



How to train as an ECT Driver

To be able to drive an ECT vehicle you must satisfy the following conditions.

- Be over 21 and under 70*
- have a full manual UK licence obtained **before** 1/1/97
- post Jan 97 licence holders may be eligible if they are driving on a voluntary basis*
- have no medical condition that may affect insurability
- had no at fault accidents within the last three years
- had no endorsements within 5 years
- had no driving bans within the last 10 years
- agree to be assessed and trained to MiDAS standards
- agree to abide by the rules of Ealing Community Transport

* Drivers over the age of 70 are subject to suitability assessment

Please note that EU licence holders can drive on their existing entitlements.

It may be possible to drive if **some** of the conditions cannot be met. Each case will be assessed individually by our Driver Assessor Trainer, whose decision is final. If you already have a MiDAS certificate from another organisation, please contact us.

MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) involves both on road and classroom based training. It must be completed successfully, within a reasonable time scale, before a driver can use our vehicles.

MiDAS has three elements:

(1) A classroom session.

This covers areas such as Driving for Safety & Economy and Passenger Safety and lasts four hours. It will include a short theory test involving 20 multiple-choice questions.

(2) On road training and assessment

We must see a drivers licence, complete a registration form and conduct an eyesight check before going on the road. The on road element will last about two hours and a set standard of driving must be achieved. This includes driver registration, vehicle checks, fault

reporting and a demonstration drive given by the Trainer. This element can involve more than one drive, with training provided.

(3) An additional classroom session is required for drivers who will need to use accessible vehicles.

This covers areas such as Disability Awareness, Passenger Assistance, Use of passenger lifts and restraint systems. It combines an outdoor practical with a theory session. The practical covers use of passenger lifts and wheelchair and passenger restraints and accessible drivers will be assessed in the safe use of this equipment. This lasts about four hours and also includes a theory test (10 multiple choice questions)

All elements of MiDAS **must** be completed before a driver is allowed to carry passengers: **no exceptions.**

After successfully completing MiDAS, a driver is awarded a MiDAS Certificate, which is valid for four years. An annual Drivers Registration Card is issued and must be presented when picking up a vehicle: failure to do so will delay collecting keys and possibly result in not being able to use the vehicle.

DRIVER TRAINING CHARGES

	Statutory Group	Community Group
Standard MiDAS (Module 1 & 2)	£80	£40
Accessible MiDAS (Module 3)	£60	£30
Refresher -Standard MiDAS	£60	£30
Refresher - Accessible MiDAS	£40	£20
Passenger Assistant Training (PATs)	£150	£100

Discounts are available for groups of 5 & above