

TOWN OF FARMINGTON CHAPTER 6 LICENSES

Article 4. Motor Vehicles for Hire

6-4.1 License Required

Effective April 2, 2011, it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to engage in the business of carrying passengers for hire without first obtaining a Motor Vehicles for Hire License (hereinafter "Taxicab License") from the Farmington Board of Selectmen. All taxicab drivers shall obtain the required license after the completion of a background check from the Farmington Police Department. This section shall not apply to vehicles under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission.

6-4.2 Issuance of License

Licenses issued under the provisions of Section 1 hereof shall be for the calendar year, but such licenses shall be subject to revocation by the Board of Selectmen for failure of the licensee, or their agents, to comply with the rules and regulations of the Board of Selectmen. Renewal will be required on an annual basis. In determining whether the applicant is at present of such good moral character that the applicant can be trusted with the safe care and custody of passengers, the Chief of Police, or their designee, shall consider factors including but not limited to the following:

No license shall be issued to any applicant who:

- A. Is in violation of this Article.
- B. Is a registered sex offender.
- C. Has been convicted of murder, manslaughter, or a Class A, B, or C crime against a person at any time.
- D. Has any outstanding warrants.
- E. Has made any false statements or omissions on the application.
- F. Has convictions for the following periods of time immediately preceding their application:

TEN YEARS	FIVE YEARS	THREE YEARS
Misdemeanor Sexual Crime	Assault	Driving to Endanger
Habitual Offender	Operating Under the Influence	Three moving Motor Vehicle Violations per 29-A M.R.S. Chapter 19
	Operating After Suspension	Criminal Threatening or Terrorizing
		Criminal Mischief
		Harassment
		Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer

It is the responsibility of any owner of a taxicab service applying for a taxicab license to make certain that no person hired to drive is in violation of this section. An owner's license shall also be revoked by the Board of Selectmen of a person or entity which subsequently hires an individual with any of the unpardoned offenses listed in this section after being notified in writing by the Town Manager or Chief of Police that an individual hired by said person or entity has such an offense and fails to take corrective action within fifteen (15) days of such written notification.

The Board of Selectmen may promulgate rules and regulations governing the operation of said vehicles, the fares to be charged, and the amount of the fee for such licenses.

No license shall be issued unless:

- A. The applicant furnishes proof of required liability coverage per state of Maine requirements on all vehicles to be used under such license;
- B. Drivers are qualified under the terms of this Article;
- C. Owners and drivers are properly insured;
- D. Motor vehicles for hire are properly registered with for hire plates; and
- E. The applicant has paid the appropriate licensing fees.

Upon compliance with the requirements of this Article, the owner of the taxicab service shall be issued an owner's license. Upon compliance with all terms of this Article, a driver shall be issued an appropriate license. All owners of any taxicab service are required to comply with State laws regarding smoking.

6-4.3 Display of License

Drivers while on duty are required to display their valid drivers' licenses in the vehicles so that passengers can view their validity. In addition, a copy of the valid Taxicab

License issued by the Town of Farmington to the person or entity permitted to engage in the business of carrying passengers for hire shall be kept in all vehicles being used for said business and are available on request.

6-4.4 Required Inspections; Certificate

Each taxicab used in the Town of Farmington shall be inspected by May 1st each year; and at the request of the owner or operator thereof, may also be inspected at any other time. No certificate of inspection shall be in force longer than a one (1) year period. Such inspection shall be made by the Chief of Police or their designee, who shall issue a Certificate of Inspection if the taxicab is found to be safe, clean, and otherwise suitable. Such certificate shall be carried in the taxicab and readily available for inspection. No taxicab shall be operated without such certificate.

6-4.5 Revocation

The Board of Selectmen may revoke or suspend the Taxicab License of any owner or operator who violates the conditions of the license, makes a material misstatement on the application for the license, uses abusive or profane language in the presence of a passenger, keeps their taxicab in an unsafe, unclean or unsatisfactory condition, or operates their taxicab in an unsafe manner. The Board of Selectmen may revoke or suspend the Certificate of Inspection of a taxicab, if any part of it is found by the Chief of Police to be in an unsafe, unclean or unsanitary condition.

6-4.6 Fees

Fees for the Taxicab License shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each taxicab and the sum of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each operator for an initial license, and the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) for each operator. Fees shall be determined by the Board of Selectmen and are subject to change from time to time. All fees are non-refundable.

6-4.7 Fines for Noncompliance

Any person, firm, Limited Liability Company, corporation, or other entity that operates a business of carrying passengers for hire found to be in violation of the Article shall be subject to a fine of one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day from the date of occurrence of any violation.

6-4.8 Reciprocity

Any other town or city that allows taxicabs and drivers licensed by the Town of Farmington the right to operate in said town or city, without obtaining a license from said town or city, shall be awarded that same right of operation in the Town of Farmington provided that said town or city has a written ordinance that is at least as stringent as Chapter 6, Article 4 of the Town of Farmington Code of Ordinances.

6-4.9 Code Enforcement Requirements

If the taxicab business is operating from an office in the business owner's home in Farmington, this is allowed as long as it is in compliance with the Home Occupation performance standards in the Town of Farmington Zoning Ordinance. If the taxicab business is operating from an office other than the business owner's home, Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) review or Planning Board Site Review may be required. If CEO Review or Planning Board Site Review is not applicable, a Business Registration Form or a Home Occupation Registration must be filed with the Code Enforcement Office after the issuance of the Taxicab License.