

Kiama Cabs and Hire Cars

Kiama Cabs and Hire Cars own and operate 7 late model taxis, including 3 WATS (Wheelchair Accessible Taxis), 5 Hire cars and 4 Mini Buses serving the Kiama Local Government Area (LGA).

Note: If a driver wishes to drive both taxis and hire cars a separate Authority for each class (taxi or hire car) will need to be obtained.

The company uses a combination of Ford and Toyota cars and station wagons plus Ford Fairlanes.

Our Drivers

Drivers should be (but not limited to) mature people (age 35 to 70 years and preferably around 50 years) both male and female, who are well presented, have a good personality and are able to get on with people generally. The applicant should be a competent, safe and self-confident driver with a good driving record.

It is essential the applicant has a positive attitude towards the provision of a high quality customer service. This means assisting with groceries, luggage and parcels, as well as opening and closing car doors whilst assisting with elderly and frail people.

Not only does driving around the Kiama LGA, offer a pleasant workplace, there are also regular opportunities to do contracted work. Some of the contracted work may require travel to Nowra, Wollongong and even as far as Sydney.

Please note, persons with a criminal record, are not permitted to drive taxis in NSW.

Driving Shifts

Our driving shifts are many and varied. Some start at 4.00 am, 6.30 am some at 8.30 am and others at 4.00 - 4.30 pm. Finishing times vary, depending on customer demand, but generally we close down earlier at the beginning of the week and later towards the end of the week. On Friday nights and Saturday nights we operate 24 hours. But we are a customer service industry and are constantly looking for ways to ensure our levels of service meet the demands of our customers. By necessity, our roster must always reflect this.

All drivers will be expected to partake in doing back up shifts. Back up shifts are extra shifts that may be required from time to time, and are integral in providing a balance between passenger waiting times and driver income.

Drivers doing Hire car or contract work will be notified of their start times.

Driver Income

Taxi drivers are not employees, they are self employed bailee contractors, and actually lease (bail) the taxi for the shift. Likewise, the taxi operator is a bailor, not an employer. In Sydney the majority of drivers pay a pre determined shift fee in advance and therefore must cover this expense with earnings before making any profit. In country NSW, the taxi driver and the taxi operator share the metered fare income. Drivers with Kiama Cabs, retain 43% of the metered fare, plus 100% their tips (good drivers can sometimes expect tips of over \$60.00). Kiama cabs receives 57% of the metered fare from which it pays all taxi operating expenses including fuel, vehicle maintenance and insurance, including Workers Compensation, driver uniforms and taxi cleaning.

At the end of each month and in accordance with the requirements of the ATO, Kiama Cabs will provide each driver with a Bailment Tax Invoice detailing the daily pay-in as submitted by the driver. Drivers must also record individual shift takings for their own records as well as details of all the jobs they do as this may need to be referred to at a later date.

Our Customers

During the day, the majority of customers are mainly elderly with a variety of age types at night. Our contract work also brings us in contact with elderly passengers, although we do transport children with special needs. The company enjoys an excellent reputation for providing the highest level of customer service for our contract work.

Money Management

You will need to provide your own money bag/pouch with a float of at least \$130.00 for change
(This of course remains your property)

Becoming a Taxi Driver To Do List

Taxi Driver (or hire car) Authority application forms are available from the Ministry of Transport and will cost the applicant approximately \$145.00 payable to the Ministry of Transport, plus the cost of a doctor's visit for a medical examiners report.

Two head only photographs per application are also required (65 mm square which is slightly larger than passport size) which are available from most photographic stores at a cost of approximately \$25.00.

A photocopy of either the first page of your Passport or Birth Certificate together with a photocopy of your Driver's License must also be included. (Kiama Cabs also request that drivers retain 2 extra photos, as these may be required at a later date with wheelchair training requirements.)

Once the forms have been completed, they must be returned to the Ministry of Transport. Please note that the person who witnesses your signature on the application must also sign the back of one of the photographs in the manner shown on the last page of the application to the Ministry of Transport.

Your Taxi (or Hire Car Driver) Authorities are the main investment required. The renewal cost is relatively inexpensive and is tax deductible.

The driver's authority can take about three (3) to four (4) weeks to be processed by the Ministry of Transport and will be posted direct to you. Filling in a Statutory Declaration form (declaring you have no criminal record) can assist in reducing the time taken to process your application.

As all taxi drivers and hire car drivers must collect and remit GST (irrespective of annual turnover), you are required by law to obtain an ABN number and register for GST . This is not a difficult process and If you do not already have an A.B.N, one can be obtained from the A.T.O website or through your accountant.

While waiting for the Taxi Driver Authority and ABN, the applicant will be required to attend a couple of training and information sessions at Kiama Cabs to acquaint themselves with our Industry and to become familiar with our procedures.

During the period the Taxi Driver Authority is being processed, the applicant should spend sufficient time, will depends on the applicant's local knowledge, learning the locations of doctors surgery's, nursing homes, hotels, hairdressing salons, supermarkets, clubs and major cross streets in Kiama, Gerringong, Jamberoo and Gerroa areas. Some attention should also be given to the various locations of local hospitals including Shellharbour public, Shellharbour Private, Figtree Private, Wollongong Hospital, Wollongong Day Surgery and Nowra Hospitals and Doctors rooms.

Once the Authorities are obtained, Kiama Cabs will arrange for in car training. Kiama cabs will also conduct additional training at the Taxi Base detailing important information and requirements including Work Health and Safety. All new drivers will be required also to complete the Taxi Care Basic course. This is an open book learning process, that when completed successfully will reward you with a Certificate.

Kiama Cabs requires all applicants to supply 2 colour copies of their taxi and hire car authorities, a current RTA print out of their driving record and a list detailing contact details, phone numbers and residential address. To successfully fulfil the role of taxi driver drivers will require will need to have several smaller items such as pens, stapler, white-out, taxi change holder, note pad and holders, calculator and general incidentals. Some of these items you will purchase as you find you need them.

Taxi change holders are available from the Taxi base at a cost of \$15.00.

Drivers will also require a Kiama district Map (Approx \$8.00 ea).

Drivers may also supply their own GPS navigation units for their own use if they wish.

Kiama cabs will supply Taxi Driver Daily Worksheets at no cost to the driver.

All drivers will also be encouraged to enrol in the Wheelchair Taxi Driver authority open learning training program. This will not only allow drivers to be able to perform Wheelchair Accessible Taxis (WAT) jobs, but as all Kiama Cabs Maxi Taxis are also WATs, it will allow the driver to drive the Maxi Taxis (including the Tarago) for group work. There is no cost to the driver for this training or assessment and assessment is carried out by Kiama Cabs.. The two extra photos taken during

the Authority application is needed at this point. At the moment, in addition to the metered fare, the Ministry of Transport also pays the Driver \$8.47 per WATS job undertaken. Once you have completed and passed your assessment you will be given a Certificate of Attainment in Wheelchair Taxi Driving.

Come and Join us

If you are a people person looking to join a vibrant personal transport company in an exciting and rewarding growth industry, then we welcome your application to become part of the friendly team at Kiama Cabs.