

CHAPTER 4**TAXICABS¹****SECTION**

- 9-401. License required.
- 9-402. Definition.
- 9-403. Character of applicant.
- 9-404. Fee.
- 9-405. Vehicles.
- 9-406. Drivers.
- 9-407. Insurance.
- 9-408. Traffic rules.
- 9-409. Unlawful use.
- 9-410. Passengers.
- 9-411. Cessation of business and transfer of license.
- 9-412. Taxicab driver's license.
- 9-413. Fee.
- 9-414. Qualifications.
- 9-415. License revoked.
- 9-416. Penalty.

9-401. License required. It shall be unlawful to engage in the business of operating a taxicab in the city without first having secured a license therefor. Applications for such licenses shall be made in writing to the recorder, and shall state thereon the name of the applicant, the intended place of business and the number of cabs to be operated. If the applicant is a corporation, the names and addresses of the president and secretary thereof shall be given. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-402. Definition. The term "taxicab" as used in this section shall mean and include any vehicle used to carry passengers for hire but not operating on a fixed route. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-403. Character of applicant. No such license shall be issued to or held by any person who is not a person of good character or who has been convicted of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude within the previous eight (8) years prior to the filing of his or her application; nor shall such license

¹Municipal code reference
Privilege taxes: title 5.

be issued to or held by any corporation if any officer thereof would be ineligible for a license under the foregoing conditions. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-404. Fee. The annual fee, payable in advance, for such licenses shall be five dollars (\$5.00) plus one dollar (\$1.00) for each taxicab operated. Whenever the number of cabs so operated shall be increased during the license year, the licensee shall notify the recorder of such change and shall pay the additional fee.

The recorder shall issue suitable tags or stickers for the number of cabs covered by each license. Such tag or sticker shall be displayed in a prominent place on each taxicab while it is in use, and may be transferred to any taxicab put into service to replace one withdrawn from service.

The licensee shall notify the recorder of the motor number and Tennessee license number of each cab operated and of the corresponding city tag or sticker number. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-405. Vehicles. No taxicab shall be operated unless it bears a state license duly issued; and no such cab shall be operated unless it is equipped with proper brakes, lights, tires, horn, muffler, rear view mirrors both inside and outside the vehicle and windshield wipers, all in good condition. It shall be the duty of the chief of police or his or her designee to inspect every taxicab so often as may be necessary to see to the enforcement of the provisions of this section.

Each taxicab, while operated, shall have on each side, in letters readable from a distance of at least twenty feet, the name of the licensee operating it. If more than one cab is operated by a licensee each cab shall be distinguished by a different number, and such number also shall so appear on each side of such cab. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-406. Drivers. No person shall drive a taxicab, or be hired or permitted to do so, unless he or she is duly licensed by state law to carry passengers for hire.

It shall be unlawful for any driver of a taxicab while on duty to drink any intoxicating liquor, or to use any profane or obscene language, to shout or call to prospective passengers or to disturb the peace in any way. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-407. Insurance. No taxicab shall be operated unless it is covered by liability insurance in the minimum amount required by state law. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-408. Traffic rules. It shall be the duty of every driver of a taxicab to obey all traffic rules established by statute or ordinance. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-409. Unlawful use. It shall be unlawful to knowingly permit any taxicab to be used in the perpetration of a crime or misdemeanor. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-410. Passengers. It shall be the duty of the driver of any taxicab to accept as a passenger any person who seeks to so use the taxicab so long as such person does not pose a threat to the driver's life or property and conducts himself or herself in an orderly manner. No person shall be admitted to a taxicab occupied by a passenger without the consent of such passenger.

The driver shall take the passenger to his or her destination by the most direct available route from the place where the passenger enters the cab unless the passenger directs otherwise. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-411. Cessation of business and transfer of license. The license of any licensee shall be surrendered when such licensee ceases to do business as a taxicab business. No license may be transferred by any licensee to another person. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-412. Taxicab driver's license. In addition to the license provided for above, no person shall drive a taxicab unless he or she shall have secured a license therefor as herein provided. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-413. Fee. The annual fee for a taxicab driver's license shall be five dollars (\$5.00). (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-414. Qualifications. No such license shall be issued to any person who is not competent to operate a motor vehicle or who is not familiar with the traffic laws and ordinances. Before issuing a taxicab driver's license the chief of police or his or her designee shall determine to his or her satisfaction that said applicant is competent to operate a taxicab. The minimum requirement for a taxicab driver is that he possess the required state driver's license to carry passengers for hire. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-415. License revoked. The city manager or the police chief may revoke any taxicab driver's license for repeated violations of traffic laws or any violation of the requirements of any section contained herein. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)

9-416. Penalty. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this chapter shall on conviction be fined not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars for each offense, and a separate offense shall be deemed committed on each day during or on which a violation continues or occurs. (Ord. #1929, May 1993)