

Chapter 40

VEHICLES FOR HIRE*

Article I. In General

Secs. 40-1—40-25. Reserved.

Article II. Taxicabs

Division 1. Generally

- Sec. 40-26. Definitions.
- Sec. 40-27. Taxicab to be conspicuously marked.
- Sec. 40-28. Additional passengers.
- Sec. 40-29. Taxistands.
- Secs. 40-30—40-40. Reserved.

Division 2. Licenses

- Sec. 40-41. Owner to file list of drivers.
- Sec. 40-42. Unlicensed taxicabs prohibited.
- Sec. 40-43. Certificate of public convenience and necessity required.
- Sec. 40-44. Issuance.
- Sec. 40-45. Inspection.
- Sec. 40-46. Police chief to certify taxicab condition.
- Sec. 40-47. Insurance required.
- Sec. 40-48. Taxicab drivers' applications; qualifications.

***Cross reference**—Traffic and vehicles, ch. 34.

State law references—Municipal authority to regulate fares, routes and standing places of vehicles for hire, 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3009(1)(F); insurance of vehicles for hire, 29 M.R.S.A. § 831.



ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Secs. 40-1–40-25. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. TAXICABS***DIVISION 1. GENERALLY****Sec. 40-26. Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Taxicab means a motor vehicle used for the conveyance of passengers for hire, without fixed routes or termini, the destination and route of which are under the control of the passenger or passengers being carried therein, and the fares for which are at rates per mile or wait time or both.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.1)

Cross reference—Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 40-27. Taxicab to be conspicuously marked.

Every taxicab shall be conspicuously marked with the word "Taxicab" and the owner's name or trade name, or in lieu thereof, with a design or monogram containing the owner's name or trade name. Such design or monogram shall not be less than eight inches in diameter.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.8)

Sec. 40-28. Additional passengers.

No driver of a taxicab shall carry any persons other than the person first engaging his taxicab, without the latter's consent. Any taxicab agent before directing a second passenger to a taxicab already engaged shall ask the person first engaging the taxicab if he consents to its use by another passenger or passengers.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.12)

Sec. 40-29. Taxistands.

The chief of police, by and with the consent of the town manager, is hereby empowered to assign, to each and every licensed taxicab owner, suitable taxistand space on public streets and ways. No owner shall permit his licensed taxicab to stand in any public place, street, lanes or square other than such taxicab stands so assigned by the chief of police. All violators will be towed.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.13)

***State law reference**—Authority to regulate taxicabs, 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3009(F).

Secs. 40-30–40-40. Reserved.

DIVISION 2. LICENSES

Sec. 40-41. Owner to file list of drivers.

Every person operating a taxicab shall, on the first business day of January and July, file with the town clerk a correct list of all taxicab drivers employed.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.9)

Sec. 40-42. Unlicensed taxicabs prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person or association or corporation to operate or cause to be operated in the town any taxicab without first having obtained therefor the license provided for in this division. Any taxicab which is regularly engaged in picking up and transporting passengers within the town shall be deemed to be operating within the town.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.2)

Sec. 40-43. Certificate of public convenience and necessity required.

No license to operate a taxicab shall be issued unless and until the municipal officers of the town have issued a certificate that the public convenience and necessity require the operation thereof.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.3)

Sec. 40-44. Issuance.

Upon the issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity as provided in this division, the town clerk shall issue to the taxicab owner, provided he shall comply with the further conditions of this article, a license for the operation of such taxicab, upon the payment of the currently required yearly license fee for each taxicab.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.4)

Sec. 40-45. Inspection.

(a) Before a license is issued to the owner of any taxicab, or whenever the police chief may require it, such owner shall deliver such taxicab to the police chief for inspection, and the police chief, or some person designated by him, shall inspect such taxicab and determine whether or not it is safe and suitable for taxicab service. The police chief or his authorized agent shall inspect each taxicab at least annually and certify to the town clerk that such taxicab has been found to be safe and suitable for taxicab service. The chief of police or his authorized agent shall inspect and find that such taxicab:

- (1) Has a valid state motor vehicle registration.
- (2) Does in fact comply with the statutes and rules and regulations relating to the examination and inspection of motor vehicles registered in the state.

- (3) Has an official inspection sticker as a certificate of inspection placed in the lower lefthand corner of the windshield or in the center of the windshield in back of the rearview mirror.
- (4) Is in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (5) Meets the identifying lights and identifying design requirements of this article.
- (6) Is in all other respects safe and suitable for taxicab service.

(b) Any taxicab which is deemed after inspection to be unsafe or unsuitable for taxicab service may be immediately ordered out of service by the police chief until it shall be made safe or suitable for taxicab service.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.5)

Sec. 40-46. Police chief to certify taxicab condition.

No license shall be issued unless and until the police chief shall certify that the taxicab is safe and suitable to be used for that purpose.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.6)

Sec. 40-47. Insurance required.

No license shall be issued for any taxicab until the owner of such taxicab has filed with the town clerk a certificate from a reputable insurance agency showing that the taxicab so licensed is insured for the period of the license covering liability for injuries to persons and property resulting from the use and operation of such taxicab. Such insurance policy or insurance indemnity for personal injury shall be in the currently required amount.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.7)

Sec. 40-48. Taxicab drivers' applications; qualifications.

Applications for licenses to drive taxicabs shall be made on forms furnished by the town and shall set forth under oath such information as the municipal officers may require. Such licenses shall be signed by the town clerk, and shall be numbered in the order granted and, unless sooner suspended or revoked, shall continue in force until April 1 next after the date thereof. The fee for an original or renewal license shall be set from time to time by the council, and a schedule of such fees is on file in the town offices. No such license shall be granted to any person unless he is of sound physical condition, can read and write, is fluent in the English language, and presents a valid driver's license issued to him by the state.

(Code 1981, § 5.3.10)

