

**Borough of Hightstown
156 Bank Street, Hightstown, NJ**

**Taxi Driver Application
January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026**

Date Received
By Clerk: _____

Fee Received: _____

Date Forwarded
To Police Dept: _____

Driver's Name: _____

Instructions

This application must be filled out in full and signed by the applicant.

Please type or print clearly all information. Any false statement is sufficient cause for exclusion of the applicant from consideration of licensing.

Read each question carefully and answer all that is asked.

Your application will not be reviewed unless you provide all of the following information:

- _____ Check or Money Order for \$50
- _____ Proof of fingerprinting. Appointments must be made on-line. See instructions attached.
- _____ The recommendations of three reputable citizens
- _____ Copy of valid New Jersey Driver's License
- _____ Current certified Driver Abstract from the NJ Motor Vehicle Commission
- _____ Proof of citizenship or legal resident status
- _____ Completed Medical Examination Report for Taxicab/Limo/Medical Driver Fitness Determination Form (form attached) **This is the form that must be completed.**

The completed application must be signed in the presence of a notary public testifying that the statements on the application are true to the best of your knowledge.

Approval of all applicants is subject to review by the Borough of Hightstown Police Department.

There may be amendments to the current taxi ordinance that you will have to follow in order to keep your approved license.

Sign below to acknowledge that you have read and understand the above instructions.

Signature of Applicant

The attached applicant has been fingerprinted and has been cleared with the New Jersey State Bureau of Identification. I have examined the foregoing application and find no police record.

Police Department

DRIVER'S INFORMATION – Please type or print all information

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone _____

Email address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth _____

Sex: _____ Height _____ Weight _____ Eye Color _____ Hair Color _____

SS# _____ Driver's License # _____

1. Has your driver's license and/or registration ever been suspended or revoked in this state or any other? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, why? _____

2. Do you have any criminal charges of any sort, pending against you? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, why? _____

3. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Yes _____ No _____

4. Are you currently serving any sentence including probation? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, for how long? _____

5. Do you currently suffer from any mental condition, physical impairment or sickness that may affect your ability to operate a motor vehicle safely? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, what? _____

6. Have you ever been hospitalized, treated or observed by a doctor or psychiatrist for a mental condition? Yes _____ No _____

7. Do you have a chemical or alcoholic dependency? Yes_____ No_____
8. If yes, are you currently being treated for your chemical or alcohol dependency? Yes___ No___
9. Do you presently own or have you ever owned your own company? Yes_____ No_____ If yes,
give company name, address and date _____
- _____
- _____

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS SIGNING THIS FORM:

The Borough of Hightstown reserves the right to prosecute any false statement made on this form the fullest extent of the law against the signer(s).

Be on notice that any person who includes false statement in this form (whether by omitting requested information, or by including information that is false), and then signs the form, will be subject to punishment. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:28-3(a), it is a crime of the fourth degree to make a false written statement on this form which the signer does not believe to be true. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:28-2(a), it is a crime of the fourth degree to make a false statement under oath or equivalent affirmation.

By my signature below, I hereby swear and affirm that:

- I am at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- I am (check one) a United States citizen _____ or a legal resident alien_____. *If a resident alien, a copy of the alien registration card or work permit must be submitted with this application.*
- I possess a current and valid New Jersey driver's license. *A copy of your NJ Driver's License must be submitted with this application.*
- I am not addicted to the use of narcotics or intoxicating liquors.
- I am able to read, speak and understand the English language.
- I have not been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude.
- I have taken the time to study state and local motor vehicle laws, rules, and regulations. I have also made sure that I am fully informed of the geography of the Borough of Hightstown, Mercer County, and key locations (such as airports and train stations) in the State of New Jersey.
- I have not been convicted, within the three years prior to the date of the application, of reckless driving, driving while intoxicated, leaving the scene of an accident or driving more than 30 miles an hour above the speed limit.
- At the time of this application, I have no more than eight (8) New Jersey State Division of Motor Vehicle points on my driving record, or the equivalent if licensed in any other state.

I agree that I will inform the Borough of Hightstown in writing WITHIN THREE DAYS of any change in, or addition to, the information set forth above.

I am the applicant named above; that the questions are answered by me and that the statements of facts contained in the forgoing application are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Signature of Applicant

State of New Jersey ss

County of _____

Subscribed before me on this _____ day of _____, 20____

Notary Signature

My commission expires _____

Medical Examination form for Taxi Drivers

Form must be completed by driver and reviewed and signed by medical examiner.

SECTION 1. Driver Information *(to be filled out by the driver)*

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip Code: _____

Driver's License Number: _____ Issuing State/Province: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail *(optional)*: _____ ☐ ☐

☐ ☐ ☐

DRIVER HEALTH HISTORY

Have you ever had surgery? If "yes," please list and explain below.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

Are you currently taking medications *(prescription, over-the-counter, herbal remedies, diet supplements)*?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

If "yes," please describe below.

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

****This document contains sensitive information and is for official use only. Improper handling of this information could negatively affect individuals. Handle and secure this information appropriately to prevent inadvertent disclosure by keeping the documents under the control of authorized persons. Properly dispose of this document when no longer required to be maintained by regulatory requirements.****

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____ Exam Date: _____

DRIVER HEALTH HISTORY (continued)

Do you have or have you ever had:	Yes	No	Not Sure		Yes	No	Not Sure
1. Head/brain injuries or illnesses (e.g., concussion)	☐	☐	☐	16. Dizziness, headaches, numbness, tingling, or memory loss	☐	☐	☐
2. Seizures/epilepsy	☐	☐	☐	17. Unexplained weight loss	☐	☐	☐
3. Eye problems (except glasses or contacts)	☐	☐	☐	18. Stroke, mini-stroke (TIA), paralysis, or weakness	☐	☐	☐
4. Ear and/or hearing problems	☐	☐	☐	19. Missing or limited use of arm, hand, finger, leg, foot, toe	☐	☐	☐
5. Heart disease, heart attack, bypass, or other heart problems	☐	☐	☐	20. Neck or back problems	☐	☐	☐
6. Pacemaker, stents, implantable devices, or other heart procedures	☐	☐	☐	21. Bone, muscle, joint, or nerve problems	☐	☐	☐
7. High blood pressure	☐	☐	☐	22. Blood clots or bleeding problems	☐	☐	☐
8. High cholesterol	☐	☐	☐	23. Cancer	☐	☐	☐
9. Chronic (long-term) cough, shortness of breath, or other breathing problems	☐	☐	☐	24. Chronic (long-term) infection or other chronic diseases	☐	☐	☐
10. Lung disease (e.g., asthma)	☐	☐	☐	25. Sleep disorders, pauses in breathing while asleep, daytime sleepiness, loud snoring	☐	☐	☐
11. Kidney problems, kidney stones, or pain/problems with urination	☐	☐	☐	26. Have you ever had a sleep test (e.g., sleep apnea)?	☐	☐	☐
12. Stomach, liver, or digestive problems	☐	☐	☐	27. Have you ever spent a night in the hospital?	☐	☐	☐
13. Diabetes or blood sugar problems	☐	☐	☐	28. Have you ever had a broken bone?	☐	☐	☐
Insulin used	☐	☐	☐	29. Have you ever used or do you now use tobacco?	☐	☐	☐
14. Anxiety, depression, nervousness, other mental health problems	☐	☐	☐	30. Do you currently drink alcohol?	☐	☐	☐
15. Fainting or passing out	☐	☐	☐	31. Have you used an illegal substance within the past two years?	☐	☐	☐
				32. Have you ever failed a drug test or been dependent on an illegal substance?	☐	☐	☐

Other health condition(s) not described above: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

Did you answer "yes" to any of questions 1-32? If so, please comment further on those health conditions below: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

DRIVER'S SIGNATURE

I certify that the above information is accurate and complete.

Driver's Signature: _____ Date: _____

SECTION 2. Examination Report (to be filled out by the medical examiner)

DRIVER HEALTH HISTORY REVIEW

Review and discuss pertinent driver answers and any available medical records. Comment on the driver's responses to the "health history" questions that may affect the driver's safe operation of a commercial motor vehicle (CMV).

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____ Exam Date: _____

TESTING

Pulse Rate: _____ Pulse rhythm regular: ☐ Yes ☐ No Height: ____ feet ____ inches Weight: ____ pounds

Blood Pressure

Systolic

Diastolic

Sitting					
Second reading (optional)					

Other testing if indicated

Vision

Standard is at least 20/40 acuity (Snellen) in each eye with or without correction. At least 70° field of vision in horizontal meridian measured in each eye. The use of corrective lenses should be noted on the Medical Examiner's Certificate.

Acuity Uncorrected Corrected Horizontal Field of Vision

Right Eye: 20/____ 20/____ Right Eye: ____ degrees

Left Eye: 20/____ 20/____ Left Eye: ____ degrees

Both Eyes: 20/____ 20/____

Applicant can recognize and distinguish among traffic control signals and devices showing red, green, and amber colors ☐ Yes ☐ No

Monocular vision ☐ Yes ☐ No

Referred to ophthalmologist or optometrist? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Received documentation from ophthalmologist or optometrist? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Hearing

Standard: Must first perceive whispered voice at not less than 5 feet **OR** average hearing loss of less than or equal to 40 dB, in better ear (with or without hearing aid).

Check if hearing aid used for test: ☐ Right Ear ☐ Left Ear ☐ Neither

Whisper Test Results Right Ear Left Ear

Record distance (in feet) from driver at which a forced whispered voice can first be heard _____

OR

Audiometric Test Results

Right Ear: Left Ear:

500 Hz 1000 Hz 2000 Hz 500 Hz 1000 Hz 2000 Hz

Average (right): _____ Average (left): _____

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

The presence of a certain condition may not necessarily disqualify a driver, particularly if the condition is controlled adequately, is not likely to worsen, or is readily amenable to treatment. Even if a condition does not disqualify a driver, the Medical Examiner may consider deferring the driver temporarily. Also, the driver should be advised to take the necessary steps to correct the condition as soon as possible, particularly if neglecting the condition could result in a more serious illness that might affect driving.

Check the body systems for abnormalities.

Body System	Normal	Abnormal	Body System	Normal	Abnormal
1. General	☐	☐	8. Abdomen	☐	☐
2. Skin	☐	☐	9. Genito-urinary system including hernias	☐	☐
3. Eyes	☐	☐	10. Back/spine	☐	☐
4. Ears	☐	☐	11. Extremities/joints	☐	☐
5. Mouth/throat	☐	☐	12. Neurological system including reflexes	☐	☐
6. Cardiovascular	☐	☐	13. Gait	☐	☐
7. Lungs/chest	☐	☐	14. Vascular system	☐	☐

Discuss any abnormal answers in detail in the space below and indicate whether it would affect the driver's ability to operate a CMV. Enter applicable item number before each comment.

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

CERTIFICATION STATUS

_____ Is qualified to drive a Taxicab

_____ Does not meet the standard to drive a taxicab

_____ Qualified only when wearing corrective lenses

_____ Qualified only when wearing a hearing aid

Medical Examiner's Signature_____

Medical Examiner's Name (printed)_____

Address_____

Telephone_____

Email_____

Date of Examination_____

FINGERPRINT INSTRUCTIONS

ALL Taxi Driver applicants are required to be fingerprinted, prior to submitting their Taxi Driver Application. **This applies to new and renewal taxi driver applicants.** Please utilize the attached Identogo New Jersey Universal Fingerprint Form for instructions. Fingerprinting is done by appointment only and scheduling can be done online at <https://uenroll.identogo.com> using service code: 2F17ZY or by calling 1-877-503-5981. While scheduling your fingerprinting appointment, you will be required to provide the Originating Agency Number (ORI#) for fingerprinting. The ORI# for Hightstown is NJ0110400.

Please Note - Taxi Driver Applicants are required to provide an Identogo fingerprinting receipt to show proof that the applicant was fingerprinted. If the Taxi Driver Application is not fully completed or if the applicant has not been fingerprinted, the application will **NOT** be accepted.

(1) Originating Agency Number (ORI #) NJ0110400		(2) Category LOX		(3) Statute Number 13.59-1	
(4) Reason for Fingerprinting LOCAL ORDINANCE				(5) Document Type S1	(6) Payment Information
(7) Contributor's Case # (Unique Identifier) TAXI				(8) Miscellaneous	
(9) First Name		(10) MI		(11) Last Name	
(12) Daytime Phone Number () -		(13) Social Security Number (Optional)		(14) Date of Birth	(15) Height
(16) Weight		(17) Maiden or Alias Last Name		(18) Place of Birth (US State if US Citizen; Country for all others)	
(19) Country of Citizenship					
(20) Home Address					
Address		City		State	Zip
(21) Gender (Select one) [] Female [] Male [] Both		(22) Hair Color		(23) Eye Color	
(24) Race (Select One) [A] Asian/ Pacific Islander (includes Asian Indian) [B] Black [I] American Indian / Alaska Native [W] White (Includes Hispanic/ Spanish Origin) [U] Unknown					
(25) Occupation / Position (with respect to Requirement)		(26) Employer / Organization Name (with respect to Requirement)			
		Employer Address			
		City		State	Zip
Identification Requirement - Acceptable Identification must be presented at the <u>time of printing</u> . Identification presented MUST be one (1) document that is current (not expired). A combination of documents will not be accepted. The single document must include the following criteria: Photo, Name, Address (home/issuing agency) and Date of Birth. Acceptable ID must be issued by a Federal, State, County or Municipal entity for identification purposes. Examples of acceptable ID are: 1) Valid U.S. State Photo Driver's License/ Non Driver's License, 2) U.S. Passport, 3) USCIS Permanent Resident ID Card (issued after 5/10/2010), and 4) USCIS Employment Authorization Card (issued after 10/31/2011).					

Please READ This Form Carefully:

Follow all of the instructions provided by your agency/employer to complete the fingerprint process. You must have this form (Blocks 1 through 26) completed prior to scheduling your fingerprint appointment via the website or call center. **PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.** It is **required** that you **present** this completed Universal Fingerprint Form, IDG_NJAPP_051719_V1, at your scheduled appointment.

Appointment Scheduling:

Scheduling is available anytime at <https://uenroll.identogo.com/>. Appointments may also be scheduled through our Call Center. English and Spanish speaking agents are available at **1-877-503-5981**, Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM EST and Saturday, 8:00AM to 12 Noon EST.

Payment:

When an applicant is responsible for payment, payment is required at the time of scheduling. The following forms of payment are accepted: Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover and prepaid debit cards, or electronic debit (ACH) from a checking account. Accounts will be debited immediately.

Cancel/ Reschedule:

Appointments may be canceled or rescheduled via the website or the call center before the deadline of 5PM EST the business day prior to the scheduled appointment (Saturday Noon for Monday appointments). An appointment fee of \$12.00 plus tax (\$12.80) will be incurred by applicants who do not cancel/reschedule their appointment prior to the deadline. Idemia Identity & Security will refund the remainder of the fee paid (state/federal search fees) to the original payment method.

Unable to be Fingerprinted:

An applicant is considered "Unable to be Fingerprinted" for any of the following reasons: Failure to appear for scheduled appointment, inability to present proper identification, inability to present this completed Universal Fingerprint Form IDG_NJAPP_051719_V1, or the information on this form does not exactly match the information provided during the scheduling process. Applicants unable to be fingerprinted will incur a \$12.00 plus tax (\$12.80) appointment fee. Idemia Identity & Security will refund the remainder of the fee paid (state/federal search fees) to the original payment method.

PCN and Receipts:

Upon the completion of fingerprinting, you will be assigned a PCN number. The PCN will be recorded on this form and on your receipt. Idemia Identity & Security will not provide *duplicate receipts, PCN Numbers or any appointment/printing information after the time of printing.*

Applicant ID Number:	Payment Authorization:	PCN:
Scheduled Day & Date:	Scheduled Time:	Scheduled Site:
Agency Information:		

You **MUST** retain a copy of this form and the receipt of printing for your personal records.

APPLICANTS MUST NOT ALTER, SHARE, OR REUSE THIS FORM

The Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown

Chapter 4. General Licensing

Part 3. **Taxicabs**

Article 4-21. Taxicab Licensing

§ 4-21-1. Definitions.

[Ord. No. 2005-29; Ord. No. 2012-09; Ord. No. 2016-03]

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

BOROUGH

The Borough of Hightstown.

CHIEF OF POLICE

The person serving as the head of the police department pursuant to Article **2-19** of the Borough Code.

DRIVER

Any person who operates a taxicab within the Borough, whether or not such person is also the owner thereof.

OPERATION OF A TAXICAB

Transporting in a taxicab one or more persons for hire. Accepting a passenger to be transported for hire from a point of departure within the Borough to a destination within or without the Borough shall be considered "operation of a taxicab" within the Borough. The "operation of a taxicab" by one other than the owner shall be deemed operation by the owner as well as by the person actually driving the taxi. The transportation of any person other than the owner or driver in any motor vehicle bearing a sign using the words "taxi," "taxicab," "cab" or "hack" shall be prima facie evidence of operation.

OWNER

Any person, business entity, association or other legal entity in whose name title to any taxicab is registered with the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles or who appears in the Division's records to be a conditional vendee or lessee or has any other proprietary interest in a taxicab.

POLICE COMMISSIONER

The member of the Borough Council designated as such on an annual basis by the Mayor, pursuant to § **2-19-3** of the Borough Code.

TAXICAB or TAXI or CAB

A motor vehicle used to transport passengers for hire or compensation which does not operate over a fixed route and is not hired by the day or hour.

§ 4-21-2. Licenses Required.

[Ord. No. 2005-29]

No person shall operate a taxicab within the Borough unless both the owner and the driver of the taxicab are licensed under this article.

§ 4-21-3. Types of Licenses.

[Ord. No. 2005-29]

- A. Taxicab Driver's License. The holder of a taxicab driver's license shall be entitled to operate within the Borough any taxicab whose owner has been licensed under this article.
- B. Taxicab Owner's License. The holder of a taxicab owner's license shall be entitled to operate a taxicab owned or leased by the licensee within the Borough, provided that the person driving the cab holds a valid taxicab driver's license.

§ 4-21-4. Licensing of Taxicab Owners.

[Ord. No. 2005-29; Ord. No. 2006-13; Ord. No. 2009-26; Ord. No. 2012-09; Ord. No. 2016-03]

- A. The Borough will make available on an annual basis a maximum of five taxicab owner's licenses, subject to the provisions of Subsection **B** below. Licenses shall be awarded on a first come, first served qualifying basis. Those licensees that have been previously licensed by the Borough during the prior year and who remain in good standing and who have submitted their statement for renewal (per the provisions of Subsection **I** below) prior to January 1st, shall be afforded the first opportunity for re-licensing. All other applicants shall be afforded the opportunity to obtain a taxicab owner's license after January 1st.
- B. Should the Borough determine to authorize the issuance of one or more new or additional taxicab owner's licenses beyond the maximum number referenced in Subsection **A** above, then such issuance shall be authorized by future Ordinance of the Governing Body.
- C. Application Information.
 - (1) Application for a taxicab owner's license shall be made to the Borough Clerk on forms provided by the Borough Clerk's office.
 - (2) Applications shall be signed and verified by oath or affirmation by the applicant. Applications by a partnership shall give the information required for each partner and shall be signed and verified by all partners. Applications by a corporation shall give the information required for and be signed and verified by all officers and directors and all persons holding more than 10% of the corporation's common stock, as well as by a person duly authorized to act for the corporation itself.
 - (3) Applications must be accompanied by proof of automobile liability insurance coverage which is in effect and issued by a company licensed and admitted to transact business in the State of New Jersey, and acceptable to the Borough, indicating limits of liability in amounts not less than the following: \$50,000 per person and \$100,000 per accident for bodily injury or death and \$50,000 per accident for property damage. Proof of insurance must also indicate that insurance coverage applies to all owned or leased vehicles of the applicant or must specify by description all of the vehicles to which the coverage applies. Said proof of insurance must also indicate that the Borough shall receive advance written notice of at least 30 days prior to any cancellation or non-renewal thereof, except that no less than 10 days advance written notice shall be provided for non-payment of premium. The insurance policy shall provide for the payment of any final judgment recovered by any person on account of the ownership, maintenance, or use of the vehicle(s) of the applicant, or any fault in respect thereto, and shall be for the benefit of every person suffering loss, damage or injury as aforesaid. The Borough of Hightstown shall be named as an additional insured on any

insurance policy submitted in accordance with the requirements of this article. If the taxicab owner's application for license applies to more than one vehicle, the taxicab owner may satisfy the insurance requirements specified herein through the submission of a blanket bond or insurance policy which meets the criteria specified in N.J.S.A. 48:16-4.

- (4) Information about each taxicab vehicle to be operated under the taxicab owner's license shall be provided, including the following:
 - (a) Vehicle year, make, model and color of vehicle.
 - (b) Vehicle identification number.
 - (c) New Jersey State license plate number.
 - (d) Passenger capacity.
 - (e) Insurance company, policy number and expiration date.
 - (f) Name and address of vehicle owner if different than applicant.
 - (5) Any person who shall make a false statement in any license application or in any record or certificate that is required to be filed or maintained shall be subject to rejection of the application submitted and/or to appropriate disciplinary sanctions, including license suspension or revocation, in addition to any penalty provided under the New Jersey Criminal Code.
- D. Investigation; Grant or Denial of License. The Chief of Police or his designee shall investigate all applications. A copy of the application shall also be provided to the Zoning Officer for review and for a determination that the proposed location of the taxi operation does not violate applicable zoning regulations. A report containing the results of the Police investigation and evaluation, a recommendation by the Chief of Police or his designee that the license be granted or denied, and the reasons for such recommendation shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police (i.e., in cases where the investigation is performed by the Police Chief's designee) and the Police Commissioner. A report regarding the Zoning Officer's findings shall also be provided to the Chief of Police and the Police Commissioner. The Borough Clerk shall ensure that copies of these reports are also made available to the applicant. Based upon the findings set forth in the reports, the Chief of Police shall determine whether to grant or deny the license. Said determination shall be rendered in writing and shall be provided to the applicant.
- E. Factors Considered. In determining whether to grant or deny the license, the Chief of Police shall take into consideration the following factors:
- (1) The character, business and financial responsibility and experience of the applicant and the probability that, if granted a license, the applicant will operate his taxicab(s) in accordance with the provisions of this article.
 - (2) Any other factors directly related to the granting or denial of the license which would substantially affect the public safety or convenience.
- F. Issuance of License. If the application is approved by the Chief of Police, the Police Department shall issue the license.
- G. License Term; Fees.
- (1) A taxicab owner's license shall be valid for the remainder of the calendar year for which it is issued, expiring on December 31 of said year.
 - (2) The license fee shall be \$100 per year or portion thereof per vehicle and shall be nonrefundable in the event that the application is denied. For licenses issued in 2012, the license fee shall be pro-rated. For licenses issued in 2013 and thereafter, all applicants shall be charged the full nonrefundable license fee amount.

- H. In those cases where the license has been denied, the applicant shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing before the Police Commissioner. Any request for a hearing must be made within 10 days of the applicant's receipt of written notice of denial from the Chief of Police. At the hearing, the applicant shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. Following the hearing, the Police Commissioner's determination shall be final.
- I. Renewals. A taxicab owner's license shall be renewed by the Chief of Police without a hearing upon the licensee's filing with the Chief of Police or his designee a sworn notarized statement certifying that there have been no changes in the information contained in the initial application and upon the completion of the investigation set forth in Subsection **D** above indicating results that are satisfactory to the Chief of Police.
- J. Any change(s) in the information contained within the owner's license application shall be reported to the Borough Clerk within three business days thereof. A charge in the amount of \$25 shall be levied for each business day after three days that any such changes are not reported to the Borough.

§ 4-21-5. Licensing of Taxicab Drivers.

[Ord. No. 2005-29; Ord. No. 2006-13; Ord. No. 2012-09; Ord. No. 2016-03]

A. Applications.

- (1) Application for a taxicab driver's license shall be made annually to the Borough Clerk upon forms provided by that office, and shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police for processing, screening and determination. Applications shall be taken in the Clerk's office only, during days and hours established by the Clerk. Except as hereinafter provided, applicants shall have the following minimum qualifications:
 - (a) Applicant must be over 21 years of age.
 - (b) Applicant must be a United States citizen or a legal resident alien. A copy of the alien registration card or work permit must be submitted with the application.
 - (c) Applicant must possess a valid New Jersey driver's license.
 - (d) Applicant must supply a certification from a licensed physician, on a form to be provided by the Borough Clerk, indicating that the applicant has been examined within the past 60 days and is in sound physical condition, has eyesight corrected to 20/20 vision and is not subject to any infirmity of body or mind which might render the applicant unfit for safe operation of a vehicle for hire.
 - (e) Applicant must certify that he/she is not addicted to the use of narcotics or intoxicating liquors.
 - (f) Applicant must be able to read, write and speak the English language sufficiently to converse with the general public, to understand highway traffic signs and signals in the English language, to respond to official inquiries, and to make entries on reports and records.
 - (g) Applicants must be fingerprinted by the Police Department and submit to the performance of a criminal history record background check (both State and Federal). All costs associated with administering and processing the background check(s) shall be paid by the applicant.

- [1] An applicant shall be disqualified from operating or driving a taxi within the Borough, and shall not be issued a taxicab driver's license, if a criminal history

record background check reveals a record of conviction of any of the following crimes as having been committed by the applicant in New Jersey or elsewhere, or a record of conviction of a crime in another jurisdiction in the world which, in that jurisdiction, is comparable to any of the following crimes:

- [a] Aggravated assault;
- [b] Arson;
- [c] Burglary;
- [d] Escape;
- [e] Extortion;
- [f] Homicide;
- [g] Kidnapping
- [h] Robbery;
- [i] Aggravated Sexual assault;
- [j] Sexual assault;
- [k] Endangering the welfare of a child pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4, whether or not armed with or having in his possession any weapon enumerated in Subsection r of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1; or
- [l] A crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-3, N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4 or N.J.S.A. 2C:39-9, or other than a disorderly persons or petty disorderly persons offense for the unlawful use, possession or sale of a controlled dangerous substance as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:35-2.

[2] The above automatic disqualification shall not apply, however, to those applicants who were convicted of any of the above crimes prior to the effective date of this article and who had previously received the consent of the Borough to operate a taxicab within the Borough and who had a valid taxicab driver's license issued and in effect by the Borough as of the effective date of P.L. 2011, c. 135.

[3] Additionally, if a person who has been convicted of one of the crimes listed above can produce a certificate of rehabilitation issued pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:168A-8 or, if the criminal offense occurred outside of New Jersey, an equivalent certificate from the jurisdiction where the criminal offense occurred, then the criminal offense shall not disqualify the applicant from operating or driving a taxicab within the Borough.

- (h) Applicant must not have been convicted, within the three years prior to the date of the application, of reckless driving, leaving the scene of an accident or driving more than 30 miles an hour above the speed limit, and applicant must not have been convicted, within the five years prior to the date of the application, of driving while intoxicated.
- (i) At the time of application, applicant must have no more than six New Jersey State Division of Motor Vehicle points on his or her driving record, or the equivalent if licensed in any other state.
- (j) Requirements (d) and (g) above, regarding physician's certification and fingerprinting, shall not apply to any taxicab driver who holds a valid taxicab driver's license in any other Mercer County municipality which is compliant with P.L. 2011, c. 135 and whose firm is licensed in and operating out of said municipality. Such person(s) shall be qualified to obtain a taxicab driver's license in

Hightstown upon completion of the application form, payment of the required fee and submission of the following documentation:

- [1] Certification by the applicant that he or she meets all of the requirements set forth in § 4-21-5A(1) above.
 - [2] If not a United States citizen, copy of alien registration card or work permit.
 - [3] Current valid taxicab driver's license from any other Mercer County municipality.
 - [4] Valid New Jersey driver's license.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by a fee of \$50 for the license period, subject to pro-rata in 2012 in accordance with the provisions of Subsection D below.
 - (3) The application shall be accompanied by two unmounted, unretouched glossy photographs of the face of the applicant taken within 30 days preceding filing of the application. Photographs shall be 2 1/2 inches by 2 1/2 inches in size and shall be passport picture quality. New photographs shall be submitted whenever the licensee's appearance changes significantly.
 - (4) Any person who shall make a false statement in any license application or in any record or certificate that is required to be filed or maintained shall be subject to rejection of the application submitted and/or to appropriate disciplinary sanctions, including license suspension or revocation, in addition to any penalty provided under the New Jersey Criminal Code.
- B. Investigation; Grant or Denial of License. The Chief of Police or his designee shall investigate the application and shall report the results to the Chief of Police (i.e., in cases where the investigation is performed by the Police Chief's designee) and the Police Commissioner within a reasonable time. The report shall include a recommendation that the license be granted or denied and the reasons therefor. The Borough Clerk shall ensure that a copy of the report is made available to the applicant. Based upon the findings set forth in the report, the Chief of Police shall determine whether to grant or deny the license.
 - C. Issuance of License; Contents. Upon approval of the application by the Chief of Police, the Police Department shall immediately issue the applicant a taxicab driver's license. The license shall contain the licensee's name and address, physical description, signature and photograph.
 - D. Term of License; Fees; Renewal. An initial license to drive a taxicab shall be valid for the remainder of the calendar year in which it is issued, expiring on December 31st of said year. Licenses issued in 2012 shall be subject to a fee of \$50 per license, which shall be pro-rated. Such fee shall be nonrefundable in the event that the application is denied. Licenses issued in 2013 and thereafter shall be subject to a nonrefundable nonpro-rated fee of \$50 per license. A taxicab driver's license may be renewed annually thereafter, unless it has been revoked or suspended, upon the payment of a renewal fee of \$50 per year, and processing, screening and determination of the application in accordance with all of the procedures set forth above.
 - E. Use of License. Taxicab driver's licenses are valid for use with any licensed taxi within the Borough of Hightstown.
 - F. In those cases where the Chief of Police has denied the license, the applicant shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing before the Police Commissioner. Any request for a hearing must be made within 10 days of the applicant's receipt of written notice of denial from the Chief of Police. At the hearing, the applicant shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. Following the hearing, the Police Commissioner's determination shall be final.

- G. Any change(s) in the information contained within the driver's license application shall be reported to the Borough Clerk within three business days thereof. A charge in the amount of \$25 shall be levied for each business day after three days that any such changes are not reported to the Borough.

§ 4-21-6. Display of Licenses.

[Ord. No. 2005-29; Ord. No. 2012-09]

- A. The taxicab owner's license and driver's license (with photo) shall be displayed prominently in the interior of each cab.
- B. The taxicab driver's license must also be conspicuously displayed on the driver's outer garment when the driver is on duty and presented for confirmation when requested by the passenger.

§ 4-21-7. License Regulations.

[Ord. No. 2012-09]

- A. Licenses issued pursuant to this article are not transferable.
- B. A driver shall immediately surrender his or her taxicab driver's license to the Borough upon the suspension or revocation of his or her New Jersey driver's license.

§ 4-21-8. Suspension or Revocation of Licenses.

[Ord. No. 2005-29; Ord. No. 2012-09; Ord. No. 2016-03]

- A. In the case of an emergency, licenses may be temporarily suspended for not more than seven days by the Chief of Police.
- B. In all other cases, licenses may be suspended or revoked, for cause, by the Borough Council after reasonable notice and a hearing. At said hearing, the licensee shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Council will determine whether to suspend the license or to permanently revoke the license. Any license so suspended or revoked shall not be re-issued except for good reasons shown.

In addition to the causes for revocation of a license set forth in § 4-1-10, any license issued under this article may be revoked or suspended by the Borough Council, or any application for the issuance or renewal of a license denied, for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Failure to render reasonable, prompt, safe and adequate taxicab service.
- (2) The existence of a judgment unsatisfied of record against the licensee or applicant in any suit arising over the operation of a motor vehicle.
- (3) Permitting any taxicab owned or driven by the licensee to become unsafe, unsanitary or dirty.
- (4) Failure to comply with all applicable laws of the State of New Jersey, the ordinances of the Borough or the rules and regulations adopted in accordance with this article.
- (5) Where taxicab vehicles are found to be used for any improper, immoral or illegal business or purpose or for the violation of any federal or state statute or for the

violation of any of the provisions of this article.

- (6) Failure to maintain the proper amount of insurance on licensed taxicab vehicles pursuant to valid and effective insurance policies, as required by this article.

C. Drivers. If the licensee is a driver, his license may also be revoked or suspended by the Borough Council for the following reasons:

- (1) Revocation or suspension of his New Jersey motor vehicle operator's license.
- (2) Contraction by the licensee of a communicable or contagious disease.
- (3) Operating a taxicab in a reckless or grossly negligent manner or habitually operating a taxicab in a negligent manner.
- (4) Conviction of one of the crimes listed in § **4-21-5A(1)(g)** above, in New Jersey or elsewhere.

§ 4-21-9. Complaints; Enforcement.

[Ord. No. 2005-29; Ord. No. 2012-09; Ord. No. 2016-03]

- A. All complaints shall be submitted to the Hightstown Police Department.
- B. Enforcement of Article **4-21** shall be the responsibility of the Hightstown Police Department or authorized persons designated by the Chief of Police.

§ 4-21-10. Violations and Penalties.

[Ord. No. 2012-09]

- A. Licenses issued pursuant to this article may be suspended or revoked in accordance with § **4-21-8** for the reasons set forth therein.
- B. For other violations of this article, any person convicted thereof shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Article **1-5** of the Borough Code.