

# Certificate of Exemption for Driving a High-Powered Vehicle

## Information Sheet

This information sheet provides general information about applying for a certificate of exemption to drive a high-powered vehicle (HPV).

The HPV restrictions apply if you hold a:

- P1 or P2 provisional licence and you are under 25
- P1 or P2 probationary licence and you were disqualified from holding or obtaining a licence when you were under 25.

### What is a HPV?

For vehicles manufactured on or after 1 January 2010 a HPV is a car that has:

- a power-to-weight ratio of more than 130kW/tonne
- an engine that has been modified or replaced in accordance with modification codes LA1, LA2, LA3 or LA4 of the Queensland Road Vehicle Modification Handbook. Refer to page 2 of this form for explanation of modification codes.

The power-to-weight ratio is calculated by dividing the car's maximum engine power in kilowatts by the tare mass in kilograms and multiplying the result by 1000. For example, the power-to-weight ratio of a car that has a maximum engine power of 195kW and a tare mass of 1667kg would be calculated as:  
 $(195 \div 1667) \times 1000 = 117\text{kW/tonne}$

For vehicles manufactured before 1 January 2010, a HPV is a car that has:

- eight or more cylinders
- a supercharged or turbocharged engine, not diesel powered
- an engine that has a power output of more than 210kW under the manufacturer's specifications
- a rotary engine that has an engine capacity of more than 1146cc under the manufacturer's specifications
- an engine modification requiring approval under section 17 of the VSS Regulation.

### Exemption Categories

Applications for a certificate of exemption are assessed against strict criteria. In addition to the below criteria, your traffic history will be considered if you apply on personal circumstance or vehicle ownership grounds.

#### 1. Personal Circumstances Grounds

You can prove you need to drive a HPV:

- to or from your place of employment
- as part of your employment
- to or from an educational institution that you attend
- to get medical treatment for yourself or a member of your immediate family.

You must also demonstrate that:

- no other transport is reasonably available
- refusal to grant an exemption will cause you severe hardship or your family will suffer severe hardship because you have taken on a role of special responsibility in relation to your family.

#### Supporting statement

Your application must be supported by a signed statement on letterhead from your employer, the person in charge of your educational institution, your doctor or your immediate family member's doctor, that confirms your circumstances and details the days and times and why you need to drive a HPV.

#### 2. Vehicle Ownership Grounds

You can prove the only car reasonably available is a HPV that:

- if manufactured before 1 January 2010, was owned by you on 30 June 2007 and you still own it.
- if manufactured on or after 1 January 2010, was owned by you on 1 January 2014 and you still own it.
- is owned or leased by an immediate family member.
- is in the possession of an immediate family member under an employment or salary package.

You must also demonstrate that:

- no other transport is reasonably available
- refusal to grant an exemption will cause severe hardship to you, or your family because you have taken on a role of special responsibility in relation to your family.

Your application must be supported by either:

- evidence you owned the car on the stated date and still own it
- evidence your immediate family member owns, leases or possesses the car under an employment or salary package
- Your application must include a signed statement from your immediate family member that confirms your circumstances and details the days and times and why you need to drive a HPV.

#### 3. Moderately-Powered Vehicle Grounds

The car was manufactured before 1 January 2010 and has:

- a supercharged or turbocharged engine, not diesel powered
- a power-to-weight ratio of not more than 125kW/tonne
- no other features of a high-powered vehicle.

The power-to-weight ratio is calculated by dividing the car's maximum engine power in kilowatts by the kerb weight and multiplying the result by 1000.

Your application must be supported by:

- a document published by the manufacturer verifying the vehicle's kerb weight, maximum engine power and the power-to-weight ratio calculation, such as the owner's manual or information from the manufacturer's website
- a specification information test report.

A specification information test report is issued by an automotive service provider and must show:

- the name and address of the organisation(s) that conducted the test(s)
- the date of the test(s)
- vehicle make, model, VIN/chassis number
- the vehicle's kerb weight and maximum engine power
- details about the measuring system used to conduct the test, for example, an engine dynamometer.

**Note:** As the maximum engine power is required to assess your application, results from a roller dynamometer/chassis dynamometer (which test the power after it has been dispersed to the axle) will not be accepted.

## 4. Business Exemptions

Businesses who employ P1 and P2 licence holders under 25 years old may be eligible to apply for a business certificate of exemption to allow their employees to drive high-powered vehicles when they are at work.

A business can apply if they can prove that:

- driving high-powered vehicles is necessary to the operation of the business, for example, the business services high-powered vehicles
- their employees are required to drive high-powered vehicles as part of their duties
- driving high-powered vehicles is an essential part of the tasks their employees are required to perform and the tasks cannot be undertaken in a vehicle that is not a high-powered vehicle.

### Making an Application

If you believe you meet the criteria for a certificate of exemption, you may apply by completing a *High-Powered Vehicle Restriction Exemption Application (Individual)* (form F4467). Businesses may apply by completing a *High-Powered Vehicle Restriction Exemption Application (Business)* (form 5158). An application fee will apply.

For more information about applying for a certificate of exemption, including the application fee, obtaining an application form, or to check if a car is a HPV, visit [www.qld.gov.au/transport](http://www.qld.gov.au/transport) or call 13 23 80\*.

### Additional Information

An immediate family member is your spouse (includes defacto partner), parent or step-parent, grandparent or spouse of a grandparent, or approved carer or guardian.

The kerb weight is that stated under the manufacturer's specifications or in a specification information test report.

The tare mass is that stated under the manufacturer's specifications or in a specification test report.

### Engine Modification

- o LA1: Equivalent Engine Installation
- o LA2: Performance Engine Installation
- o LA3: Supercharger and Turbo Charger Installation
- o LA4: Engine Modifications

\*Check with your service providers for call costs.