Medical Standards for Drivers

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles is responsible for ensuring that all drivers in Newfoundland and Labrador are medically eligible to obtain and maintain a driver's licence. To ensure medical eligibility, the province has adopted the medical standards for drivers that are developed by the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA). These standards are revised annually and applied by driver licencing authorities across Canada.

Commercial driver's licences (Class 01, 02, 03, and 04) have the highest standards:
- A Routine Medical Report form is to be completed by a physician and submitted to the Medical Section of the Motor Registration Division for review before any written test can be administered for a commercial driver’s licence.
- The holder of a commercial driver's licence is required to submit a routine medical every five years up to age 45; every three years for drivers between the age of 45-65 and once annually for commercial drivers over the age of 65.

Passenger vehicle/light truck driver’s licence (Class 05) and motorcycle driver’s licence (Class 06) are required to provide:
- A routine medical report form completed by a physician and submitted to the Medical Section of the Motor Registration Division for review at age 75, age 80 and then every two years thereafter.

Mandatory Reporting

In the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, medical professionals are required to notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles if they believe that a person 16 years of age or older is suffering from a condition that may make it dangerous to operate a motor vehicle. This report is called a “Mandatory Report.” Police officers also submit mandatory reports when they have concerns about a driver’s suitability to operate a motor vehicle safely. All mandatory reports must include the name, address, date of birth and clinical condition of the individual.

When a report is received, the Medical Review Officer/Medical Consultant in the Medical Section reviews the report against the CCMTA Medical Standards for Drivers. Based on this assessment, the officer makes a recommendation to the Registrar concerning the individual’s suitability to drive a motor vehicle. Recommendations may include a request for additional medical information, such as documentation from a specialist; an immediate suspension of the driver’s licence; or a reassessment of the person’s driving skills.

For more details, please contact the Medical Section of Motor Registration at 709-729-0345, Toll Free at 1-877-636-6867 or MRDMedicals@gov.nl.ca

Links:
Section 174.1(1) of the Highway Traffic Act
www.ccmta.ca