# Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle Modification Grant

# **Application guidelines**

## How to apply

Applications for the WAV Modification Grant will open on Thursday 19 September 2024 and close on Thursday 17 October 2024.

All applications and supporting documentation must be submitted via a <u>DoT Grants (Omnistar)</u> account.

#### 1. Purchase vehicle

Before applying for the WAV Modification Grant, you will need to have purchased a new vehicle that will comply with the WAV standards as outlined in the *Transport (Road Passenger Services)*Regulations 2020.

Purchasing a vehicle does not guarantee eligibility for or receival of the WAV modification grant. Learn more about WAV standards on the <a href="https://www.wheelchair.accessible.com/wheelchair.acces

You will need to be able to provide proof of purchase or delivery date to submit an application.

Note: purchasing a vehicle will not guarantee that you receive a grant. You must consider any financial implications before purchasing the vehicle.

#### 2. Select a vehicle re-fitter and obtain a quote

Once you have confirmed your purchase of a new vehicle that complies with the WAV standards, you will be required to obtain a written quote from your chosen vehicle re-fitter for the purchase and installation of a wheelchair hoist and restraint systems.

It is important that you obtain a quote before making grant application, as a copy of the quote will be required as part of your application submission.

## 3. Submit an online application

Visit the <u>DoT Grants webpage</u> to register for a DoT Grants (OmniStar) account, and complete an application for the WAV Modification Grant.

The application will ask for:

- your personal details;
- · the VIN and registration details of your vehicle;
- details of your preferred vehicle re-fitter and a written quote from them;
- evidence of your affiliation with the metropolitan WAV-dedicated taxi booking service (currently Black & White Cabs) and;
- submission of a business plan, scoping document or similar written evidence demonstrating the ongoing viability of the business.

# Assessment process

When submissions close, all applications will be assessed for their eligibility.

The WAV Modification Grants Committee will evaluate applications and make recommendations for approval to the Minister for Transport.

## What to do when your application is approved

Note: If you intend to use a different re-fitter to the one nominated on your application form, you must obtain a written quotation from the new vehicle re-fitter and inform DoT of the change as soon as possible. This will delay the grant payment process.

Once DoT has approved your application, follow the below steps.

## 1. Get your vehicle modified and inspected

DoT will advise your chosen vehicle re-fitter that your application has been approved. Work with your re-fitter to complete the modifications.

Once the vehicle re-fitter has completed the modifications, your vehicle must <u>be inspected</u> at an Authorised Inspection Station (AIS) or Vehicle Examination Centre. DoT will be informed if your vehicle passes the inspection.

## 2. Obtain a PTV authorisation

When your vehicle's modifications are complete and it has passed inspection, you can apply for a PTV authorisation in the on-demand rank or hail (OD-RH) category, if not already done so, via DoTDirect.

Once the PTV authorisation application process is complete, a plate collection letter will be generated (if the vehicle does not already have taxi plates), allowing you to collect your taxi plates.

## 3. Payment to the vehicle re-fitter

Once the above steps are completed, the vehicle re-fitter will invoice DoT, and DoT will pay the grant funds (up to \$20,000) directly to the re-fitter.

The re-fitter will then invoice you for the cost of modifications minus the grant amount. You will be required to pay this invoiced amount directly to the vehicle re-fitter

## **Grant conditions**

The WAV Modification Grant is only payable for:

- New WAV equipment. Second-hand equipment and/or partial installations are ineligible for this grant.
- A vehicle intended to operate as a WAV, and which meets all the criteria to be authorised as a PTV in the on-demand rank or hail category.
- Hoists, restraints, WAV equipment and modifications which comply with the WAV requirements prescribed in Regulation 18 of the *Transport (Road Passenger Services) Regulations 2020.*

The Grant will only be paid where the eligible applicant provides:

- a declaration undertaking to apply for or having obtained a PTV authorisation in the on-demand rank or hail category for the modified vehicle;
- a signed Grant Agreement;
- certification from the vehicle re-fitter that the vehicle meets the standards prescribed in the *Transport (Road Passenger Services) Regulations 2020*; and
- evidence of affiliation with DoT's WAV-dedicated taxi booking service (currently Black & White Cabs).