



Government of the District of Columbia  
Department of For-Hire Vehicles



**ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE:  
WAIVER FOR TAXICAB VEHICLE RETIREMENT**

**Series/Number: AI-2023-04**

**Replaces: AI-2022-05**

**Approved: November 17, 2023**

**Effective: November 27, 2023**

**I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The Department of For-Hire Vehicles (“Department”) is charged with improvement and regulation of the District’s public vehicle-for-hire industry. This responsibility, as outlined in D.C. Official Code §§ 50-301.07 and 50-301.13, includes the development and oversight of for-hire vehicles. In light of the challenges faced by the industry, such as vehicle shortages and supply chain disruptions following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department has previously granted waivers for the retirement age of taxicab vehicles. Continuing this support, the Department will accept waiver applications from taxicab operators seeking to extend their vehicles’ service life. This is permitted under 31 DCMR § 609.7, provided certain criteria are met (detailed in the sections below).

This Administrative Issuance (AI) outlines the updated guidelines for obtaining such waivers. Our objective is to maintain a balance between operational flexibility for taxicab operators and the commitment to public safety and environmental standards.

**II. AUTHORITY**

District of Columbia Taxicab Commission Establishment Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986; D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 47-2829, *et seq.*; D.C. OFFICIAL CODE §§ 50-301, *et seq.*; and 31 DCMR § 609.

**III. PROCEDURES**

1. Taxicab operators who have vehicles that are less than twelve (12) model years old may complete an application to waive the ten-year vehicle retirement age and 300,000 maximum mileage requirements under 31 DCMR § 609 until December 31, 2024.
2. Complete the waiver application form, available [here](#). Applications can be accessed beginning November 27, 2023.
3. The charge for the waiver fee is \$50.00 per vehicle in addition to the license renewal fee.



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- 4. Operators of eligible vehicles will have until February 27, 2024, to complete the waiver process.

**IV. CONDITIONS OF WAIVER APPROVAL**

To qualify for the waiver, the following is required:

- 1. The operator must show proof that the vehicle has been driven no more than 350,000 miles at the time the waiver application is filed;
- 2. The vehicle passed its two (2) most recent required DMV inspections;
- 3. The vehicle is in excellent mechanical condition, as evidenced by proof of passage of a 150-point inspection. This inspection must be conducted by an independent third-party service certified by the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE); **(No taxicab company or association may self-certify the 150-point ASE inspection.)**
- 4. The vehicle is in excellent physical condition and appearance, which includes having no body damage to its exterior. This will be determined through an inspection conducted by the Department’s designated staff; and
- 5. Not be a salvaged vehicle or declared a total loss.

All other public vehicle-for-hire requirements under Title 31 of the DCMR are still applicable.

**SO ORDERED:**

**DEPARTMENT OF FOR-HIRE VEHICLES**

By: Melinda Bolling  
**MELINDA BOLLING**  
Acting Director