

# Longer Life & Reduced Inspections for Taxicabs, Annual Financial Reporting Ends, Plus New Lease Tier Structure!



January 6, 2015

In 2014, the City Council of Chicago approved Mayor Emanuel's proposed amendments to Chapter 9-112 Taxicabs of the Municipal Code of Chicago. The changes will allow 80 percent of taxicab vehicles to have longer life as Chicago licensed taxicabs, and newer taxicab vehicles will only have one scheduled annual inspection instead of two scheduled semi-annual inspections. Taxicab medallion owners will no longer be required to file financial reports in May. A new maximum taxicab lease structure and updated UNIFORM TAXICAB LEASE AGREEMENT go into effect on February 1, 2015.

## NEW 9-112-070 SPECIFICATIONS FOR TAXICAB VEHICLES

The commissioner may issue licenses for motor vehicles to operate as taxicabs according to the following:

(c) Age of vehicle. A licensee cannot operate a vehicle as a licensed taxicab beyond the following vehicle age:

(1) Four years for vehicles that are not designated pursuant to the department's list of authorized vehicles as wheelchair accessible or fuel efficient.

(2) **Seven** years for vehicles that are designated pursuant to the department's list of authorized vehicles as fuel efficient.

(3) **Seven** years for vehicles that are designated pursuant to the department's list of authorized vehicles as both wheelchair accessible.

## NEW 9-112-050 VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

No person shall place a vehicle into service as a taxicab until the vehicle has been inspected under the direction of the commissioner and found to be in safe operating condition. A taxicab vehicle inspection includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that all required equipment is installed and operating as intended, and that the interior and exterior of the vehicle are clean and in good condition for the safety of the vehicle drivers and passengers. Licensees must submit all their taxicab vehicles for inspection as scheduled by the department.

**Taxicab vehicles with a vehicle age of 2 years or newer must be inspected at least annually, and all older taxicab vehicles must be inspected at least semiannually.**

## NEW 9-112-610 RECORDKEEPING – FINANCIAL REPORTS

Every person licensed under this chapter shall keep and provide accurate books and records of account of his operations at his place of business in the city for a minimum of three years.

Upon request of the commissioner, licensees must submit requested financial reports or documents within **seven** business days, and the commissioner reserves the right to audit the finances and reported data of any licensee.

## EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2015: NEW 9-112-230 TIERED LEASE RATES

New lease rate structure is based on both vehicle MPG tier and age of vehicle.\*

See [www.cityofchicago.org/bacp](http://www.cityofchicago.org/bacp) for copy of Taxi Driver Fairness Ordinance with new maximum lease rates and updated Uniform Taxicab Lease Agreement form.

## EFFECT OF NEW LAWS FOR TAXICAB VEHICLES

- All fuel efficient taxicab vehicles have an automatic two extra years of life. Fuel efficient taxicab vehicles will not be scheduled for replacement (change of equipment) until they reach vehicle age\* of seven years.
- All wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) taxicab vehicles have an automatic extra year of life. WAV taxicabs will not be scheduled for replacement (change of equipment) until they reach vehicle age\* of seven years.
- Please note that WAV taxicabs retain potential for even longer life if they continue to pass annual scheduled vehicle inspections.
- This year, 2015, taxicab vehicles with 2014 and 2015 model year vehicles will only be scheduled for one annual inspection. Newer vehicles will no longer be scheduled for two inspections annually.
- Taxicab medallion licensees will not be required to routinely file annual financial reports every year.

\*"Vehicle Age" is the age of a vehicle computed by totaling the number of years in between and including both the calendar year and the model year. (Example: in the year 2015, model year 2015 = 1 year; model year 2014 = 2 years; model year 2013 = 3 years; and model year 2012 = 4 years.)

Send an e-mail to [BACPPV@cityofchicago.org](mailto:BACPPV@cityofchicago.org) if your taxicab vehicle is scheduled for a change of equipment (COE) inspection or a second scheduled inspection this year and the vehicle qualifies for an extra year of life or a waiver of the second scheduled inspection. Taxicab medallion license managers may schedule an appointment by sending a request to [BACPPV@cityofchicago.org](mailto:BACPPV@cityofchicago.org) to consolidate requests for multiple taxicab medallions.



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