



The Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (Driver CPC) came into effect on the 10th September 2008 for Bus Drivers and the 10th September 2009 for Truck Drivers.

To be a professional driver of a truck and/or a bus a driver is required to maintain the right to drive professionally by completing a minimum of one day of CPC periodic training each year.

To hold a CPC for both a truck and a bus, a driver must complete 6 days of CPC periodic refresher training each 5 year training cycle.

As and from the 10th September 2013 all professional bus drivers must carry a Driver CPC card and since 10th September 2014 all professional truck drivers must carry a Driver CPC card whenever they are driving professionally.

It is illegal to drive professionally without a Driver CPC card and there are penalties for failure to comply. There are, in addition, penalties for an employer who permits a driver who does not hold a valid Driver CPC to drive.

There is provision in the legislation in respect of a professional driver who has:

- Not been engaged in professional driving or
- Not maintained the Driver CPC qualification or
- Been working and living outside of the EU member states

to return to work as a professional driver without the need to undergo the full process to qualify for a Driver CPC.

The Driver CPC regulations allow a driver on completion of a minimum of 35 hours of periodic refresher training and/or 42 hours where both a bus and truck CPC qualification are to be confirmed in this manner.

The driver is required to affirm he/she has not engaged in employment as a professional driver during the preceding 5 year period.

The affirmation is on the basis of a sworn Statutory Declaration which must be provided to the RSA and a precedent for which is enclosed.

Please note a driver may not drive as a professional driver until the RSA has issued a Driver's CPC qualification card.

In summary:

- if you previously held a Drivers CPC qualification i.e., held a category D (bus) licence prior to 10th September 2008, or a category C (truck) licence prior to 10th September 2009), or
- you have completed all four stages of the Driver CPC qualification process but have not maintained your Driver CPC qualification, or
- if you were driving professionally but not living and working in Ireland or any other EU member state requiring a Driver CPC qualification,

and you now wish to affirm your Driver's CPC rights you should complete the application overleaf and forward the completed declaration to the Driver Education Section of the RSA.

Please note in all cases that a Commissioner of Oaths is required to witness your declaration.

Steps for returning to professional truck and/or bus driving professionally:

1. Complete 35 hours of Driver CPC Periodic Training (if you hold a bus and truck licence you must complete 42 hours (6 days) of CPC training). Please see www.rsa.ie for a list of RSA approved Driver CPC Training Organisations in your area.
2. Complete an application form for a Driver CPC card – your Driver CPC Trainer will give you an application form when you have completed training.
3. Complete the form overleaf and make the declaration before a Commissioner for Oaths.
4. Send both completed forms to: Driver Education Section, Road Safety Authority, Primrose Hill, Ballina, Co. Mayo.

If your application is in order, your Driver CPC qualification card will subsequently be issued to your contact address.

Should you have any queries, please contact the Driver Education Section at cpc@rsa.ie

Yours sincerely

Driver Education Manager

