

Taxi and Private Hire Driver Fund – Frequently asked questions

5 February 2021 – Version 2

1. **Question:** Are drivers who aren't self-employed eligible for the grant?

Answer: The fund is for individual taxi or private hire drivers who have been licensed for the period 9 October 2020 to at least 31 January 2021, and who meet the all the eligibility criteria as set out in the guidance. As noted in the guidance, Local authorities request additional evidence to determine eligibility, using self-declaration where appropriate.

2. **Question:** Is there a minimum level of normal business activity necessary to qualify for the grant?

Answer: There is no minimum level of business activity required for drivers to be eligible for a grant.

3. **Question:** Can bank accounts be accepted that are not in the name of the driver (for example, when the account is in the driver's partners name)?

Answer: A different account can be used as long as you are satisfied the account is genuine, is being used for business activity and the driver has completed a valid application.

4. **Question:** The guidance would appear to rule out people who have not had a licence for 2019 as they are unable to certify that they have experienced a loss in turnover of 50% in that time frame.

Answer: There is discretion to apply a different period of time for loss of income

5. **Question:** What about drivers who have been unable to work due to health conditions but hold a licence?

Answer: They may be eligible if the driver held their licence for the period 9 October 2020 to at least 31 January, meet the criteria and can prove loss of income.

6. **Question:** Can taxi drivers who have immigrated to the UK access this grant as they are ineligible to receive public funds?

Answer: Payments from the taxi fund would not fall within any of the categories listed in the definition of "public funds" in paragraph 6 of the [immigration rules](#). On that basis, payments from the taxi fund would not be payments which an individual granted leave to remain without recourse to

public funds would be prevented from receiving. This is subject to the individual's status would need to be confirmed.

7. **Question:** How does the taxi and private driver grant impact on Council Tax Reduction?

Answer: Taxi driver fund payments will be disregarded in the calculation of council tax reduction.

8. **Question:** What powers are local authorities using to award these grants?

Answer: Section 20 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003