



Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre  
Road Safety Authority



Approved Driving Instructor



**WIT Certificate in Tutoring Assessment Skills.** Back row L to R: Jim Mackey, John Manifold, Michael Dolan, Stephen Murphy. Front row L to R: Con Shivnen, Tom Story, Billy O'Donoghue.

## Dear Instructor,

Just to remind you of the timeline, the regulation process started on 1st July 2007 for a period of 18 months. Now with less than a year to go, I thought it timely to write to you with an update of how things are moving on in the ADI unit of the Road Safety Authority.

## Temporary Permits

Over 1150 of you have applied for a Temporary Permit and almost all will have received one by now. We have placed a list of Temporary Permit holders on our website and we know that Learner Drivers use this list from time to time to assist them in choosing a Driving Instructor. In addition, we write to each Theory Test applicant (prior to the Learner Permit being issued) and advise them to use an RSA registered Instructor. These Temporary Permits will expire on 31st December 2008 and will not be extended under any circumstances.

## Stage 1 – Theory Test

The Beta test phase for our Stage 1 Theory Test is now over and the candidates all have their results. We are pleased with these early results which show over a 75% success rate. Obviously, as candidates prepare well and become more familiar with the requirements of the test, we expect this rate to increase.



The actual scores needed to pass the individual sections of the test are as follows:

### Core Sections

Driving Test Procedures & Documentation	75%
Road Safety Precepts & Practices	72%
Pedagogy	60%
Basic Mechanics and Maintenance	70%

### Optional Sections

Membership Category 'A'	70%
Membership Category 'B'	70%
Membership Category 'C'	70%
Membership Category 'D'	70%
Membership Category 'EC'	70%

As previously indicated, the 'Pass' scores were to be determined following our extensive test development process. Whilst the pass scores are a little lower than we had anticipated, we are comfortable that the correct scores have been set using industry best practice.

In total, there have been approximately 200 Instructors through this Stage 1 Theory Test. The test system is now 'live' which means an Instructor will be able to select a centre and appointment time of his/her choice and the results will be available immediately following the completion of the test.

## Stage 2 – Driving Test

Approximately 75 Instructors have gone through the Stage 2 Driving Test and whilst a high standard is required to pass the test, we are happy to report that the pass rate for this test is currently 88%. Of those applicants seen to date, we have been impressed by the standards displayed by most applicants.



## Stage 3 – Teaching Ability Test

42 Instructors have already completed the Stage 3 Teaching Ability Test and again we can report a high 85% pass rate so far.

In preparing for Stage 2 & 3 tests, we suggest you familiarise yourself with the requirements as set out on our website (Marking sheets for both stages are available).

### **Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) for Motorcyclists**

The RSA launched a consultation document on CBT in March last year and we have now moved on and compiled a Syllabus for use by Instructors who are authorised to provide CBT by the RSA. Details of this very important development are available on our website.

We propose to roll out CBT in 2008 but the first step to becoming a 'CBT Provider' is to be a Full Permit holder for Category 'A' on the RSA Register of Approved Driving Instructors (ADI).

In brief, the scheme will involve a new Learner Permit holder attending a compulsory training course prior to having his/her Learner Permit validated. The course consists of 4 modules totalling 16 hours of training with clear and measurable objectives to be achieved. When the CBT provider is satisfied that the rider has completed the course to the required standard, he/she will be authorised to certify the achievement which in turn will allow the rider's learner permit to become 'validated'. Once validated, the rider will be permitted to ride unaccompanied by the Instructor. That is not the end of the rider's training – it simply allows the rider to ride and practice skills that continue to be developed through proper training with any Category 'A' ADI.

### **Note**

It is not necessary to wait for your Tax Clearance Cert or Garda Vetting before proceeding onto the three stages of the examination process. Many Instructors have moved on and you will be required to provide the necessary documentation at a later date.

As there is now only twelve months left until the new regulations come into effect, serious consideration should be given to making your application for your Full Permit (if you have not already done so).

You may be aware of the new regulations on the Learner Permit now in place. Essentially the main change affecting Driving Instructors at this stage is the requirement for new 1st time Learner Permit holders (that is someone who has obtained a first Learner Permit since 30th October 2007) is not permitted to attempt a driving test until they have held a Learner Permit for at least six months. Other very important changes are being introduced on a phased basis (see our Road Safety Strategy available on our website).



## Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC)

Instructors working in the larger categories of vehicle, e.g. C1, C, EC, D1 & D may be aware of the upcoming regulations for drivers to hold a CPC known as a Drivers' CPC and not to be confused with the Transport Managers' CPC held by managers of passenger or Haulage Companies.

In order to prepare for these regulations, some of which come into effect on 1st September 2008 (passenger vehicle drivers), the RSA published a consultation document (available from our website) and are currently working through the feedback prior to framing the details of the scheme.

I strongly recommend that Instructors working in these categories familiarise themselves with the requirements of this scheme so that they will be in a position to offer advice and guidance to their pupils.

If you wish to contact our ADI unit, you may do so as follows:

**Michael Dolan**  
ADI Chief Examiner

**ADI Unit**  
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