

ASSESSING FITNESS TO DRIVE Commercial and Private Vehicle Drivers (AUSTROADS 2016)

For further information refer to General Management Guidelines

CONDITION	COMMERCIAL STANDARDS
	<i>(Drivers of heavy vehicles, public passenger vehicles or requiring a dangerous good license – refer to definition, page 21)</i>
<p>Visual acuity (refer to Figure 15) Refer to page 124 for assessment method.</p>	<p>A person is not fit to hold an unconditional licence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the person’s uncorrected visual acuity is worse than 6/9 in the better eye; or • if the person’s uncorrected visual acuity is worse than 6/18 in either eye. <p>A conditional licence may be considered by the driver licensing authority subject to periodic review if the standard is met with corrective lenses.</p> <p>If the person’s vision is worse than 6/18 in the worse eye, a conditional licence may be considered by the driver licensing authority subject to periodic review, provided the visual acuity in the better eye is 6/9 (with or without corrective lenses) according to the treating optometrist/ ophthalmologist. The driver licensing authority take into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of the driving task • The nature of any underlying disorder; and • Any other restriction advised by the optometrist or ophthalmologist.
<p>Visual fields (including monocular vision) Refer to page 125 for assessment method. See also text in relation to further considerations for assessing field defects (section 10.2.2, page 125).</p>	<p>A person is not fit to hold an unconditional licence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the person has any visual field defect. <p>A conditional licence may be considered by the driver licensing authority subject to annual review, taking into account the nature of the driving task and information provided by the treating optometrist or ophthalmologist as to whether the following criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The binocular visual field has an extent of at least 140 degrees within 10 degrees above and below the horizontal midline • The person has no significant visual field loss (scotoma, hemianopia, quadrantanopia) that is likely to impede driving performance • The visual field loss is static and unlikely to progress rapidly. <p>Monocular vision A person is not fit to hold an unconditional licence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the person is monocular. <p>A conditional licence may be considered by the driver licensing authority subject to two-yearly review, taking into account the nature of the driving task and information provided by the treating ophthalmologist or optometrist, and the comments made in section 10.2.2 Visual fields under the subheading <i>Monocular vision (one-eyed driver)</i>.</p>
<p>Diplopia</p>	<p>A person is not fit to hold an unconditional licence or a conditional licence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the person experiences any diplopia (other than physiological diplopia) when fixating objects within the central 20 degrees of the primary direction of gaze.