

# CVR Testing Resumption

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Introduction

The Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport and the RSA have confirmed that **CVR testing will resume from 18 May 2020** subject to detailed measures being put in place by each individual CVR test operator to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19.

We have updated these FAQs to answer queries on the resumption of CVR testing while still including relevant questions regarding the extension of test due dates as allowed in the Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness (Vehicle Testing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, signed on the 20 April 2020.

Any queries concerning the resumption of CVR testing that are not covered in this document, can be sent to [cvradmin@rsa.ie](mailto:cvradmin@rsa.ie)

### Queries on resumption of CVR testing

#### 1. When will CVR testing resume?

CVR testing will resume on a limited basis from 18 May 2020 subject to detailed measures being put in place by each individual CVR test operator to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19.

#### 2. Will all CVR test centres be open from 18 May 2020?

No - a commercial vehicle owner seeking to have a CVR vehicle tested should first contact their usual CVR test centre to verify when they are resuming CVR testing.

#### 3. Can all commercial vehicles be tested after 18 May 2020?

No, we want to ensure that we have a phased resumption of CVR testing, so only vehicles with a test due date **prior to 28 March 2020** will be accepted for testing initially. This will allow all vehicles with an expired CRW and not entitled to a test due extension to be tested first.

#### 4. My vehicle is out of test – what will happen if I am stopped by An Garda Síochána while driving to the CVR testing centre for the test

The Garda Síochána is aware of the suspension of CVR testing. Enforcement is a matter for An Garda Síochána. The key priority is that the vehicle is roadworthy at the time of the inspection and your legal obligation in that regard has not changed.

**5. My vehicle qualified for an extension to the certificate of roadworthiness. Will I find it hard to get a test booking when testing resumes if there is a backlog of vehicles to be tested?**

No, the vast majority of vehicles will have received a 3-month test due extension, so vehicles that had a test due date in May 2020, will now have a test due date in August 2020, those that had a test due date in August 2020 will now have a test due date in November 2020 and so on. This approach will ensure that there will be adequate testing capacity to accommodate vehicle owners seeking tests for vehicles with the usual test volume demand expected from July 2020 onwards. This will also ensure that there is an even spread of test demand for this year and subsequent years.

## Measures by CVR test centres against the spread of COVID-19

**6. Will CVR test centres be taking precautions to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19.**

Yes, the resumption of CVR testing is subject to detailed measures being implemented to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 by each CVR test centre to protect staff, contractors and users of CVR testing services, including RSA representatives. These measures are being aligned with the Government's Return to Work Safely Protocols Roadmap and compliant with Health and Safety Authority requirements. It is the responsibility of each CVRT test operator to put in place the necessary measures in respect of COVID 19 at their testing centre.

**7. Are there any specific instructions to be followed when presenting a commercial vehicle at a testing centre?**

Yes - CVR test centres should advise you of any specific instructions to be followed when you seek a booking and present your vehicle for test e.g. instructions to wait in the vehicle to ensure social distance is maintained in the test centre. The vehicle, both interior and the exterior must be presented in a clean and safe condition for testing. The vehicle presenter should observe social distancing requirements at a testing centre and adhere to all safety precautions in place. Please observe and adhere to all of the HSE signage and instructions.

**8. Will I be required to hand-over documents when I attend at the testing centre?**

Individual CVR testing centres will be implementing their own local protocols on hand-over documents required at the test. Payment should be made by credit or debit cards where possible.

**9. Will I be subject to a fee for the test?**

Yes, from the resumption of testing, the usual CVR test fees will apply along with any subsequent equipment retests that may arise from these tests.

**10. My vehicle was due a retest prior to the suspension of CVR testing, will my CVR testing centre be able to undertake a retest?**

In the interests of road safety, any vehicle that was due a retest on 28 March 2020 must undergo a full test, but the vehicle owner will only be charged the appropriate 'retest' fee for this full test. Where a vehicle required a non-equipment retest, there will be no charge to the vehicle owner, but the vehicle must still undergo a full test.

You will need to check with your CVR testing centre about their plans to resume CVR testing and book your vehicle in for test. Note that vehicles which had a valid CRW on or after 28 March 2020 will have their test due date extended by three-months and as per question 3 above, these vehicles cannot be tested as yet.

**11. I am a vulnerable person – can special arrangements be made for me as regards a test booking**

Yes - you should consult your CVR test centre to make arrangements in this regard. You may also ask another person to present your vehicle for test on your behalf.

## General Queries on test due date extensions

**12. What vehicles were covered in the extension of the test due dates for commercial vehicles?**

- Any commercial vehicle with a first test due date falling during the period beginning on 28 March 2020 and ending on 30 June 2020, will have its test due date pushed forward by 3 months.
- Any vehicle with a valid certificate of roadworthiness (CRW) on 28 March 2020 (i.e. test due date on or after 28 March 2020), will have its test due date pushed forward by 3 months.

**13. Can I check online if my vehicle's test due date has been updated?**

Yes, the change in the test due date will be recorded digitally on the vehicle record contained on the National Vehicle and Driver File, but we are still in the process of updating these dates. We are prioritizing the updating of these dates for relevant vehicles, but do not expect to have all vehicles updated until June 2020. You can check that your test due date has been extended at <https://operator.cvr.ie/Vehicle/CRWExpiryTestReminder>.

**14. Does the extension apply for all subsequent test due dates?**

The regulations reset the test due date for those vehicles with a test due date on or after 28 March 2020 and this new date will then be the test due date for the future e.g. if a vehicle had a test due date of 1 April 2020, this will be extended to 1 July 2020 and if tested on time, its next test due date will be 1 July 2021 (assuming it usually gets a 12 month CRW).

**15. Do I still need a CRW to tax my vehicle?**

The requirement to have a CRW to tax a commercial vehicle has been revoked so you will be able to tax your vehicle without holding a CRW. The obligation to hold a current CRW for a vehicle being used on a public road continues to apply.

**16. When does the extension cease?**

This is a single extension of the test due date by 3 months for CVR vehicles that hold a valid CRW on 28 March 2020 or are due their **first** test between 28 March 2020 and 30 June 2020 inclusive.

**17. Is a vehicle owner required to apply for an extension of their current CRW for a vehicle?**

No. It is not necessary to do so. The 3-month extension will automatically be applied to eligible vehicle records on the National Vehicle Driver File retained by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, but please understand that it will take some time to make the changes to the records.

**18. Is it intended to post out a new CRW to cover the 3-month extension?**

No. The change in the test due date will be recorded digitally on the vehicle record contained on the National Vehicle and Driver File. You can check that your test due date has been extended at <https://operator.cvrt.ie/Vehicle/CRWExpiryTestReminder>, but please understand that it will take some time to make the changes to the vehicle records.

**19. Should I retain my expired CRW and continue to display it on the vehicle?**

Yes – the latest CRW issued in respect of the vehicle should be retained. You should also continue to display the most recent CRW disc for your vehicle, even if it is out of date.

**20. If I am asked for a CRW when abroad what should I present?**

The RSA recommends that the most recent CRW for the vehicle, including trailers, should be presented together with any record of inspection carried out by an enforcement officer in the past three months. Evidence of repairs, following a roadside inspection, on-going repairs and details of walk around checks conducted should also be carried by the driver to demonstrate on-going compliance.

**21. I have misplaced my CRW, can I apply for a replacement?**

The RSA continues to process applications for replacement CRWs and there are no significant delays in this regard. There is no need to apply for a replacement CRW to cover the 3-month extension period.

**22. My commercial vehicle was declared off the road for tax purposes and the CRW expired when it was off the road. Does the 3-month extension apply?**

No, the extension will not apply as the CRW for the vehicle expired before 28 March 2020.

**23. My vehicle was overdue a test on 28 March 2020, does the extension apply to that vehicle?**

No, the extension will not apply as the CRW for the vehicle expired before 28 March 2020.

**24. My vehicle is overdue a test? Will I be issued with a 'short' CRW?**

Yes – the rules relating to issuing of CRWs remain intact. Therefore, if the vehicle is late for a test, a CRW for less than 12 months will be issued for the vehicle concerned and the 3-month extension will not apply.

**25. My vehicle was due its first test in early March 2020, do I get the 3-month extension?**

No - if a vehicle's test due date was in early March 2020 but it had not passed its test by 28 March 2020, the vehicle will not be eligible for the extension (on the basis that the vehicle did not have a valid CRW on 28 March 2020).

**26. I was due a retest for a vehicle prior to the suspension of testing, will I be entitled to the extension?**

If the current CRW expires on or after 28 March 2020, the extension will apply, otherwise it will not be extended.

**27. My CRW is currently on hold as I did not have ID with me on the day of the test. As the test centre is closed, I am unable to present my ID. How do I get the CRW released?**

Once CVR testing resumes in your CVR test centre, you may present your ID and have your CRW released.

**28. My vehicle was issued with a pass pending recheck before testing was suspended but has not been issued with a CRW. Can I arrange to have the recheck completed?**

You can arrange for the recheck to be completed once CVR testing resumes in your CVR test centre.

**29. My vehicle is an import from another Member State, registered in Ireland before 1 July 2019, does it qualify for the 3-month extension?**

Yes – provided that the vehicle has a valid CRW on 28 March 2020.

**30. I have imported a vehicle over 1 year old which has not yet been registered in Ireland and it requires a CVR test, what should I do?**

If the vehicle concerned is issued with a CRW by another Member State and this remains valid, you may be eligible to apply for a recognition cert as soon as the vehicle is registered in Ireland. If the vehicle concerned is registered in Ireland and requires a test, the RSA is exploring possible options in respect of emergency tests for such vehicles taking into account HSE advice.

**31. Will the deferral of the test due date have an adverse impact on my RSA Commercial Vehicle Operator Risk Indicator (CVORI)?**

In the case of vehicles that qualify for the extension, the deferral of the test due date will not affect their owners CVORI rating, but please understand that it will take some time to make the changes to all the eligible vehicles. However, those vehicle owners who failed to have their vehicle tests completed on time by 28 March 2020 may be impacted.

**32. Do my legal obligations change because of the extension to the test due date?**

No – your legal obligations relating to maintaining your vehicle in a roadworthy condition while in use do not change.

**33. I am purchasing a vehicle; will I be able to see the original CRW expiry date?**

When purchasing a vehicle, you are encouraged to request the seller to show you the original CRW. You can check the current CRW expiry date on the RSA CRW checker located at <https://operator.cvrt.ie/Vehicle/CRWExpiryTestReminder>, but please understand that it will take some time to make the changes to all the eligible vehicles.