

## NEW YORK CITY TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

### Notice of Promulgation of Rules

**Notice is hereby given in accordance with section 1043(b) of the Charter of the City of New York (“Charter”) that the Taxi and Limousine Commission (“TLC”) promulgates rules that add an exemption to the TLC Rules governing licensing requirements for Medallion Taxicab Drivers.**

These rules are promulgated pursuant to sections 1043 and 2303 of the New York City Charter and section 19-503 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York.

On June 19, 2014, a public hearing on these rules was held by the TLC at the TLC’s offices at 33 Beaver St., 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York. These rules were approved at the TLC’s public Commission Meeting held on June 19, 2014. These rules will take effect 30 days after publication.

## STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE OF RULES

In 1999, the Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) adopted a taxi school requirement to ensure that New York City's taxi drivers have the training required to provide good customer service. Today, there are 11,000 active taxi drivers who received their licenses before 1999. Under the current rule, if these drivers do not renew their licenses they must complete taxi school if they reapply for a new license. The TLC has determined, however, that these drivers should not need to attend taxi school because they already have the experience needed to provide good taxi service to the public. The TLC is therefore adopting amendments to its rules to exempt these taxi drivers from the taxi school requirement.

The Commission believes that waiving the taxi school requirement for this group of experienced drivers with good records, that is, who have no outstanding fines, will not pose a threat to the public's safety, while relieving the drivers from an unnecessary requirement. However, this exemption will not apply to the requirement that all applicants and renewal applicants for taxicab drivers licenses complete sex trafficking awareness training, which was introduced in December, 2012.

The Commission's authority for this rule change is found in section 2303 of the New York City Charter and section 19-503 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York.

New material is underlined.

[Material inside brackets indicates deleted material.]

Section 1. Paragraph (6) of subdivision (k) of section 54-04 of Title 35 of the Rules of the City of New York is renumbered paragraph (7), and a new paragraph (6) is added, to read as follows:

(6) *Life Experience Exemption.* Any Applicant for a License who previously held a valid Taxicab Driver's License will not be required to take the Authorized Taxicab Training course, provided that applicant meets the following conditions:

- (i) The Applicant obtained the previous Taxicab Driver's License before January 1, 1999.
- (ii) The prior Taxicab Driver's License expired because the Applicant failed to renew that license.
- (iii) The Applicant applies for the Taxicab Driver's License no later than two years after the expiration date of the prior Taxicab Driver's License.
- (iv) The Applicant meets all other requirements for obtaining a new Taxicab Driver's License.

- (v) The Applicant had no outstanding fines when the Applicant's prior Taxicab Driver's License expired unless such fines have been paid at the time of application.