

Pass / Fail Criteria

Any driver who fails the on-road assessment drive can carry on and complete the theory session and theory test but will not be able to complete the MiDAS course until they have attended a Driving Skills Training session on a separate day and also retaken the MiDAS Assessment Drive. Drivers will pass the assessment drive providing they do not:

- Commit a major fault
- Consistently commit any minor fault (3 attempts to correct)
- Conform to the style of defensive driving set out by MiDAS
- Drive in a way which would cause passenger discomfort
- Satisfactorily complete a reverse manoeuvre after 3 attempts.

Who do I contact for further information?

To discuss your requirements further please contact ShenCare Community Transport on:

0121 476 1816

Our senior driver-training officer will be pleased to tailor a course to your needs.



Pre Programme Requirements

Please ensure that your organisation and all drivers comply with the following prior to attending the MiDAS Training Course.

- If using your own vehicle for training it must be fully roadworthy.
- Each driver must be able to read a number plate at 20m or 20.m depending on the size of the number plate being read. Spectacles may be used but must always then be worn whilst driving.
- Drivers must be at least 21 years of age, unless they hold a passenger carrying vehicle (PCV) license.
- Drivers must hold a full (not provisional) current driving license
- Drivers who passed their driving test on or after 1st January 1997 must comply with the following:-
 - The minibus is used for social purposes by a *non-commercial body*
 - The driver is aged 21 years or over
 - The driver has held a full car license for at least two years
 - The driver is providing their services on a voluntary basis.
- The vehicle has a maximum weight not exceeding of 3.5 tonnes excluding any specialist equipment for the carriage of disabled people or 4.25 tonnes including any specialist equipment - such as passenger lift.
- No trailer is being towed.

The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency has said that it does not intend to define the terms set out below:

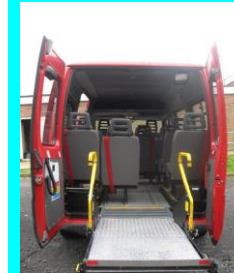
For drivers who passed their car test before 1st January 1997, they can continue to drive minibuses with up to 16 passenger seats in the UK operating on a non-commercial basis.



DRIVER AWARENESS SCHEME



SUPPORTED BY
Birmingham City Council



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Voluntary Transport Ltd
Shenley Green Centre
330 Green Meadow Road
Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 4EE
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Email: shencarevt@yahoo.co.uk

What is the MiDAS Scheme?

MiDAS is the Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme, which promotes a nationally recognized standard for the assessment and training of minibus drivers. It is a membership based scheme that has been designed to enhance minibus driving standards and promote the safer operation of minibuses.

Who is it aimed at?

MiDAS is applicable to any organisation operating or using minibuses. Member organisations range from small voluntary organisations operating one vehicle, to local authorities operating large fleets of minibuses as well as schools, churches, colleges and universities.

What MiDAS offers you.

You and your passengers will be aware that your driving competence has been assessed to a common nation-wide standard. As an employer you will have fulfilled your duty of care to your drivers by giving them a nationally recognized standard of training.

What's involved

Before an assessment of your driving ability takes place, you will be asked to:

- Complete and sign a driver registration form
- Produce your driving license
- Undertake a simple eyesight check

The Assessment, will normally last one hour and will include:

- A demonstration drive by the Driver Assessor/Trainer (DAT)
- The opportunity for you to drive under supervision in order to receive on road vehicle familiarization
- An assessment of your driving skills

After a successful assessment, you will be given:

- Basic training by your Driver Assessor Trainer in the skills and information you need when driving minibuses
- Additional training if you drive an accessible vehicle (wheelchair use)

If you fail the assessment, your organisation may decide provide you with additional training to bring your driving skills up to the MiDAS standard.

After your assessment and training and passing the theory assessment, you will receive:

- A MiDAS certificate, which enables you to drive the minibuses of other MiDAS organisations without the need to be re-assessed
- After 4 years you will be asked to attend a refresher training session

How long does the course last?

Should you want us to we will be pleased to come to you and to keep everything as easy as possible we will use your minibus for the training day, this way your drivers will already be familiar with the vehicle. Training can also be carried out at our dedicated premises.

The course lasts one full day, with driving assessments then carried out to suit your requirements. Whilst MiDAS have a preferred format for running the course it can be varied to allow for minibus availability. The programme will normally start at 9.30am and end at around 4pm, however we are able to start earlier or later to fit in with your requirements. In short the whole course is very flexible to fit in with you.

Who are the instructors?

The instructors are all fully qualified ADIs who have attended and passed the Community Transport Association MiDAS Driver Assessor Trainers course to enable them to train your drivers in best practice for driving your minibuses. Our Senior Instructor has experience in assessing drivers for Birmingham City Council, West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust and the West Midlands Driver Improvement Scheme.

Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme