

How to Trial an Automated Vehicle (AV) in Western Australia

START HERE

Process Map

This Process Map provides high level guidance on the steps for conducting an AV Trial in WA. For further information, please contact the AV Reform Team

AV Trial Planning

Different State Government agencies may be engaged by AV Reform Team (AVRT) depending on the proposal and complexity.

*Vehicle type will affect whether it meets Australian Design Rules and the import process.

Importation of AV

If a vehicle is being upgraded to enhance its level of automation and importation is not required, progress to AV Testing Phase.

**Technical requirements and other advice from the State Government at this stage will be a guide only and limited by the level of detail provided by the proponent. Scope trial and required AV

AVRT to meet with proponent, provide guidelines, application form and facilitate conversation with key stakeholders (as required), including:

• vehicle type implications*

Refine proposal

YES =

intent, stages and conditions of the trial, including off-road

Proponent State Government

• confirming off-road testing and trials only, prior to an approved on-road AV trial

Unless the proposal conflicts with State Government commitments or objectives or poses safety risks, the Department of Transport (DoT) will issue a letter of in-principle support for the importation and trial of the AV along with:

- a copy of this process map
- technical requirements considered by the DoT for the vehicle to progress to an on-road trial**
- recommendation to operate in accordance with National Transport Commission (NTC) trial guidelines, even for off-road trials
- confirming no access to the road network until a separate AV trial application has been approved

AV Testing (Off-road)

If the technology is already proven in other Australian trials, these steps may be condensed.

Commission and test AV at off-road facility

(AVRT)

Seek letter of support for import of

AV from State Government

Apply online to Commonwealth

Import vehicle in accordance with Commonwealth conditions and processes Commonwealth Government

Government to import vehicle

YES

to import vehicle

Conduct testing and off-road trials to confirm/ demonstrate AV capability; assess integration with existing transport system

Engage with AVRT for advice where required

Review NTC guidelines, advice from State Government and application form

AV Trial Application

On-road access for AVs under concessional import approval is permitted through the AV trial application process only.

Any potential future public transport application should be addressed here including a concept of operations.

Vehicle permits are issued with conditions, which may vary. A small fee may apply.

Prepare trial application in accordance with NTC guidelines and advice from State Government, including (but not limited to):

- required insurances;
- evidence of AV capability (off-road testing); and
- traffic management plan

Refine and submit application

AVRT to discuss draft application with proponent and seek any further information as required, which may vary based on the trial scope. AVRT will provide feedback from subject matter experts across State Government to proponent and coordinate meetings if required

YES

Approve AV trial application and provide permit

AV Trial (On-Road)

If there is a proposed next step for public implementation or a future project, further work will be required. Prepare for trial, including appropriate communication with local Government and public

Operate trial on-road

Review reports, monitor and engage with proponent as required; re-issue permits as required

Provide trial reporting to AVRT as required

Evaluation

Evaluate trial and issue final report

Finished?

Dispose of AV as per conditions of import approval

NO

State Government to review trial outcomes and learnings