



# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DRIVER ASSESSMENTS

PATIENT INFORMATION BROCHURE

## Fees and Charges:

The cost of our driving assessments are as follows:

- Off road assessment \$250
- On road assessment \$250

You will also need to pay a driving instructor for driving lessons if you need them and for them to attend your on road assessment. Driving instructor fees are negotiated directly with your driving instructor.

If you were injured on the road or at work you may be eligible for funding via TAC or Workcover.

If you are an NDIS client, the assessment may be covered under the NDIS.

## How do I arrange an assessment?

To arrange your driving assessment, please contact our friendly team on **03 9549 6438**



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**South Eastern  
Private Hospital**

Cnr Princes Hwy & Heatherton Rd, Noble Park VIC 3174  
T: 03 9549 6555 F: 03 9562 3486  
[southeasternprivate.com.au](http://southeasternprivate.com.au)

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## Occupational Therapy Driver Assessments

Sometimes impairments associated with medical conditions, injuries and disabilities can influence how well you drive. You may be asked to have an Occupational Therapy Driver Assessment, to show that you can drive safely.

Occupational therapists are health professionals who assist people with physical, mental or intellectual disabilities to resume normal daily activities. Some occupational therapists have additional qualifications, which allow them to help their clients either obtain a driver licence or maintain their ability to drive safely.

Some Australian States laws allow qualified occupational therapists to conduct driver assessments. Occupational therapists are independent specialists working in the field of health care.

### Why are we assessing your fitness to drive?

An assessment may be necessary because:

- you have a medical condition(s) or disability and would like to know if you are able to obtain or retain a driver licence
- a physical injury, head injury, illness, disability, stroke, psychiatric condition or medication may have affected your ability to drive safely
- your physical skills or thinking abilities, such as your memory or speed of thinking, may have

- changed since you first obtained your licence
- some people require an assessment because they are subject to ongoing reviews to monitor a deteriorating medical condition
- people who have failed an on-road test for an unconditional licence may be eligible to be retested for a conditional licence.

There are 2 parts to a driving assessment:

### 1. Off Road Assessment

This is a comprehensive assessment that reviews the relevant skills for driving. An off road assessment includes the following:

- An interview about your medical and driving history
- Physical tests to assess your range of motion, strength, balance and co-ordination
- Cognitive and perceptual tests
- Knowledge of current road law
- Vision test

Please bring the following to your off road assessment:

- Glasses
- Current driver's license
- Any letters from the motor/roads authority
- Optometrist report (if you have one)
- List of current medications
- Card or cash for payment
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### 2. On Road Assessment

Once you have completed your off road assessment your OT will discuss with you your options regarding an on road assessment. If your OT thinks it's appropriate and you have clearance from VicRoads you may proceed to an on road assessment. This will occur in a dual controlled vehicle with a driving instructor and your OT driving assessor in the car with you.

Please bring the following to your on road driving assessment:

- Current driver's license
- Glasses (if prescribed)
- Sunglasses/prescription sunglasses
- Any other aids/equipment required as a condition of your current license
- Card or cash for payment

### Your assessment outcomes

If your assessment is satisfactory you may be able to resume driving:

- unconditionally (retain full privileges) or
- with modifications to your car, and/or
- with restrictions or conditions to your driving.