

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CITY PERMITS FOR MINI CABS IN SHIMLA

State: Himachal Pradesh

Details of licensing are as follows:

The operation of Mini-cabs is regulated as per the directions from the Regional Transport Authority at Shimla. Directions are on the basis of H.P. Motor Vehicles Rules and Regulations 1972 – Section 17(7) and Central Motor Vehicles Act 1988.

Minicab / taxi is considered as "Any motor vehicle constructed or adapted to carry not more than six passengers excluding the driver for hire or reward" A permit is issued by a State or a Regional Transport Authority prescribed in this behalf under this Act (1988) authorizing the use of a motor vehicle as a transport vehicle."

Only one type of license is required to drive a cab in the city area and that is the Mini Cab/Taxi permit obtainable from the Regional Transport Office/State Transport Authority after a due procedure requiring several formalities and fees etc. as described below.

Permit Procedure:

Fill up Form 45 and attach affidavit outlining individual status as an unemployed youth for two years, defining vehicle type and stating the desire to run it as a taxi. Also to be included with the application a certificate of Bonafide Resident of Himachal Pradesh.

Departments involved:

Regional Transport Office/State Transport Authority, Himachal Pradesh. Secretary Transport who is also the Chairperson of the State Transport Authority through RTO Shimla issues permits for running mini cabs/taxis in Shimla city. His address is Armsdale Building, HP Secretariat, and Shimla 171002. RTO Shimla – Transport Bhavan, NH 22, near tunnel 103, Shimla

Documents Required:

1. Form 45
2. affidavit outlining individual status as an unemployed youth for two years, defining vehicle type and stating the desire to run it as a taxi.
3. A certificate of Bonafide Resident of Himachal Pradesh.

Steps:

Apply on Form 45 with necessary documents including the Permission to purchase vehicle the Vehicle Inspection by Motor Vehicle Inspector, Remission of fees/taxes and Permit granted for five years

Time prescribed:

There is no specific time period prescribed to process the permit applications. However, it is done on case by case basis, 15 to 20 applications are collected at the RTO before they are sent over to the Chairman STA for approval and action. If the papers are correct and necessary fees duly paid then it can take up to four to six weeks to get a permit.

Permit Fees:

Inspection fee/Passing fee- Rs.200 (Initially for 2 yrs then every year) and Permit fee (5 yrs) - Rs.700. The above fees are to be remitted to RTO Shimla.

Terms and conditions for the permit:

1. Have a valid vehicle registration certificate, permit and driving license
2. Carry along a first aid box and complaint book
3. Have a valid vehicle Pollution Check Certificate
4. No overcrowding or carriage beyond the prescribed limit of passengers
5. Mini taxis/ cabs to have only white colour

Renewal:

Permits are granted for five years initially and are renewable within one month of the expiry of the previous permit with a penalty according to the HP Motor Vehicles Act (Rules and Regulations) 1972. Penalties for delay in renewing permit within -

1 st to 15 th day	Rs.10/ day
16 th to 30 th day	Rs.15/day
31 st day onwards	Rs.20/day subject to a maximum of Rs.30,000

Laws Dealing:

H.P. Motor Vehicles Rules and Regulations 1972 – Section 17(7) and Central Motor Vehicles Act 1988 - Section 2(22), 2(25)

Penalty:

RTO holds the power to challan/fine the taxi owner if found guilty of offence.Rs.2000 per seat or maximum of Rs.30,000 (Local taxi).Rs.4000 per seat or maximum of Rs.50, 000 (National Permit)

Regularizing cabs/taxis without permit:

Regularization can only be done of the vehicle to be run as a taxi if it has not been registered for more than nine years.

1. In other words, the date of registration of the vehicle should not exceed more than nine years at the time of applying for a permit.
2. It should pass the inspection conducted by the Motor Vehicle Inspector of the concerned authority.
3. Should be able to give a No Objection Certificate from the agency of registration to RTO Shimla.
4. List of documents to be attached are Application on Form 20, Sale Letter/Registration Certificate, Insurance Cover and Defect Form.

(Byelaws regulating the trade can be accessed at <http://www.shimlamc.org/>)