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## TAXI & CHAUFFEUR TRAINING

Many Local authorities now require all potential taxi drivers to pass an additional driving test before a taxi licence is issued. Chauffeur drivers will also need this qualification to assure their prospective employers of their highly professional standard of driving.

The test is conducted by the DSA and a higher level of driving is expected than the L test to reflect the experience the driver should have attained. Fewer than 9 driving faults (none of which should be serious) need to be recorded in order to secure a pass. A typical fault is failing to look over your shoulder (covering your blind spot) before moving off. Candidates will also be expected to park and turn the vehicle around safely and in full control, using forward and reverse gears and have a good understanding of the extra responsibility involved in carrying fare-paying passengers.

If your vehicle has the facility to carry wheelchairs you must demonstrate being able to load and secure the wheelchair so the passenger can be transported safely and reverse the procedure for the end of the journey.

Freeway offers bespoke training to prepare drivers for this special test. Initially, an assessment lesson is conducted to reveal typical driving faults that may have developed into habits during the trainees driving career. An action plan is then set enabling the trainee to work on his/her good driving practices in between future driving lessons. A "mock" test is conducted before the real test to prepare the candidate fully.

Assessment lessons start at £45 for a 90-minute session and further hour lessons start at £35, depending on distance travelled.