

## **CPC Certification (initial qualification / accelerated initial qualification / periodic training)**

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The CPC certifying an initial qualification is awarded either on the basis of course attendance and test or on the basis of theoretical and practical tests. Member States shall require trainee drivers to attend courses in a training centre approved by the competent authorities. These courses shall cover all subjects listed in section 1 of Annex I. The tests shall meet specific requirements set up in sections 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 of Annex I.

The said authorities or entities shall supervise the tests and, upon successful completion, issue the drivers with a CPC certifying an initial qualification or an accelerated initial qualification.

When a driver has completed the periodic training, the Member States' competent authorities or the approved training centre shall issue him or her with a CPC certifying periodic training.

### **FAQ**

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If a driver attends his 35 hours periodic training in more than one country, who (which country's authorities) issues the Driver Qualification Card or adds the qualification to the licence?

For consistency and efficiency purposes, attending the 35 hours of periodic training in more than one country is not recommended. The country or authority in charge of issuing the CPC has to be agreed by the Member States concerned.

There is no standard form of certification following periodic training. If drivers take all or part of their periodic training in another EU Member State, there will be problems regarding recognition of these certificates (possible fraud and greater administrative burden on competent authorities).

A harmonised Community code is provided for in Article 10 of the Directive: "95. Driver holding a CPC complying with the obligation of professional competence referred to in Article 3 until... (e.g. 95. 01.01.2012)". This code will be included in the list of harmonised Community codes as laid down in Annexes I and Ia to Directive 91/439/EEC. It shall be marked either on the driving licence or on the driver qualification card drawn up in accordance with the model shown in Annex II.

Is it allowed that a person takes an exam for the initial qualification (article 3, paragraph 1, littera a) or the accelerated initial qualification (article 3, paragraph 2), without holding a valid driving licence?

It is allowed to take the initial qualification test before being issued a valid driving licence. However, the holder will not be allowed to make use of his CPC before being issued a valid driving licence.

### **Transitional measure as regards drivers referred to in Article 4 of the Directive**

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Drivers who hold a category D licence issued no later than 2 years after the final date for the transposition of the Directive and drivers who hold a category C licence issued no later than 3 years after the final date for the transposition of the Directive will be required to undergo periodic training within 3 to 7 years after the dates of implementation (10/09/2008 and 10/09/2009), according to national laws complying with this Directive. Therefore, they may not be able to provide evidence of training certification, when requested, until 10/09/2015 and 10/09/2016. During that period, the date of issuance of the driving licence will be taken into account for checking their acquired rights.

This document reflects the understanding of the Commissions Services and does not represent any formal commitment on behalf of the Commission