

January 9, 2009

One window approach to streamline driver road tests

Edmonton... Albertans ready to take their driver road test can now make arrangements with a registry agent effective January 19. A new road testing model has been developed following extensive consultation with stakeholders such as driver examiners and registry agents.

The model includes the following.

- Road test permits - all tests will be recorded on automated permits generated by the government's MOVES system at Registry Agent offices throughout the province; fees will be collected by the agent.
- Testing locations - all tests begin and end at a Registry Agent's office (some exemptions apply for large trucks and motorcycles).
- Test scheduling system - applicants will request a day and time for their test which will be scheduled with an examiner by a registry agent.
- Fee structure - the individual will pay the test fee, the examiner and agent portions of this fee will be uncapped to reflect the various markets values throughout the province. Government will receive five dollars from each road test. Agents will inform the public on-line and by other means regarding their specific fees, cancellation and no show policies as well as all test requirements.
- Optimum customer service - the new model will provide applicants with timely access to tests, market driven fees and consistent locations. It also takes into account the challenges of serving rural and remote areas.

Also effective January 19, the motorcycle on-lot test will be eliminated and replaced with an on-road test. The duration of the test, booked through a registry agent, will increase from 30 minutes to 45 minutes. This will allow the driver examiner to evaluate the rider's skills through various traffic and road conditions. All other road tests will remain the same.

The Government of Alberta will continue to train and license driver examiners, authorize test routes and be responsible for developing provincial standards and ensuring they are applied by all examiners.

The province's mandate is to ensure the safety of all those who share the roads in Alberta. Part of this commitment is to promote driver education to make sure drivers have the proper skills, knowledge, and attitudes to operate their vehicles safely.

Visit www.transportation.alberta.ca for more information on driver licensing in Alberta.

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