multi-Purpose Taxi plates will be offered to the next eligible applicant;
- Your application will remain valid for one year from the closing date for these applications;
- You will not automatically receive any further offer of Multi-Purpose Taxi plates; and
- If you wish to take up the offer of Multi-Purpose Taxi plates within that year you may contact Passenger Services at the DPI. If there are plates available you may receive a new offer subject to providing updated information concerning your good character, driving record or financial capacity as requested.

### **5.3 Ineligible or incomplete applications**

If an application is assessed as ineligible, the applicant will be notified in writing giving reasons.

An applicant may, at any time, elect not to proceed further with an application.

It is important that applicants are aware that if an application is deemed incomplete it will be removed from consideration until it is complete. Lease plates may be allocated to other applicants in the interim. The effective date for consideration of such reviewed applications is the date and time they are received as complete.

#### **5.4.1 Additional plate releases during the validity period of an application**

Valid applications will automatically receive consideration should the Department offer additional MPT plates during the validity period of any applications still held. Before any offer is made to an applicant in this situation, the applicant may be contacted to confirm their continuing interest and requesting updated information concerning good character, driving record or financial capacity as requested.

The Department reserves the right to verify or seek further information from you on any details provided in your application at any time during the validity period of the application.