

Disabled Person's Freedom Pass scheme:
Fitness to Drive Form

Information for the medical profession completing this form

The named applicant has applied for the disabled persons Freedom Pass and has indicated that they have a medical condition that would render them unfit to drive.

Under the criteria:

“Would, if he/she applied for the grant of a license to drive a motor vehicle under part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, have their application refused pursuant to section 92 of the act (physical fitness) otherwise that on the grounds of persistent drug or alcohol abuse.”

In order for us to assess the applicant's eligibility please could you complete this form giving your professional opinion on the information requested.

The decision to issue or refuse a Freedom Pass rests solely with the Ealing council. Please do not offer an opinion to the applicant that they 'qualify' for the scheme.

Section A: Applicant details

Full name of applicant

Date of birth

__ / __ / ____ (DD/MM/YYYY)

Permanent address

Section B: To be completed by a medical practitioner

1. Please confirm all diagnosed conditions:

2. Does this patient have prescribed disability or medical condition that would result in them being refused a licence to drive?

Yes

No

3. Has your decision been made based on the national medical guidelines on the Drivers Medical Standards of Fitness to Drive? (See Notes on Page 3 of this form).

Yes

No

4. Is there any misuse of drugs and/or alcohol?

Yes

No

5. If the patient has epilepsy when was the last seizure and what time of day did it happen (please indicate if the seizures happened whilst the patient was awake, whilst asleep, or both)?

6. Have you explained to the patient that they have a legal duty to inform the DVLA about their condition, as recommended in GMC guidelines?

 Yes **No**

7. Is this medical condition likely to last for 12 months or more?

 Yes **No**

8. Please confirm prescribed medication including dosage and the side effects:

9. Is the patient's condition in the acute stage or currently stable?

10. Would appropriate treatment and medication control the patient's condition enabling them to drive in the future?

 Yes **No**

11. If yes, when would it be likely that satisfactory control of the symptoms would be attained to enable driving?

Please note this form is to accompany a Freedom Pass Application form signed by the applicant.

Please be aware if this application is agreed the service user's eligibility will be reviewed in approximately 12 months, to determine further entitlement to this concession.

Consultant Psychiatrist or:

Doctor's Signature _____

Name (Please print): _____

Job title: _____

Date: _____

Official office Stamp

Notes

The disabled person's Freedom Pass is issued to those who meet the qualifying criteria specified in s151 of the Transport Act 2000.

Having a severe mental disorder may be a qualifying condition for the Freedom Pass under this Act if the applicant, were they to apply for the grant of a licence to drive a motor vehicle under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, have their

application refused pursuant to section 92 of the Act (Medical Fitness) otherwise than on the grounds of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

Please note that people who persistently misuse drugs or alcohol are specifically *not* covered by the definition of 'disabled person' under the Act and are thus not entitled to the statutory minimum. **You must answer 'NO' to question 2 if you**

have any indication that the applicant persistently misuses drugs or alcohol.

In general, people with a severe mental disorder are not eligible for a driving licence; however, **it should be noted that there are some exceptions within this group of people, who would still be entitled to a driving licence.** For example people who:

- Experience anxiety and depression will qualify for a driving licence;
- Suffer from a more severe anxiety state or depressive illness which is complicated by significant memory or concentration problems, agitation, behavioural disturbance or suicidal thoughts, may be allowed to drive if the person is well and stable for a period of time, depending on the circumstances;
- Suffer from acute psychotic episodes, chronic schizophrenia, dementia or any organic brain syndrome may have their licence temporarily revoked, pending a Consultants examination, medication etc.

For the most up to date DVLA guidance please refer to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assessing-fitness-to-drive-a-guide-for-medical-professionals>