

Road Traffic Act 1988

1988 CHAPTER 52

PART V

DRIVING INSTRUCTION

General and supplemental

Power to alter conditions for entry or retention in, and removal from, register and for grant or revocation of licences.

Regulations may—

- (a) alter or add to the conditions as to which the Registrar is required by this Part of this Act to be satisfied for the entry of a name in the register, the retention of a name in the register, the removal of a name from the register, the grant of a licence and the revocation of a licence, or omit any of those conditions,
- (b) alter the period at the expiration of which a person's name which is entered or retained in the register after the coming into force of the regulation must, unless retained or further retained, be removed from the register.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 S. 134 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

135 Power to prescribe form of certificate of registration, etc.

- (1) Regulations may prescribe all or any of the following—
 - (a) a form of certificate for issue to persons whose names are in the register as evidence of their names' being in the register,
 - (b) a form of badge for use by such persons, and
 - (c) an official title for such use.
- (2) If a person whose name is not in the register—

- (a) takes or uses a title prescribed under this section, or
- (b) wears or displays a badge or certificate so prescribed, or
- (c) takes or uses any name, title, addition or description implying that his name is in the register,

he is guilty of an offence unless he proves that he did not know, and had no reasonable cause to believe, that his name was not in the register at the material time.

[F1(3) If P uses, in relation to any person employed by P whose name is not in the register,

- (a) a title or description prescribed under this section for use by persons whose names are in the register, or
- (b) a name, title, addition or description implying that the person's name is in the Register,

P is guilty of an offence unless P proves that P did not know, and had no reasonable cause to believe, that the person's name was not in the register at the material time.

- (5) If P issues any advertisement or invitation calculated to mislead with respect to the extent to which persons employed by P are registered under this Part, P is guilty of an offence unless P proves that P did not know, and had no reasonable cause to believe, that the advertisement or invitation was misleading in that respect at the time it was issued.
- (6) In this section "P" means a person carrying on business in the provision of instruction in the driving of motor vehicles.]

Textual Amendments

F1 S. 135(3)-(6) substituted for s. 135(3) (9.12.2016 until the commencement of 2006 c. 49, Sch. 6) by The Driving and Motorcycle Riding Instructors (Recognition of European Professional Qualifications) Regulations 2016 (S.I. 2016/1089), regs. 1, 2(9)(c) (as amended (1.12.2023) by The Recognition of Professional Qualifications and Implementation of International Recognition Agreements (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1286), reg. 1, Sch. 4 para. 7(2)(g)(ii)(iii))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C2 S. 135 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

136 Surrender of certificates and licences.

Where—

- (a) the name of a person to whom a certificate prescribed under section 135 of this Act has been issued is removed from the register in pursuance of this Part of this Act, or
- (b) a licence granted under this Part of this Act to a person expires or is revoked, that person must, if so required by the Registrar by notice in writing, surrender the certificate or licence, as the case may be, to the Registrar within the period of fourteen days beginning with that on which the notice is given and, if he fails to do so, he is guilty of an offence.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C3 S. 136 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

137 Production of certificates and licences to constables and authorised persons.

- (1) A person to whom a certificate prescribed under section 135 of this Act is issued, or to whom a licence under this Part of this Act is granted, must, on being so required by a constable or any person authorised in writing by the Secretary of State in that behalf, produce the certificate or licence for examination.
- (2) Where—
 - (a) the name of a person is removed from the register, or
 - (b) a licence granted under this Part of this Act to a person expires or is revoked, then, if that person fails to satisfy an obligation imposed on him by section 136 of this Act, a constable or a person authorised in writing by the Secretary of State in that behalf may require him to produce any such certificate issued to him or the licence, and upon its being produced may seize it and deliver it to the Registrar.
- (3) A person who is required under subsection (1) or (2) above to produce a document and fails to do so is, subject to subsection (4) below, guilty of an offence.
- (4) In proceedings against any person for an offence under subsection (3) above, it shall be a defence for him to show that—
 - (a) within seven days beginning with the day following that on which the production of the document was so required, it was produced—
 - (i) where the requirement was made by a constable, at a police station specified at the time the production was required by the person required to produce the document,
 - (ii) where the requirement was made by a person other than a constable, at a place specified at that time by that person, or
 - (b) the document was produced at that police station or, as the case may be, place as soon as was reasonably practicable, or
 - (c) it was not reasonably practicable for it to be produced at that police station or, as the case may be, place before the day on which the proceedings were commenced,

and for the purposes of this subsection the laying of the information or, in Scotland, the service of the complaint on the accused shall be treated as the commencement of the proceedings.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C4 S. 137 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

138 Offences by corporations.

Where a body corporate is guilty of an offence under this Part of this Act and the offence is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to neglect on the part of, a director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or a person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, he, as well as the body corporate, is guilty of that offence and liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C5 S. 138 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)
- C6 S. 138 modified (16.8.2006) by The Dover Harbour Revision Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/2167), art. 27

139 Service of notices.

- (1) A notice authorised or required to be given by this Part of this Act to a person may be given by delivering it to him, or by leaving it at his proper address, or by sending it to him by post.
- (2) For the purposes of this section and of section 7 of the Interpretation Act 1978 MI in its application to this section, the proper address of a person shall be, in the case of a person whose name is included in the register, his address on the register, and in any other case, his usual or last known address.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C7 S. 139 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)
- C8 S. 139 modified (16.8.2006) by The Dover Harbour Revision Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/2167), art. 27

Marginal Citations

M1 1978 c. 30.

140 Receipts.

Any sums received on account of fees payable by virtue of any provision of this Part of this Act shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C9 S. 140 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

141 Regulations.

[F2(1)] The Secretary of State may make regulations for any purpose for which provision is by this Part of this Act authorised to be made by regulations [F3 and for prescribing anything which may be prescribed under this Part of this Act], and in this Part of this Act "regulations" means regulations made under this section.

[^{F4}(2) Regulations under this section—

- (a) may be expressed to apply generally or only in particular circumstances,
- (b) may make different provision in relation to different cases or other circumstances or otherwise for different purposes, and
- (c) may make incidental, supplementary, consequential or transitional provision or savings.]

Subordinate Legislation Made

- P1 S. 141: s. 125(3)(with ss. 127(2), 132(1)(a)(2)(b), 134 and 141) power exercised by S.I.1991/1129
- **P2** S. 141: power previously exercised by S.I. 1989/1373, 1989/2057, 1990/1113.

Textual Amendments

- F2 S. 141(1): s. 141 renumbered as s. 141(1) (21.5.2012) by Road Safety Act 2006 (c. 49), s. 61(1)(10), Sch. 6 para. 24(1); S.I. 2012/1357, art. 2(c)
- F3 Words in s. 141(1) inserted (21.5.2012) by Road Safety Act 2006 (c. 49), s. 61(1)(10), **Sch. 6 para.** 24(2); S.I. 2012/1357, art. 2(c)
- F4 S. 141(2) inserted (21.5.2012) by Road Safety Act 2006 (c. 49), s. 61(1)(10), Sch. 6 para. 24(3); S.I. 2012/1357, art. 2(c)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C10 S. 141 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

[F5141A Meaning of "motor car".

- (1) Notwithstanding section 185(1) of this Act, in this Part of this Act "motor car" means a motor vehicle (other than an invalid carriage or motor cycle)—
 - (a) which is not constructed or adapted to carry more than nine persons inclusive of the driver, and
 - (b) which has a maximum gross weight not exceeding 3.5 tonnes.
- (2) In subsection (1) above "maximum gross weight" has the same meaning as in Part III of this Act.]

Textual Amendments

F5 S. 141A inserted (23.7.1996 for specified purposes and otherwise 1.1.1997) by S.I. 1996/1974, reg. 2
Sch. 1 para. 29

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C11 S. 141A excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

142 Index to Part V.

The expressions listed in the left-hand column below are respectively defined or (as the case may be) fall to be construed in accordance with the provisions of this Part of this Act listed in the right-hand column in relation to those expressions.

Expression	Relevant provision	
[F6[F7Appropriate motor car	Section 125A(8)]]	
[F8. Community licence"	Section 125(10)]	
Current licence	Section 123(7)	

Section $[^{F10}125(10)]]$ [F7Disability, prospective disability and relevant disability [F6]F7Disabled person's limited driving Section 125A(8)]] licence Section [F11125(10)]] [F7Emergency control assessment and emergency control certificate [F7Paid instruction Section 123(8)] [F7Provisional licence Section 123(8)] The register Section 123 [F6]F7Registered disabled instructor Section 125A(8)]] The Registrar Section 125 (2) Section 141 Regulations

Textual Amendments

- F6 Entries in s. 142 omitted (8.6.2015) by virtue of Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), s. 115(2), Sch. 2 para. 29(2); S.I. 2015/994, art. 7(a) (with Sch. Pt. 3)
- F7 Entries in table in s. 142 inserted (9.9.1996) by 1993 c. 31, s. 6, Sch. para. 8; S.I. 1996/1980, art. 2
- **F8** Entry in table in s. 142 inserted (1.4.1999) by S.I. 1999/357, reg. 2(5)
- F9 Words in s. 142 omitted (8.6.2015) by virtue of The Road Safety Act 2006 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/583), art. 1(1), Sch. 2 para. 2(d)
- **F10** Word in s. 142 substituted (8.6.2015) by Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), s. 115(2), **Sch. 2 para. 29(3**); S.I. 2015/994, **art. 7(a)** (with Sch. Pt. 3)
- F11 Word in s. 142 substituted (8.6.2015) by Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), s. 115(2), Sch. 2 para. 29(4); S.I. 2015/994, art. 7(a) (with Sch. Pt. 3)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C12 S. 142 excluded (23.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1736, art. 8(1)(b)(2)(b)

Changes to legislation:

Road Traffic Act 1988, Cross Heading: General and supplemental is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

View outstanding changes

Changes and effects yet to be applied to:

- s. 140 heading word substituted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 23(3)
- s. 136 heading words substituted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 21(c)
- s. 137 heading words substituted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 22(7)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 34A inserted by 2000 c. 37 Sch. 7 para. 6 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The amending provision has been repealed)
- s. 41(2)(m) inserted by 2006 c. 49 s. 18(1)(a)
- s. 41(2)(ba) inserted by 2006 c. 49 s. 56(3)
- s. 49(3A) inserted by 2006 c. 49 s. 48(1)
- s. 66(7A) inserted by 2006 c. 49 s. 56(5)
- s. 85(1) words omitted (temp.) by S.I. 2019/648 reg. 2(5)(a) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 2(5)(a) substituted (1.9.2020) by S.I. 2020/818, regs. 1(b), Sch. 6 para. 39(2)(c)(i))
- s. 85(1) words omitted (temp.) by S.I. 2019/648 reg. 2(5)(d) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 2(5)(a) substituted (1.9.2020) by S.I. 2020/818, regs. 1(b), Sch. 6 para. 39(2)(c)(ii))
- s. 85(2) added by 1988 c. 54 Sch. 2 para. 17(c)
- s. 97(1)(c)(ia) words repealed by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 3 para. 6(2)(b)Sch. 7(4)
- s. 97(1)(d)(ii) words omitted by S.I. 2018/1251 reg. 2(4)
- s. 97(1ZA) inserted by 2006 c. 49 s. 38(2)
- s. 108(1BA) inserted by S.I. 2018/1251 reg. 2(5)(c)
- s. 123123A substituted for s. 123 by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 2
- s. 123A(3) words inserted by 2009 c. 17 s. 1(3)
- s. 124(3)-(5) inserted by 2009 c. 17 s. 3
- s. 124(6) inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 2(b) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 125(3A)-(3D) inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 3(2) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 125(5A) inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 3(3) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 125A(5)-(7E) substituted for s. 125A(5)-(7) by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 6(3)
- s. 125ZA inserted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 5
- s. 125ZA(2)(b) word omitted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 4(2)(a) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 125ZA(2)(d) and word inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 4(2)(b) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 125ZA(4)(c) word omitted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 4(3)(c) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)

- s. 125ZA(4)(c) words substituted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 4(3)(b) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 125ZA(4)(ba)(bb) inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 4(3)(a) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 125ZA(4)(ca) inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 4(3)(d) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 126(5) omitted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 6 (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 126A inserted by 2016 c. 16 s. 1(3)
- s. 126A omitted (cond.) by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 8A (as inserted) by 2016 c. 16 s.
 3(3)
- s. 126A heading words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 3(2) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 126A(1) words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 3(3)(a) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 126A(1) words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 3(3)(b) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 128A inserted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 11
- s. 128A(4) inserted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 11 (as inserted) by 2016 c. 16 s. 4(4)
- s. 128B inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 9 (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 128ZA inserted by 2009 c. 17 s. 1(1)
- s. 128ZB inserted by 2009 c. 17 s. 2
- s. 128AZA128AZB inserted by 2016 c. 16 s. 2(2)
- s. 128AZA128AZB inserted (cond.) by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 10A (as inserted) by 2016 c. 16 s. 4(2)
- s. 128AZA128AZB substituted (cond.) by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 10A (as inserted) by 2016 c. 16 s. 4(2)
- s. 128AZA heading words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 4(2)(a) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 128AZA(1) words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 4(2)(b) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 128AZA(4) words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 4(2)(c) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 128AZB heading words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 4(3)(a) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 128AZB(1) words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 4(3)(b)(i) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 128AZB(1) words inserted by S.I. 2016/1089 reg. 4(3)(b)(ii) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regs. 3, 4 omitted (1.12.2023) without ever being in force by virtue of S.I. 2023/1286, regs. 1, 7(3))
- s. 131(A1)-(C1) inserted by 2006 c. 49, Sch. 6 para. 13(1A) (as inserted) by S.I.
 2023/1286 Sch. 3 para. 92(2)(a)(i)
- s. 131(3)(b)(c) substituted for s. 131(3)(b) and word by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 13(4)
- s. 131(6) inserted by 2016 c. 16 s. 2(4)

- s. 131(6) inserted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 13(9) (as inserted) by 2016 c. 16 s. 4(5)
- s. 131(6) substituted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 13(9) (as inserted) by 2016 c. 16 s.
 4(5)
- s. 132-133ZA and cross-heading substituted for ss. 132, 133 and cross-heading by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 14
- s. 133(2)(a) words omitted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 10(a) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 133(2)(b) words omitted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 10(b) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 133D(1A) inserted by 2015 c. 20 Sch. 2 para. 14(2) (This amendment is to Part 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Schedule 6 to the Road Safety Act 2006. Those amendments have not yet come into force)
- s. 140(1)(2) inserted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 23(2)
- s. 140(1A) inserted in earlier affecting provision 2006 c. 49, Sch. 6 para. 23(2) by
 s. I. 2023/1286 Sch. 3 para. 92(2)(b)
- s. 140(3) s. 140 renumbered as s. 140(3) by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 23(1)
- s. 141A(5) words repealed by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 3 para. 24Sch. 7(4)
- s. 143(1A) repealed (cond.) by S.I. 2019/1047 Sch. 2 para. 2 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of s. 143(1A) by 2018 c. 18, Sch. para. 17 was repealed (1.11.2019) by The Motor Vehicles (Compulsory Insurance) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1047), reg. 1, Sch. 2 para. 1 (with reg. 5) without ever being brought into force.)
- s. 173(2)(g)-(gb) substituted for s. 173(2)(g) by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 27
- s. 173(2)(n) and word inserted by 2006 c. 49 s. 37(8)
- s. 174(1)(da) inserted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 28
- s. 183(6A) inserted by 2006 c. 49 Sch. 6 para. 29