

CHAPTER 5.36 - FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

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5.36.010 - Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply to the provisions of this chapter:

A. *"For-hire vehicles"* means any motor vehicle or non-motor-driven wheeled device, except horse taxis which are defined in 5.37.010 PAMC, used for the transportation of passengers for compensation, except: public transit vehicles, limousine charter carriers regulated under Ch. 81.90 RCW, charter party carriers of passengers and excursion service carriers regulated under Ch. 81.70 RCW, or private, non-profit corporations providing transportation services for compensation solely to elderly or handicapped persons as regulated under Ch. 81.66 RCW.

B. *"Taxicab"* means a chauffeur-driven vehicle available on call to carry a passenger between any two or more points for a fare determined by a taxi meter, zone system or flat rate.

(Ord. 3402, 6/27/2010; Ord. 2716 § 2, 10/16/1992; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 1, 1/1/1980)

5.36.030 - License—Required.

No taxicab or for-hire vehicle as defined in this chapter, or any motor vehicle equipped or marked with taxi signs or roof lights, shall be operated upon the streets of the City without first obtaining a business license for the purpose of transporting passengers for hire.

(Ord. 2716 § 3, 10/16/1992; Ord. 2462 § 1, 11/15/1987; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 3, 1/1/1980)

5.36.040 - License—Application—Required information.

In addition to all other information required of an applicant for a business license, an applicant for a

for-hire vehicle license shall provide the following information:

- A. Location of the taxicab zone applied for, together with any other location from which the taxicabs or for-hire vehicles are operated.
- B. Full information concerning the ownership, the number and classification of vehicles to be operated, and the name, fictitious or otherwise, under which the applicant intends to operate;
- C. The distinguishing color scheme, dress or design, including any monogram or insignia intended to be used upon the vehicle;
- D. The rates proposed to be charged.

(Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 4, 1/1/1980)

5.36.050 - License—Application—Inspection of vehicles.

All vehicles to be used as for-hire vehicles or taxicabs by an applicant for a business license shall be inspected by the Chief of Police before issuance of the endorsement to determine whether such vehicles are clean, properly equipped, mechanically fit, and in safe condition for the transportation of passengers.

(Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 5, 1/1/1980)

5.36.060 - Equipment.

Every vehicle licensed under this chapter shall be equipped with an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit; all vehicles operated as taxicabs shall have an illuminated taxi sign or roof light of approved design, which roof light shall be illuminated at all times while the taxicab is in operation as such. Vehicles licensed under this chapter, but not operated as taxicabs, shall have distinguishing signs as approved by the Chief of Police.

(Ord. 2716 § 4, 10/16/1992; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 6, 1/1/1980)

5.36.070 - License—Issuance.

No business license to operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle shall be issued except by the City Clerk, or her designee, after review of the license application and inspection reports of the Chief of Police or his designee. The City Clerk may, in her discretion, approve or deny the application. Any applicant denied a license by the City Clerk shall have a right to appeal as outlined in section 5.04.060 of the Port Angeles Municipal Code.

(Ord. 3039 § 1, 12/17/1999, Ord. 2716 § 5, 10/16/1992; Ord. 2379 § 1, 2/7/1986; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 7, 1/1/1980)

5.36.080 - Operation regulations.

The operation of a taxicab or for-hire business shall be governed by the following regulations, in addition to all other regulations of statute or ordinance:

- A. No taxi stand or zone may be operated without the written permission of the owner or occupant of all adjoining premises.
- B. No licensee shall permit more than three taxicabs to stand or wait at the same time in a taxi

stand or zone or permit taxicab or for-hire vehicles to cruise the streets for passengers.

C. Every person engaged in the business of transporting passengers for hire under the provisions of this chapter shall file all information requested by any authorized peace officer in regard to the address of the house or place to or from which he has driven or caused to be driven any passenger, as well as descriptions, names and addresses of such passengers, if known to him.

D. No person shall operate a for-hire vehicle or taxicab without first having obtained a driver's license to do so.

E. No person shall operate or be in actual physical control of a for-hire vehicle or taxicab while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs. Violation of this provision shall constitute grounds for summary revocation of the driver's license issued under this chapter.

F. Every person engaged in the business of operating taxicabs in the City of Port Angeles shall maintain a business address and a mailing address where the owner can accept mail and a business telephone in working order that shall be answered during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, and during all hours of operation and shall at all times have at least two taxicabs which are licensed pursuant to this Chapter and are capable of providing service in the City of Port Angeles.

G. Every person engaged in the taxicab or for-hire vehicle business in the City of Port Angeles shall maintain records of the number, location, and length of trips made each day and shall retain and preserve such information for at least two years and shall make such reports available to the City Clerk or Chief of Police upon request.

H. Drivers of taxicab and for-hire vehicles employed to carry passengers to a definite point shall take the most direct route possible that will carry the passengers safely and expeditiously to the passengers' destination.

(Ord. 2808 § 2, 5/27/1994; Ord. 2716 § 6, 10/16/1992; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 8, 1/1/1980)

5.36.085 - Requirements to be established by Chief of Police and Traffic Engineer.

A. Because of the relative lack of speed and maneuverability of non-motorized vehicles, the Chief of Police, in consultation with the City's traffic engineer, may impose special requirements on the vehicle license, including prohibiting travel on certain arterials in a congested district or narrow streets and restricting the hours of operation on certain streets. Unless the vehicle is equipped with approved lighting, the Chief, in consultation with the City's traffic engineer, may prohibit operation during hours of darkness or during times of low visibility. Each vehicle shall be equipped with signs and lights as required by state law.

B. Although a non-motorized vehicle is subject to all traffic laws applicable to vehicles when operating on the public ways, the Chief, in consultation with the City's traffic engineer, may approve a specific route set forth in the application including places not normally accessible to motor vehicles.

C. Subject to the approval of the Chief, of Police in consultation with the City's traffic engineer, each owner/operator shall designate and make provision for an off-street area to stand, park or discharge and load passengers. If the owner/operator of a non-motorized vehicle has not made provision for an off-street area to stand, park or discharge and load passengers, the Chief of Police, in consultation with the City's traffic engineer, may designate an area or areas along City streets for such purpose. When

areas have been so designated, non-motorized vehicles shall not stand or park in any other area not designated for such use.

(Ord. 3402, 6/27/2010)

5.36.090 - Driver's license—Qualifications.

No person shall be permitted to obtain a driver's license for the driving of taxicabs or for-hire vehicles unless the following minimum requirements are met:

- A. Possession of a valid Washington driver's license;
- B. Having been a licensed driver for at least three years prior to the date of application for a license;
- C. The ability to speak, read and write the English language;
- D. Not being addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor or drugs within two years preceding the date of the application for a license.
- E. Not having been convicted of a felony, or of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or of being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or of reckless driving, within five years preceding the date of the application for a license.
- F. Not having been convicted of three or more moving violations during a one-year period during the five years preceding the date of the application for a license.

(Ord. 2379 § 3, 2/7/1986; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 9, 1/1/1980)

5.36.095 - Initial driver's license—Required by:

- A. All persons, except those holding a current taxicab or for-hire vehicle driver's license issued by the City of Port Angeles, are required to obtain an initial driver's license.
- B. Licensees who cease, for reasons other than illness or injury, to be actively employed as a taxicab or for-hire vehicle driver for a period in excess of 90 days are required to obtain an initial driver's license.

(Ord. 2788 § 1, 12/31/1993)

5.36.100 - Driver's license—Application—Information required.

In addition to all other information required by the City Clerk, the following information shall be required:

The full name, address, residence, age, height, weight, color of eyes and hair, place of birth, length of time he or she has resided in the State, whether a citizen of the United States, whether previously licensed as a driver or chauffeur, and if so, when and where, whether such license has ever been revoked and for what cause. Such application shall be signed and sworn to by the applicant, and filed with the Chief of Police as a permanent record. Every applicant for a driver's license must submit to fingerprinting, photographing, and a criminal and driver's records check by the Police Department.

(Ord. 2788 § 2, 12/31/1993; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 10, 1/1/1980)

5.36.110 - Driver's license—Application—Police endorsement.

The Chief of Police or his designee shall make a recommendation to the Clerk, within five working days of the filing of a complete application, to issue or not to issue a license permitting the person to drive a for-hire or taxicab vehicle. In arriving at his recommendation, the Chief of Police or his designee is authorized to conduct an appropriate investigation to assist in the determination of whether or not the qualifications for the driving of taxicabs or for-hire vehicles are met and the issuance of the license would be consistent with the public health, safety and welfare.

(Ord. 2716 § 7, 10/16/1992; Ord. 2379 § 4, 2/7/1986; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 11, 1/1/1980)

5.36.120 - Initial driver's license—Fee.

The fee for obtaining the initial for-hire driver's license shall be as set forth in Chapter 3.70 PAMC. The fee is not subject to proration.

(Ord. 2932 § 17, 10/11/1996; Ord. 2788 § 2, 12/31/1993; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 12, 1/1/1980)

5.36.125 - Driver's license—Term—Renewal—Fee.

Taxicab and for-hire vehicle driver's licenses shall be for a period of three years beginning January 1, 1994 through December 31, 1996 and shall be subject to renewal for three-year periods thereafter.

The fee for renewal of for-hire vehicle/taxicab driver's license shall be as set forth in Chapter 3.70 PAMC. The fee for license renewal is not subject to proration.

(Ord. 2932 § 18, 10/11/1996; Ord. 2788 § 3, 12/31/1993)

5.36.130 - Driver's license—Exhibition required.

Each licensed driver shall wear his or her license prominently displayed on an outer garment and upon the request of any police officer or passenger, exhibit his/her license and photograph for inspection.

(Ord. 2788 § 2, 12/31/1993; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 13, 1/1/1980)

5.36.140 - Driver's license—Temporary.

The Clerk may, on the recommendation of the Chief of Police, issue a temporary taxicab or for-hire driver's license, pending the completion of the investigation required pursuant to this chapter, effective only until the application is finally acted upon by the Chief of Police, and in no event, for a period longer than 90 days.

(Ord. 2772, 8/13/1993; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 14, 1/1/1980)

5.36.150 - Driver's license—Nontransferable.

No driver's license for operating a for-hire vehicle shall be transferable.

(Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 15, 1/1/1980)

5.36.160 - Fare—Filing—Posting required.

Every person conducting or carrying on the business of transporting passengers for hire licensed pursuant to this chapter shall file a current fare schedule with the City Clerk and Chief of Police as

required by this chapter and shall post in a conspicuous place in every vehicle, the schedule of fares.

(Ord. 2716 § 8, 10/16/1992; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 16, 1/1/1980)

5.36.170 - Fare—Overcharge.

Any driver of a taxicab or for-hire vehicle who charges any passenger a fare higher than that provided in the schedule of fares filed with the City shall, in addition to any other penalty imposed by law, have his license to drive a for-hire vehicle or taxicab revoked.

(Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 17, 1/1/1980)

5.36.180 - Fare—Refusal to pay.

It is unlawful for any person to refuse to pay the regular fare for a taxicab or for-hire vehicle, after having hired the same.

(Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 18, 1/1/1980)

5.36.190 - Fare—Schedule change.

In the event the operator of a taxicab or for-hire car desires to change the rates, he shall file an amended schedule with the Chief of Police and the City Clerk at least five days prior to such change.

(Ord. 2379 § 2, 2/1/1986; Ord. 2050 Ch. 9 § 19, 1/1/1980)

5.36.200 - Insurance requirement.

No business license or driver's license shall be issued under the provisions of this chapter unless the operator of the taxicab or for-hire vehicle business files with the City Clerk a certificate of insurance naming the City as an additional insured in an amount of not less than coverage limits required by the State of Washington for for-hire vehicles.

(Ord. 2379 § 4, 2/7/1986)

5.36.210 - License denial or revocation.

In addition to grounds supporting denial or revocation of licenses set forth in Chapter 5.04 PAMC, a license may also be denied or revoked upon a finding that:

- A. Any applicant or licensee has omitted to disclose any material fact necessary to make a statement not misleading in any application for the license; or
- B. Any for-hire vehicle driver's license applicant or licensee has become disqualified under PAMC 5.36.090 or applicable state law to hold a driver's license for the driving of taxicabs or for-hire vehicles; or
- C. Any for-hire vehicle business license applicant or licensee fails to report the disqualification of a driver in his or her employ to the City Clerk and Chief of Police.

(Ord. 2788 § 3, 12/31/1993)

References: (Include names of at least three persons who have known applicant for at least one year and whom the City may contact to verify information given:

Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City State Zip
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City State Zip
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City State Zip
Phone: _____

Please attach copies of the following items:

1. Description of taxicabs/for-hire vehicles owned and operated by applicant. Include ownership, number and classification of vehicles to be operated, and name (fictitious or otherwise) under which the applicant intends to operate.
2. Distinguishing color scheme, design, or dress, including any monogram or insignia to be used on such taxicabs/for-hire vehicles.
3. Certificate of Insurance as required.
4. Copy of list of employees as well as copies of employee's Washington State Driver's Licenses.
5. List of proposed rates.

In the event there are any *false statements* contained in this application, the license may be denied.

Signature of Applicant: _____
Date: _____

Please submit the license fee, the completed application and any attachments to:

Kari Martinez-Bailey, City Clerk
Phone: 360-417-4634
cityclerk@cityofpa.us
City of Port Angeles
321 East Fifth Street / Port Angeles, WA 98362
www.cityofpa.us

<p>Full Year License Charge:</p> <p>\$50 (July 1 – June 30)</p>
