

## What is a vision screen and why do I need to have one?

It is a requirement to complete a vision assessment as a part of the Occupational Therapy Driving Assessment process. This assessment must be completed by an Ophthalmologist or an Optometrist prior to the assessment. You must meet the Australian standards below:

*“Good vision, including visual acuity and visual fields, is essential to operating a motor vehicle. Any marked loss of visual acuity or visual fields will diminish an individual’s ability to drive safely. A driver with a significant visual defect may fail to detect another vehicle, pedestrians and/or warning signs, and will take appreciably longer to perceive and react to a potentially hazardous situation.*

*Peripheral or side vision assists the driver to be aware of the total driving environment and is particularly important in certain common driving tasks, such as merging into a traffic stream or changing lanes, and detecting pedestrians and vehicles to the side of the line of vision.” (Assessing Fitness to Drive Commercial and Private Vehicle Drivers (AUSTROADS 2016 page 124)*

## How do I complete a Vision Screen?

Depending on the class of vehicle there are different visual standards that you are required to meet, our assessment forms are located below:

If you are being assessed for a **Private – C Class Vehicle**, please complete the form below:

[https://ilc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/20161013\\_Driver\\_Vision\\_Screen\\_Private.pdf](https://ilc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/20161013_Driver_Vision_Screen_Private.pdf)

If you are being assessed for a **Commercial – MR, HR, HC, MC Class or T & F Extensions** please complete the form below:

[https://ilc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/20161013\\_Driver\\_Vision\\_Screen\\_Commercial.pdf](https://ilc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/20161013_Driver_Vision_Screen_Commercial.pdf)

## Visual Impairment or Visual Deficit

Any person who has or who is suspected of having a visual field defect should have a formal perimetry-based assessment included by their Optometrist or Ophthalmologist.

## What are the options available?

You must meet the Australian Road Standards to be able to hold a vehicle licence in Australia. An Optometrist or Ophthalmologist must assess your vision and state you:

- a) Meet the criteria to drive a motor vehicle
- b) Does not meet the criteria but is considered a potential candidate to hold a conditional driver licence

## What if I don’t meet the vision standards?

You are unable to hold a vehicle licence in Western Australia if you do not meet the criteria for a full or conditional licence.

## What is a conditional Licence?

If you do not meet the vision standards but your Optometrist/Ophthalmologist considers you a potential candidate to hold a conditional licence, it means you are able to drive subject to certain criteria. E.g. Wears visual aids when driving, only driving during daylight hours.