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APPROVED VEHICLES FOR CITY LICENSED TAXICABS
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Chapter 9-112 of the Municipal Code of Chicago (MCC) and the Taxicab Medallion License Holder Rules contain the laws which regulate eligible vehicles for City of Chicago (City) licensed taxicabs. The Municipal Code of Chicago is available at www.amlegal.com. The Taxicab Medallion License Holder Rules are available at www.cityofchicago.org/bacp.

A motor vehicle must be in compliance with section 9-112-070 of the MCC in order to operate as a City licensed taxicab vehicle. Pursuant to RULE TX3.01 of the Taxicab Medallion License Holder Rules, a City licensed taxicab vehicle must have four doors, two doors on each side.

Section 9-112-070 of the MCC states: Specifications for taxicab vehicles.

The Commissioner may issue licenses for motor vehicles to operate as taxicabs according to the following:

- (a) Vehicles having a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of ten or more persons, including the driver, may not be licensed as taxicabs.
- (b) A vehicle must meet applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards for vehicles of its size, type and proposed use, in order to be licensed as a taxicab.
- (c) *Vehicle age.* A licensee may not operate a vehicle as a licensed taxicab beyond the following vehicle age:
 - (1) Seven years for vehicles that are not designated pursuant to the Department's list of authorized vehicles as wheelchair accessible or fuel efficient.
 - (2) Ten years for vehicles that are designated pursuant to the Department's list of authorized vehicles as fuel efficient. However, if a fuel efficient vehicle passes an inspection in compliance with Section [9-112-050](#), it may operate as a licensed taxicab for eleven years.
 - (3) Ten years for vehicles that are designated pursuant to the Department's list of authorized vehicles as wheelchair accessible.
- (d) A licensee cannot place a vehicle with an odometer reading of 125,000 miles or greater in operation for the first time as a licensed taxicab.
- (e) Any vehicle which has ever been issued the title class of either "salvage," "rebuilt," "junk," "total loss," or any equivalent classification in any jurisdiction is not eligible for operation as a taxicab.
 - (i) It is the affirmative duty of the licensee to ascertain that the taxicab vehicle is in compliance with this subsection.
 - (ii) Any vehicle placed in operation by a licensee as a taxicab in violation of this subsection is unsafe for purposes of Section [9-112-050](#) of this Code.
 - (iii) Any licensee that places a vehicle in operation as a taxicab in violation of this subsection is subject to immediate license suspension or revocation.
 - (iv) The commissioner may by rule require licensees to submit a car history report at the licensee's expense.
- (f) The commissioner may by rule assert additional vehicle specifications that motor vehicles must meet before they can be approved as a taxicab and may by rule in conjunction with the Mayor's Office of People with Disabilities extend the amount of time that a wheelchair accessible vehicle may be in service.

City Licensed Vehicle Age Requirements

Pursuant to MCC Section 9-112-070, the following are the vehicle age requirements for taxicab vehicles for the **2019** calendar year:

- **Manufacturer Model Years 2013-2019** for taxicab vehicles that are not fuel efficient (gas fuel source) nor wheelchair accessible.
- **Manufacturer Model Years 2010-2019** for taxicab vehicles that are fuel efficient OR wheelchair accessible.

MPG and Tiered Lease Rate Structure

Taxicab Medallion License Holders and Taxicab Medallion License Managers must comply with the lease regulations stated in section 9-112-230 "Tiered lease rate structure" of the MCC.

The tiered lease rate structure is based on a vehicle's miles per gallon (MPG).

A taxicab vehicle's lease tier is based on the vehicle's miles per gallon (MPG) which can be determined as the "combined" city and highway mile estimates as published at www.fueleconomy.gov for the specific make, model, and year vehicle. For the vehicles which www.fueleconomy.gov web site does not publish the "combined" vehicles estimated MPG, the calculation used will be the published city + highway estimates divided by 2. Refer to section 9-112-230 of the MCC for details.

Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) Taxicabs

RULE TX7.02 of the Taxicab Medallion License Holder Rules states:

Specifications for Licensed WAV Taxicabs

Specifications of all WAV taxicabs must be pre-approved by the Commissioner to ensure that the vehicle is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act - Accessibility Guidelines for Transportation Vehicles. At a minimum, WAV taxicabs must meet the following standards:

- a. Passengers in wheelchairs must be able to safely and expeditiously enter and exit the WAV taxicab directly from the curb side of the vehicle ("curb-to-curb entry and exit service");
- b. The curb side of the WAV taxicab for entry and exit of the passenger must be on the passenger / right side of the vehicle;
- c. The WAV taxicab is equipped with securement devices to ensure that the wheelchair and passenger will be safely secured when the WAV taxicab is in motion;

- d. The WAV taxicab is equipped with passenger restraints in addition to wheelchair restraints to ensure that passengers will be safely secured when the vehicle is in motion;
- e. The WAV taxicab is capable of transporting at least one passenger using a “wheelchair” as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 49 section 37.3;
- f. The WAV taxicab must have an interior volume index greater than or equal to 160 cubic feet;
- g. The WAV taxicab must display stickers at least 6 inches by 6 inches in size depicting the universal logo for wheelchairs on the rear window and both side windows; and
- h. A WAV taxicab that is a post-manufacture or after-market mechanical conversion/modification to a wheelchair accessible vehicle must display, in a conspicuous location, a label identifying the vendor/company responsible for performing such work, and that the vehicle meets all requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act - Accessibility Guidelines for Transportation Vehicles.

Taxicab Vehicle Inspection Requirements in the MCC

9-112-050 Vehicle inspections.

No person shall place a vehicle into service as a taxicab until the vehicle has been inspected under the direction of the Commissioner and found to be in safe operating condition. A taxicab vehicle inspection includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that all required equipment is installed and operating as intended, and that the interior and exterior of the vehicle are clean and in good condition for the safety of the vehicle drivers and passengers. Licensees must submit all their taxicab vehicles for inspection as scheduled by the Department. Taxicab vehicles with a vehicle age of five years or newer must be inspected at least annually, and all older taxicab vehicles must be inspected at least semiannually.

If any licensee fails to appear and make his vehicle available for inspection after receiving a notification from the Commissioner to do so, the Commissioner may immediately suspend the licensee's license and impose a fine as set forth in Section [9-112-630](#), in addition to all other applicable penalties, including extending the license suspension, and/or license revocation. If the licensee again fails to so appear, the Commissioner may suspend his license until the vehicle has passed an inspection pursuant to this section. If a licensee demonstrates a pattern of missing scheduled inspection dates, the Commissioner may revoke the license.

The Commissioner is authorized to adopt rules to specify the time frame and schedule for vehicle inspections and may require additional inspections based upon complaints.

9-112-060 Failed vehicle inspections.

If a vehicle fails an inspection required by [9-112-050](#) of this Code, the licensee shall pay a re-inspection fee of \$75.00.

Questions or comments may be e-mailed directly to BACPPV@cityofchicago.org